



SOPHIA COLLEGE

(AUTONOMOUS)

Affiliated to the University of Mumbai

Syllabi for Paper 2 Semester III & IV

Program: SY B. A. & SY BSc.

Course: **Foundation Course**

(Choice Based Credit System with effect from the year 2019-20)

**Sophia College for Women (Autonomous)
Affiliated to University of Mumbai**

Syllabus for SYBA & SY B.Sc. Foundation Course PAPER 2

Subject	Foundation Course
Course Title	Contemporary Issues I
Paper Number	02
Total number of credits	02
Semester	03
Total No of lectures per term	45
Total number of lectures Per Week	03
Total marks (per semester)	75
Int. Assmnt. marks (per semester)	25
Passing Marks	40%

Foundation Course (Semester III)

Course Title: Contemporary Issues- I

Objectives:

1. Develop a basic understanding about issues related to Human Rights of weaker sections with various Redressal Mechanisms, Ecology, and Science and technology.
2. Appreciate the importance of developing a scientific temper.
3. Gain an overview of significant skills to deal with career choices.

Syllabus

Unit 1 Human Rights Provisions, Violations and Redressal

- 1.1. Scheduled Castes- Constitutional and Legal Rights, Forms of Violations, Redressal Mechanisms.
- 1.2. Scheduled Tribes- Constitutional and Legal Rights, Forms of Violations, Redressal Mechanisms.
- 1.3. Women- Constitutional and Legal Rights, Forms of Violations, Redressal Mechanisms.
- 1.4. Children- Constitutional and Legal Rights, Forms of Violations, Redressal Mechanisms.
- 1.5. People with Disabilities, Minorities, and the Elderly Population- Constitutional and Legal Rights, Forms of Violations, Redressal Mechanisms.

Unit 2 Dealing with Environmental Concerns

- 2.1. Concept of Disaster and general effects of Disasters on human life- Physical, Psychological, Economic and Social effects.
- 2.2. Some locally relevant Case Studies of Environmental Disasters.
- 2.3. Dealing with Disasters - Factors to be considered in Prevention, Mitigation (Relief and Rehabilitation) and Disaster Preparedness.
- 2.4. Human Rights issues in addressing Disasters- issues related to Compensation, Equitable and Fair Distribution of Relief.
- 2.5. Humanitarian approach to Resettlement and Rehabilitation.

Unit 3 Science and Technology I

- 3.1. Development of Science: the Ancient Cultures, the Classical era, the Middle Ages, the Renaissance, the Age of Reason and Enlightenment.
- 3.2. Nature of science: its Principles and Characteristics; Science as empirical, practical, theoretical, validated knowledge.
- 3.3. Science and its Interface with Religion, Myths, Blind Beliefs, and Prejudices.
- 3.4. Science and Scientific Temper- Scientific Temper as a Fundamental Duty of the Indian citizen.
- 3.5 Science in Everyday Life: Technology, its meaning and role in Development; Interrelation and Distinction between Science and Technology.

Semester End Examination – External Assessment (75 marks)

1. There shall be four compulsory questions
2. Q1-3 shall correspond to the three units
3. Q1-3 shall contain an internal choice (attempt any 2 of 3)
4. Q1-3 shall carry a maximum of 20 marks
5. Q4 shall be a short notes from Unit 1 to 3.
6. Q4 shall carry a maximum of 15 marks(3x5 marks) (attempt any 3 of 6)

Internal Assessment (25 marks)

Part 1: Project Work (20 Marks)

Part 2: Attendance – 05 marks

Project Guidelines:

1. At the beginning of the semester, students should be assigned project topics.
2. Students can work in groups of not more than 8 per topic.
3. Project Marks will be divided as written submission: 10 Marks & Presentation: 10 marks)
4. The Project/Assignment can take the form of Street-Plays / Power-Point Presentations / Poster Exhibitions and similar other modes of presentation appropriate to the topic.
5. Students must submit a hard copy of the Project before the last teaching day of the semester.

Project Topics:

1. Violations of the Rights of Scheduled Castes.
2. Violations of the Rights of Scheduled Tribes.
3. Violations of the Rights of Women.
4. Women and Domestic Violence : Legal Protections
5. Marital Rape : Law & Related Issues
6. Tackling Sexual Harassment in the Work place: Legal Provisions and Real life Practices
7. Problems of the Elderly.
8. Realities of the Rights of the Disabled.
9. Child labour.
10. Disaster Management : Case Studies
11. Disaster Mitigation : Techniques & Approaches
12. Human Rights Issues related to the Impact of Disasters.
13. Assessment/Critique of Disaster Relief and Rehabilitation Efforts.
14. Science & Superstition.
15. Science & Technology.
16. Rationalism, Scientific Temper & Modernity

**Sophia College for Women (Autonomous)
Affiliated to University of Mumbai**

Syllabus for SYBA & SY B.Sc. Foundation Course PAPER 2

Subject	Foundation Course
Course Title	Contemporary Issues II
Paper Number	02
Total number of credits	02
Semester	04
Total No of lectures per term	45
Total number of lectures Per Week	03
Total marks (per semester)	75
Int. Assmnt. marks (per semester)	25
Passing Marks	40%

Foundation Course (Semester IV)

Course Title: Contemporary Issues- II

Objectives:

1. To develop a basic understanding about issues related to Consumer Rights and various Acts and provisions available to reinstate them.
2. To understand the nature of human relation to ecology and various environmental principles.
3. To appreciate the significance of Modern Technologies.
4. To gain an overview of significant skills required to address competition in career choices

Syllabus

Unit 1 Significant, contemporary Rights of Citizens

- 1.1. Rights of Consumers: Violations of Consumer Rights and important provisions of the Consumer Protection Act, 2016, Consumer courts and Consumer Movements.
- 1.2. Right to Information: Genesis and relation with transparency and accountability; important provisions of the Right to Information Act, 2005; some success stories.
- 1.3. Public Interest Litigation: some landmark cases.
- 1.4. Citizens' Charters, Public Service Guarantee Acts.
- 1.5. Right to Dissent: Some issues- freedom of expression

Unit 2 Approaches to understanding Ecology

- 2.1. Anthropocentrism, Biocentrism and Ecocentrism
- 2.2. Ecofeminism and Deep Ecology.
- 2.3. Sustainable development and Human rights principles
- 2.4. Obligations to future generations
- 2.5. Environmental Laws

Unit 3 Science and Technology II (Significant Modern Technologies, Features and Applications & Issues)

- 3.1. Laser Technology (Light Amplification by Stimulated Emission of Radiation): Applications of laser technology .
- 3.2. Satellite Technology and Information, Communication.
- 3.3. Educational Technology: MOOCs, SWAYAM, etc.
- 3.4. Biotechnology and Genetic engineering: Genetically modified organisms and Cloning.
- 3.5. Issues of Control, Access and Misuse of Technology

Semester End Examination – External Assessment (75 marks)

1. There shall be four compulsory questions
2. Q1-3 shall correspond to the three units
3. Q1-3 shall contain an internal choice (attempt any 2 of 3)
4. Q1-3 shall carry a maximum of 20 marks
5. Q4 shall be a short notes from Unit 1 to 3.
6. Q4 shall carry a maximum of 15 marks(3x5 marks) (attempt any 3 of 6)

Internal Assessment (25 marks)

Part 1: Project Work (20 Marks)

Part 2: Attendance – 05 marks

Project Guidelines:

1. At the beginning of the semester, students should be assigned project topics.
2. Students can work in groups of not more than 8 per topic.
3. Project Marks will be divided as written submission: 10 Marks & Presentation:10 marks)
4. The Project/Assignment can take the form of Street-Plays / Power-Point Presentations / Poster Exhibitions and similar other modes of presentation appropriate to the topic.
5. Students must submit a hard copy of the Project before the last teaching day of the semester.

Project Topics:

1. Consumer Rights: Case Studies.
2. Public Interest Litigation: Case Studies.
3. Frivolous Public Interest Litigation
4. PIL Activism : Various Dimensions
5. Importance of PIL
6. RTI movement in India
7. Citizens' Charters: Relevance & Success stories.
8. Social Network sites and its impact on youth.
9. Carbon footprints.
10. Initiatives to 'Save the Girl Child' and the role of the Government.
11. Nuclear power projects and the threat of accidents.
12. Laser Technology and its application in Medicine.
13. Declining Sex Ratio; Causes and Effects
14. Deep Ecology.
15. Eco Feminism.
16. Polluter Pays Principle
17. Consumerism & Sustainability.

18. Laser Technology: Major & Recent Developments.
19. Nano Technology: Major & Recent Developments.
20. Genetic Engineering: Pros & Cons.
21. GM Food : Debates
22. Morality & Ethics of Cloning.
23. ICT : New Frontiers
24. ICT/Social Media: WhatsApp, Facebook: Legal Issues & Scientific Developments.
25. Nuclear Energy and its impact on environment and health
26. Female Foeticide
27. GM Crops and its impact
28. Green Technology
29. Orchid Hotel- Eco Friendly
30. Issues of adulteration of food and medicine
31. Increasing use of cell phone and its impact on lifestyle

READING LIST FOR SEMESTER III & IV

- Asthana, D. K., and Asthana, Meera, *Environmental Problems and Solutions*, S. Chand, New Delhi, 2012.
- Bajpai, Asha, *Child Rights in India*, Oxford University Press, New Delhi, 2010.
- Bhatnagar Mamta and Bhatnagar Nitin, *Effective Communication and Soft Skills*, Pearson India, New Delhi, 2011.
- G Subba Rao, *Writing Skills for Civil Services Examination*, Access Publishing, New Delhi, 2014
- Kaushal, Rachana, *Women and Human Rights in India*, Kaveri Books, New Delhi, 2000.
- Mohapatra, Gaur Krishna Das, *Environmental Ecology*, Vikas, Noida, 2008.
- Motilal, Shashi, and Nanda, Bijoy Lakshmi, *Human Rights: Gender and Environment*, Allied Publishers, New Delhi, 2007.
- Murthy, D. B. N., *Disaster Management: Text and Case Studies*, Deep and Deep Publications, New Delhi, 2013.
- Parsuraman, S., and Unnikrishnan, ed., *India Disasters Report II*, Oxford, New Delhi, 2013
- Reza, B. K., *Disaster Management*, Global Publications, New Delhi, 2010.
- Sathe, Satyaranjan P., *Judicial Activism in India*, Oxford University Press, New Delhi, 2003.
- Singh, Ashok Kumar, *Science and Technology for Civil Service Examination*, Tata McGraw Hill, New Delhi, 2012.
- Thorpe, Edgar, *General Studies Paper I Volume V*, Pearson, New Delhi, 2017.
