

# KARNATAKA STATE OPEN UNIVERSITY

Mukthagangotri, Mysuru – 570 006, India

## Project Proposal Report under Revised UGC Regulation-2017

Name of the Programme: **M.Sc. in Geography**

### ABSTRACT

Name of the Programme	M.Sc. in Geography
Name of the Department	Department of Studies in Geography
School	School of Sciences
Duration	2 Years
Scheme	Semester (Four semesters)
Credits	72
SLM	Courses: 15   Blocks: 60   Units: 240   1 Block = 4 units
Instructional delivery	Lectures in PCP, Counselling: Audio/visuals, Radio, Face to Face,
Medium of Instruction	English
Eligibility Conditions	12+3 or equivalent degree in concerned subject
Evaluation System	Internal assessment and term end examination
Teaching Staff	Associate Professor: 1(post sanctioned, will be recruited) , Assistant Professor: 2
Infrastructure	Laboratory, audio-visual centre, library, lecture hall
Quality assurance	Students' feedback, peer review, professional review, editorial committee, accreditation by agencies,
Expected out come	Skills, employability, quality and excellence

## **a. Program's Mission and Objectives**

### **Mission:**

- To promote scientific thinking among the learners through offering accessible, affordable quality higher education.
- To empower learners to gain knowledge and skills in the field of Geography.
- To train the learners on curriculum to imbibe with moral, ethical and civic values.
- To impart the specific skills to the learners so as to enable them to be a responsible citizen in the society.
- To enhance the attitude of the learners in such a way that they realize individual responsibility in the society.
- To train the learners through Information and Communication Technology.
- To enhance the professionalism to diagnose and offer solutions thereof.

### **Objectives:**

- To conversant with the basic concepts, principles and theories relating to Geography and relevance of these to contemporary world,
- To acquire the skills of handling and applying advanced and update instruments, tools and techniques of Geography,
- To familiarize with the methods of presentation, interpretation and analysis of both spatial and non-spatial data,
- To produce trained professional to work in digital cartography, geo-spatial analysis, surveying and planning, meteorology, resource management, teaching etc.

## **b. Relevance of the Program with HEI's Mission and Goals**

Geography is an integral part of educational system of the world at various levels. The discipline of Geography is among the most ancient of sciences deals with complex and dynamically changing earth. Over the years, the discoveries of new modern Geographies led to stupendous growth. Today Geography continues to flourish and expand in education. In order to live with sustainable environment and to solve the environmental problems, knowledge and skills of Geography has become indispensable.

The M. Sc. in Geography by ODL system is of greater relevance as it meets the mission and goals of higher education institution. The program targets the mass learner at affordable

cost besides enriching the moral, ethical and civil values. The curriculum is blended in such a way which is a parallel program of the conventional mode of education.

### **c. Prospective Target Group of Learners**

- Candidates who have completed 12+3 or equivalent examinations in the concerned subjects conducted by the recognized universities.
- Graduates in the concerned subjects who cannot access the conventional universities.
- The graduates in the core subjects who have economic, socio-cultural and locational disadvantages who could not pursue higher education.
- Graduates in the core subjects working in different sectors.

### **d. Appropriateness of Programme to be conducted in ODL mode to acquire Specific skills and Competence**

The following are the specific skills and competencies expected of a student to acquire during the course of studies.

- M.Sc. Geography offered by ODL mode is in accordance with the regulations of UGC.
- The program has proper mix of both theory and practicals which is in the ratio of 3:1.
- The knowledge is imparted through SLM and supplemented by lectures, practicals, contact classes and counselling sessions.
- The program has a well-structured set of self-learning material customized to learner's capacity and aptitude.
- The course is modulated to assess the learner's progress through checks involving assignments and tests. Student seminars, project works, dissertation and field work are designed at regular stages which will add to the experience of the learners.
- Information and Communication Technology gadgets/resources is deployed to acquire professional, presentational, analytical and such other skills relevant for program competence and creates a platform for placement. Audio/visual studio for recording lectures using ICT technology. Smart classes using Smart Interactive Board, Projector, Desktop Computer / Laptop, Speakers & Educational Software.

## **e. Instructional Design**

Curriculum development plays a vital role in the development of quality of education. Keeping in view of the norms of UGC, the university took the following measures:

- 1. Fully Articulated:** Curriculum articulation has been adopted to avoid conflicts across the different areas. Development of a logical instruction flow from one year to another. Curriculum articulation maintained at all levels of studies which reduce and eliminate repetitions by establishing sound linkages wherever necessary.
- 2. Realistic Contents:**
  - Contents are developed keeping in view of the contributions expected of a student in his/her career.
  - Career role with specific tasks, knowledge, skills, attitudes, and values are considered for development of curriculum.
  - The content of the program is delivered by the way of self-learning materials which is prepared by the academicians of repute both in the university and other institutions.
- 3. Evaluation-Conscious:** The curriculum being developed keeping in view of evaluation-conscious, simple, logical, accurate, achievable and measurable time-frame curriculum are being designed.
- 4. Employability:** The curriculum of the program is developed to bridge the gap between the academic knowledge and job market requirement at local, regional, national and international levels.
- 5. Duration of the Programme:** Two academic years under semester scheme (Four semesters).
- 6. Faculty:** The faculty in the Department of Geography caters to the needs of M.Sc. Geography and other short term programs. There are 2 Assistant Professors in the department. One Associate Professor post is sanctioned and will be recruited.
- 7. Supporting Staff (Non-teaching and technical staff):** Clerk/DEO-01, Office Attender-01, Lab Technician-01, and Lab Attender-01 and all supporting academicians.

**8. Instructional Delivery Mechanism:** Delivery mechanism of the course material and other instructions is through personal delivery at the time of admission in print media. Beside web based services, and CD drives contribute.

**Table 1: Norms for delivery of M.Sc Geography program through distance mode**

Semester	Components	No of credits	Study hours	Counseling hours	No. of Assignments
I	Theory	14	420	42	8
	Practicals	4	120	120	-
II	Theory	14	420	42	8
	Practicals	4	120	120	-
III	Theory	14	420	42	8
	Practicals	4	120	120	-
IV	Theory	12	360	36	6
	Dissertation	6	180	180	-

<sup>s</sup>10% of total learning hours of a course are earmarked to deliver lecture in PCP/counseling.

**9. Instructional Design:** The instruction of the programme design is made as prescribed by UGC. Curriculum is approved by the bodies viz. Board of Studies, Academic Council and by the relevant ordinance.

**10. Details of the syllabi:** The details of the syllabus of M.Sc. program is appended in Annexure –I

**11. Department and School:** The program is administered by the Department of Geography which falls under the School of Sciences.

#### **f. Procedure for Admissions, Curriculum Transaction and Evaluation**

##### **1. (a) Admission:**

The university has adopted transparent admission policy. All information relating to admissions, courses, curriculum, evaluation, student support service, etc. is provided in the prospectus and website of the university regularly. The admission norms prescribed by the UGC is followed in its true spirit. The minimum eligibility for admission shall be as prescribed under the ordinances framed under Karnataka State Open University Act-1992.

Candidates who are completed B.A./B.Sc./B.A.Ed./B.Sc. Ed. with Geography as one of the major subject are eligible to seek admission to M.Sc. in Geography.

**(b) Program delivery and Activity planner:**

The program delivery of the courses is through SLM, Counselling, Practicals, Assignments, and Contact Programs. The academic calendar of events will be notified well-in-advance on the website of the university.

**(c). Financial Assistance:**

- i. Scholarship for SC/ST students is being awarded.
- ii. Muktha Sanjeevini Scheme for merited students and rural based students are also awarded.
- iii. Women students are exempted from payment of tuition fee at 25% in case they produce BPL card at the time of their admission.
- iv. Merit scholarship from the central Government

**2. Curriculum Transactions:**

- Curriculum will be revised periodically.
- Curriculum of the program is designed on the basis of the proceedings of the workshop and opinion of peer group and employer.
- Curriculum matches with the guidelines of regulatory body in terms of credits, blocks and units.
- Board of Studies, Academic Council and the ordinance strengthens the curriculum design.
- Students' program guide and study material in print and e-mode are followed.
- Delivery of lectures in the PCP/ proper counseling through face to face counseling, telephonic counseling, e-counseling, counseling through audio, visual aids.

**3. Evaluation:**

Student is assessed by the Internal Assessment and Term-end examinations.

- a. **Internal Assessment:** Internal assessment comprises of various tools such as assignments, seminars, quiz, group discussions, etc. It is a continuous assessment by way of formative assessment by the university.
- b. **Term-end Examinations:** The university conduct term-end examination at the end of each term. It employs all measures suggested by the UGC to conduct transparent examinations at various notified centres of the territory. Besides the evaluation system is same as that of the system suggested by the UGC.

Single valuation is relied upon however the revaluation, third valuation, challenge valuation etc., are also adopted to reflect that the university conduct evaluation system transparently and objectively. Details of credits and examination are furnished as under:

**First Semester**

Title of the Course/Paper	Credits	Allocation of Marks		Min. Marks	Course Exemption	Max. Marks
		Internal Assessment	Theory			
Geomorphology	4	20	80	32	40	100
Cultural Geography	4	20	80	32	40	100
Resource Geography	3	20	80	32	40	100
Environmental Geography	3	20	80	32	40	100
Map Analysis – Practical -I	4	20	80	32	40	100
Total	18				200	500

**Second Semester**

Title of the Course/Paper	Credits	Allocation of marks		Min. Marks	Course Exemption	Max. Marks
		Internal Assessment	Theory			
Climatology	3	20	80	32	40	100
Oceanography	3	20	80	32	40	100
Population Geography	4	20	80	32	40	100
Development of Geographical Thought	4	20	80	32	40	100
Cartograms and Weather Charts – Practical -II	4	20	80	32	40	100
Total	18				200	500

**Third Semester**

Title of the Course/Paper	Credits	Allocation of marks		Min. Marks	Course Exemption	Max. Marks
		Internal Assessment	Theory			
Urban Geography	4	20	80	32	40	100
Agricultural geography	3	20	80	32	40	100
Fundamentals of Remote Sensing	3	20	80	32	40	100
Physical Geography of India with reference to Karnataka	4	20	80	32	40	100
Statistical Techniques in Geography-Practical III	4	20	80	32	40	100
<b>Total</b>	<b>18</b>				<b>200</b>	<b>500</b>

**Fourth Semester**

Title of the Course/Paper	Credits	Allocation of marks		Min. Marks	Course Exemption	Max. Marks
		Internal Assessment	Theory			
Regional Planning	4	20	80	32	40	100
Geographic Information System	4	20	80	32	40	100
Socio Economic Geography of India with reference to Karnataka	4	20	80	32	40	100
Dissertation	6*	-	-	-	80	200
<b>Total</b>	<b>18</b>				<b>200</b>	<b>500</b>

*NOTE: \*150 marks for dissertation and 50 marks for viva voce*

**4. Notification:**

The university would notify its admission policy, financial assistance, delivery of the program, academic planning and other details on the website of the university for the information of the learners.

**g. Requirement of the Laboratory Support and Library Resources**



**(i) Laboratory Support:** A well-equipped laboratory facility has been provided for high level performance. Besides, wherever required resources from other universities/institutes will be utilized through MOUs.

**(ii) Library Resources:** The University provides library facility by both traditional and digital means at the learner center with proper security. Further, state of the art library is placed in the headquarters.

#### **h. Cost Estimate of the Program and the Provisions**

The approximate cost estimate of the program: Rupees ninety lakhs (Rs.90,00,000)

#### **i. Quality Assurance and Expected Program Outcomes**

##### **a) Quality Assurance:**

The quality is maintained in the curriculum by taking the following measures:

- Formal feedback in the prescribed format on the content of the SLM and Lecture at the end of the term.
- Students will give feedback on the lectures, practical classes delivered at the end of the contact program/counseling.
- Senior faculty members, academic peer groups and editorial committee shall review the study material and also practical manual.
- Periodic workshops will be conducted and encouraged to attend on the curriculum to help in enhancing the quality of academic audit which promotes quality and standards.
- Feedback from the Industrialists/Employers/Professionals shall also be welcomed to maintain the quality and standards
- Academic Audit promotes quality and standard
- Assessment and Accreditation of the programme by NAAC

##### **b) Expected Outcome:**

- Acquire, update, refresh, relearn and enrich their existing knowledge of Geography so as to produce outcomes of comparable quality with on-campus programs.
- Produce well qualified and competent human resources in the field of Geography to serve as cartographers, geo-spatial analysts and teachers at different levels.
- Empower learners by providing multiple competencies and adding quality dimension to learner's knowledge.

##### **c) Benchmark Systems**

- Employability and Placement of students.
- Creation of data base of learners and alumni association.

- Achieving quality and excellence in the field.
- Corporate level services.
- Community development, networking and collaborations.
- Furtherance of research and development.

**SYLLABUS – M. SC. GEOGRAPHY****I Semester**

<b>Course Code</b>	<b>Course Title</b>
GEO 1.1	Geomorphology
GEO 1.2	Cultural Geography
GEO 1.3	Resource Geography
GEO 1.4	Environmental Geography
GEO 1.5	Map Analysis

**II Semester**

<b>Course Code</b>	<b>Course Title</b>
GEO 2.1	Climatology
GEO 2.2	Oceanography
GEO 2.3	Population Geography
GEO 2.4	Development of Geographical Thought
GEO 2.5	Cartograms and Weather Charts

**III Semester**

<b>Course Code</b>	<b>Course Title</b>
GEO 3.1	Urban Geography
GEO 3.2	Agricultural Geography
GEO 3.3	Fundamentals of Remote Sensing
GEO 3.4	Physical Geography of India with Special reference to Karnataka
GEO 3.5	Statistical techniques in Geography

**IV Semester**

<b>Course Code</b>	<b>Course Title</b>
GEO 4.1	Regional Planning
GEO 4.2	Geographic Information System
GEO 4.3	Socio – Economic Geography of India with special reference to Karnataka
GEO 4.4	Dissertation