

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS
DELHI SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS
UNIVERSITY OF DELHI

MOST URGENT

No. Eco/1-Sem./2017-18/
15th January, 2018

NOTICE

Clarification regarding SEC IV course for BA (P)

Several college teachers have been raising the issue of a 'missing' SEC course for BA (P) students in the 6th semester. It is highly unfortunate that some teachers have gone to the media with completely baseless allegations against the Department.

In this connection, I would like to point out that an open meeting of all interested college teachers was convened as far back as 10.5.2016 to discuss the design of SEC courses. The notice was posted on 2.5.2016 and is still accessible at

<http://econdse.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/Revised-Schedule-Meetings-May-2016.pdf>

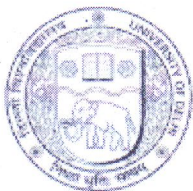
The same day, in an email to all college teachers whose contact addresses were available with the Department, I had clearly stated "Regarding the open meeting on the 10th, the Department will not be proposing any courses. College teachers are better aware of the requirements and capabilities of the students. Please take the initiative, first at the level of individual colleges, and informally contacting colleagues in other colleges, and come to the meeting with concrete proposals, including suggested readings."

At the meeting on 10.5.16, several ideas for GE and SEC courses for both Hons and Programme were discussed, and teachers were asked to submit drafts by 6.6.2016, as reported in the minutes available at:

<http://econdse.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/Skill-Enhancement-Interdisciplinary-CBCS-REVIEW-MEETING-10TH-MAY-2016-1.pdf>

With the active cooperation of some teachers, several SEC courses were designed. In subsequent meetings of the Committee of Courses, three SEC courses for BA (P) were adopted from these courses, and no questions regarding a fourth course were raised at any stage by teacher representatives when the courses were passed by all the statutory bodies of the University. It is clear that the Department is not responsible for the current situation, and those who took no part in this process are now spreading disinformation through the media.

Some college teachers have now floated the idea of a course on Personal Finance, including basics of banking, investment and insurance. Those interested may come for an open meeting on Thursday, 18.1.18 at 2.30 pm in Room 104 to work out an agreed syllabus and readings, which can be submitted to the Department office. The course should be skill-focused, suitable for BA (P)



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students from diverse backgrounds, and different from the existing DSE course on Money and Banking (<http://econdse.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/04/BA-P-Money-Banking-5th-Sem.-CBCS.pdf>). Proposals for courses on any other topic are also welcome.

The agreed syllabus will be put before the Committee of Courses and sent up to the statutory bodies of the University, but there is no guarantee that it will be approved by the Academic Council for implementation before the next academic year. For this semester, students may therefore be advised to take one extra SEC course from their other main discipline. As far as can be understood, there is nothing in the CBCS structure that imposes restrictions on the number of SEC courses from each department. Such a restriction would defeat the 'Choice' element of CBCS.

Several new DSE and GE courses in Economics have been approved for BA (P), so there will be an expansion rather than contraction of workload even if no SEC is available in this semester.

It is hoped that this will end the confusion and restore the cooperative relationship that this Department has maintained with college teachers.


Head of the Department