

**Sophia College for Women (Autonomous)
Department of Political Science
Board of Studies**

****Meeting Minutes****

****Date:** April 25, 2024**

Time: 11 am

Online

Zoom Meeting

****Attendees:****

1. Dr.Prashant Kelkar
2. Dr.Kanamma Raman
3. Dr.Chaitra Redkar
4. Dr. Kalpana Dixit
5. Deepak Jayaram
6. Shahnaz Shaikh
7. Vaishnavi Nair

****Agenda Items:****

1. Approval of the syllabi for second year courses for semesters 3 and 4 in accordance with the National Education Policy (NEP) guidelines.
2. Approval of the assessment pattern for Second Year courses.
3. Approval of any proposed changes to the syllabi for Third Year and First Year (NEP) if applicable.
4. Approval of any certificate courses, if applicable.

The Board of Studies organized an online meeting on 25th April 2024 at 11 a.m under the guidance of Dr.Prashant Kelkar, Dr.Kanamma Raman, Dr.Chaitra Redkar, Dr. Kalpana Dixit and Deepak Jayaram.

Ms. Shahnaz Shaikh started the meeting with a welcome speech. Which was followed by the discussion of the meeting agendas.

****Discussion Points and Decisions:****

The members of the board started the discussion with the third agenda and later moved on to the first.

3. Approval of any proposed changes to the syllabi for Third Year and First Year (NEP) if applicable.

Dr.Kanamma Raman suggested that before entering into the discussion of second year syllabus it is preferable that we start with the first year syllabus. Certain changes were recommended by Dr.Kanamma Raman and Dr.Chaitra Redkar.

They suggested that some changes had to be made for the First year Paper 1, SEMESTER 1 which is divided into 4 modules. Following are the module wise recommendations suggested by them:

a) First Module:

They recommended that in the first module the topic contemporary approaches needed more clarity. They also advised to take ideas from Rajeev Bhargava's book. Feminism should be added to the approaches

b) Second Module:

Dr.Kanamma Raman and Dr.Chaitra Redkar suggested that the market should be removed from the second module and the module title would be changed to State and Civil society. The new module will include theories of state, nation, nationalism, civil society.

c) Third Module

No changes were recommended in this module.

d) Fourth Module

In this module, Dr.Kanamma Raman and Dr.Chaitra Redkar recommended to add one subtopic i.e. right to dissent, political disobedience

Dr.Kanamma Raman and Dr.Chaitra Redkar suggested that some changes had to be made for the First year Paper 1, SEMESTER 2 which is divided into 4 modules. They recommended changing the fourth module which starts with an explanation of political ideology. The subtopic Marxism was also converted into Socialism. They further suggested adding two more ideologies from Rajeev Bhargava's book.

Resolved and passed unanimously.

1. Approval of the syllabi for second year courses for semesters 3 and 4 in accordance with the National Education Policy (NEP) guidelines.

Dr.Kanamma Raman and Dr.Chaitra Redkar further discussed the changes that have to be implemented in the second year syllabus. In the powerpoint presentation shown by Ms. Shahnaz Shaikh, head of the department of political science, noticed that only the outlines of the syllabus are given, therefore it was recommended that both the semesters needed more information under each unit, explaining what all has to be covered under each subtopic.

In the Semester 1, Indian Political System, Dr.Kanamma Raman and Dr.Chaitra Redkar have suggested certain changes had to be made. Following are the unit wise recommendations suggested by them:

a) Unit 1:

It was recommended by them that the subtopic Historical background should be changed into the Constitutional framework. Here the basic structural framework of the constitution could be covered.

b) Unit 2:

They decided that no changes were to be brought in the second unit which is Political Institutions.

c) Unit 3:

They have suggested that the title be changed from Indian Federal System to Federalism.

d) Unit 4:

It was advised that the subtitle of Political Parties could be changed into Representations and Elections.

In the Second Semester, titled as Public Administration board members suggested certain changes that had to be made in Unit 1 and Unit 4. Under Unit 1 they advised to include New Public Management and post new public management and under Unit 4 they advised to update the contemporary issues and techniques and practices in administration. There are no changes in the remaining Unit 2 and 3 i.e Basic Principles and Theories of Administration and Financial Administration in India accordingly.

Resolved and passed unanimously.

2. Approval of the assessment pattern for Second Year courses.

The board members decided to make no changes in the assessment pattern for the second year courses.

Resolved and passed unanimously.

4. Approval of any certificate courses, if applicable.

The board members suggested postponing all the add-on courses for the next academic year and not for the upcoming one due to the instability of the department. They also recommended that the Open Elective paper which is International Organizations should be retitled as UN and Various Specialized Agencies and all other subtitles under this topic should be removed as it was very vast. The syllabus must have only UN and different specialized agencies. If needed, India's relations with these agencies can be included.

Under another open elective paper introduced which is Media And Politics it was suggested that the title of the paper should be renamed as Media And Democracy. In this paper it was advised to reshuffle the subtopics and freedom of media should be the part of Module 1. It was also recommended by the members to change television, radio and politics to Digital media or social media and Politics because the T.v and Radio are out of the picture today. Furthermore it was advised to remove or rename the subtopic Nation Building and Political development in India. Finally it was suggested that all the subtopics under Media and politics to be reorganized.

Under the last open elective paper which is Local Self Government it was pointed out that it is very loosely structured and more current scenarios and case studies must be the part of the paper. It was recommended that the first Module can have Democratic decentralization, Evolution of local self government (including 73rd and 74th Amendments Acts - Salient Features and its Implementation), introduction to Rural local government. Dr.Kanamma Raman highly recommended that the module can also focus on Urban Local Governance with special reference to Mumbai in the second module and auditing some of the urban governance work could be given as an assignment.

Lastly it was suggested that the composition, powers and functions should be taken out.

Resolved and passed unanimously.

Meeting was concluded with a vote of thanks by Vaishnavi Nair.
