

*Shikshana Prasarak Mandali's*  
**Ramnarain Ruia Autonomous College**  
Matunga, Mumbai 400019  
Minutes of the 9<sup>th</sup> meeting of the  
**Academic Council**  
Held on Tuesday, 12 April 2022

The 9th meeting of the Academic Council of the Ramnarain Ruia Autonomous College was held on Tuesday, 12 April 2022, at 11 am.

The status of the Council members was as follows.

<b>Sr. No.</b>	<b>Name of the Person</b>	<b>Designation &amp; Department</b>	<b>Present/Leave of absence Granted</b>
1.	Dr. Anushree Lokur	Principal	Present
2.	Dr. Sujata Suvarnapathki	Member Secretary	Present
3.	Prof. Vilas Gaikar	VC Nominee Professor from ICT, Mumbai	Present
4.	Dr. Anuradha Majumdar	VC Nominee Dean, Faculty of Science and Technology, University of Mumbai	Present
5.	Prof. Mala Lalwani	VC Nominee Professor, Dept. of Economics, University of Mumbai	Present
6.	Dr. Jessy Pius	IQAC Coordinator	Present
7.	Dr. Aditi Abhyankar	Senior Teacher	Present
8.	Dr. Bhavana Nerula	Senior Teacher	Absent
9.	Dr. Nana Pradhan	Senior Teacher	Present
10.	Dr. Sunil Shankhadarwar	Exam In- charge	Present

11.	Dr. Sybil Thomas	Professor, Education Department University of Mumbai	Present
12.	Dr. Rajanish Kamat	Professor, Shivaji University	Granted Leave of Absence
13.	Dr. Amol Dighe	Professor, Physics, TIFR	Present
14.	Dr. Uday Salunkhe	Director of the Welingkar Institute of Management Development & Research, Mumbai	Granted Leave of Absence
15.	Dr. Urmila Moon	Head, Dept. of Commerce	Present
16.	Ms. Varsha Malwade	Head, Dept. of Economics	Present
17.	Dr. Arjun Kharat	Head, Dept. of English	Present
18.	Ms. Anjore Deshpande	Head, Dept. of French	Present
19.	Dr. Pravinchandra Bisht	Head, Dept. of Hindi	Present
20.	Dr. Louiza Rodrigues	Head, Dept. of History	Granted Leave of Absence
21.	Ms. Priyanka Desai	Head, Dept. of Mass Media	Granted Leave of Absence
22.	Ms. Leena Kedare	Head, Dept. of Marathi	Present
23.	Dr. Himani Chaukar	Head, Dept. of Philosophy and	Present
24.	Dr. Himani Chaukar	Head, Dept. of Psychology	Present
25.	Dr. Vaibhavi Palsule	Faculty, Dept. of Political Science	Present
26.	Dr. Vaishali Dabke	Head, Dept. of Sanskrit	Present
27.	Dr. Sachin Palekar	Head, Dept. of Bioanalytical Sciences	Present
28.	Mr. Prashant Masali	Head, Dept. of Biochemistry	Present
29.	Ms. Supriya Kale	Head, Dept. of Biotechnology	Present

30.	Dr. Sucheta Ketkar	Head, Dept. of Statistics	Present
31.	Dr. Jessy Pius	Head, Dept. of Botany	Present
32.	Dr. Manish Hate	Head, Dept. of Chemistry	Present
33.	Ms. Megha Sawant	Head, Dept. of Computer Science and Information Technology	Present
34.	Dr. Seema Shinde	Head, Dept. of Life Science	Present
35.	Dr. Rajeshwar Andhale	Head, Dept. of Mathematics	Present
36.	Dr. Varsha Shukla	Head, Dept. of Microbiology	Present
37.	Dr. Vijay Mayekar	Head, Dept. of Physics	Present
38.	Dr. Jessy Pius	Head, Dept. of Zoology	Present
39.	Ms. Amrita Gokhale	Head, Dept. of Tourism and Travel Management	Present
40.	Dr. Sasikumar Menon	Head, Dept. Of Pharma Analytical Sciences	Present
41.	Dr. Sanchita Chaudhari	Head, Dept. Of Greenhouse Management	Present
42.	Dr. Himani Chaukar	Chairperson, Foundation Course	Present

Honourable Member Secretary, Dr. Sujata Suvarnapathki opened the 9<sup>th</sup> Academic Council meeting by warmly welcoming everyone to the first in-person meeting of the Council post the pandemic. Since the Academic Council was reconstituted this year, she introduced herself and conversely requested all the external members to briefly introduce themselves to the Council. This was followed by the Principal's address by Prof. Dr. Anushree Lokur, who welcomed everyone again with the hope of a fruitful meeting ahead. She proceeded to briefly highlight the College history, Vision, Mission and achievements of the last few years and invited the members for a leisurely visit to see the facilities and services provided by the College. The members were also informed of the various grants and funding secured by the

Institute to enhance its teaching-learning practices, infrastructure and logistics. She particularly mentioned the DBT and Star College Grants for research in Sciences and also mentioned that Ruia College was the recipient of the RUSA grant from Gol for improving quality and excellence in terms of renovation of labs facilities, hybrid learning set ups and general institutional infrastructure and logistics improvements. She further spoke of the USP of Ruia College – the DDU KAUSHAL Kendra for skill development programs which is the first and only such Kendra in Mumbai, set up under the PMVY and Skill India initiative of the Gol. Emphasizing Ruia's commitment to skilling and recognition of diverse learning competencies, she informed the members proudly that the college had a healthy enrollment of students from diverse linguistic, socio-economic backgrounds and also successfully ran a Centre of support for its large number of visual and auditory-challenged students. She concluded by emphasizing on the heterogeneity of the syllabi, programs offered and the student and teaching community of the College, reiterating her hope of securing constructive suggestions from the members, transcending regular Academic Council meetings.

The Member Secretary, Dr. Suvarnapathki followed with the meeting proceedings post the Principal's address. She updated the members on the existing Credit-based Grading System followed by the College and requested permission from the members to commence with discussions for the agenda points for the meeting.

❖ **Agenda item No.01: To confirm the minutes of the previous Academic Council Meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> May 2021**

The Minutes of the last meeting were shared with all the new members and resolutions passed therewith were reiterated.

The present members all unanimously passed the resolution.

**Proposed by:** Dr. Sasikumar Menon

**Seconded by:** Dr. Vaibhavi Palsule

❖ **Agenda item No.02:**

- 1. To seek approval for the change in the number of Credits to be awarded for the undergraduate programs B.A. and B.Sc. the academic year 2022-23. (As per UGC instructional template). To seek approval for the classification of Courses as Core Courses, Ability enhancement Courses, Skill Enhancement Courses and Discipline specific electives.**
- 2. To scrutinize and approve the proposals for the year 2022-23 with or without modifications made by the boards of studies with regards to courses of studies, curricula, syllabi and modifications thereof and evaluation.**

The Member Secretary informed the Council that Board of Studies (BoS) meetings, in an online mode were conducted by all departments in March 2022 and were supervised by herself in capacity of being Academic Dean. It was noted that there was healthy interaction among members of BoS, with all suggestions being well received and the necessary syllabi changes to be incorporated after the Academic Council's approval.

She then put across to the Council the proposal for Credit revision for Bachelor's Program from the existing 120 credits to 132 credits. The detailed credit revision scheme and UGC terminologies of syllabi structure were explained to the members. She informed the members that the revision to the Credit system will come into effect gradually, starting from the next academic year 2022-23.

*(Credit distribution table attached in the Appendix 1)*

The members were then called on to give their inputs on the proposal.

Emphasizing on skill training, Professor Vilas Gaikar requested to know percentage of syllabi that was based on tutorial/practicals. It was informed to the members that the college put a thrust on skilling and practical learning and therefore almost 50% syllabi as well as 40% of the evaluation was in form of practical application. Professor Gaikar recommended to add computer programming and basic coding such as Python and R Programming, as part of Applied Component or through Certificate Courses offered to students. The HoD, IT & Computer Science, Dr. Megha Sawant explained the existing Programming courses offered to all students of the college and suggested creating subject-specific and multi-level courses that students could opt for during the course of their degree programs. The Mathematics and Statistics departments also informed the Council that their syllabi already included modules on different programming languages. Dr. Anuradha Majumdar also suggested collaborations

with IIT Mumbai, VJTI and other renowned institutes in the city, leveraging on each other's strengths to share infrastructure and resource persons. But since these certificate courses were paid courses, the Council acknowledged the financial constraints this posed for students. Dr. Sybil Thomas suggested creating online MOOCs with integrated evaluation which could be a part of the internal 40 marks assessment conducted by the College. Professor Maya Lalwani further suggested to introduce the basic courses at FY and carry them forward with advanced training through TY level for interested students.

This was followed by a brief explanation of credits distribution for Science and Arts programs by Dr. Sujata Suvarnapathki and Dr. Vaibhavi Palsule respectively. The SWYAM, NPTEL courses as well as additional Certificate courses offered by the college were listed for the Council's reference. The Council was further informed that novel course offerings such as Yoga, heritage management, disaster management, inter-disciplinary courses such as Circular Economy, Waste Recycling, Financial management and many other life skills- based courses have already been introduced as part of Applied Component across all departments since last 3 years. Prof. Vilas Gaikar wanted to know if students were being provided counselling on how to select relevant certificate courses and earn additional credits. The Principal assured the Council that at the start of every academic year a pan-college orientation for all students is conducted whereby every department addresses students on the certificate course offerings and also conducts specific department-level orientations to encourage students to avail of the varied certificate courses.

Dr. Amol Dighe advised to check quality of NPTEL and SWYAM courses and every department to identify and recommend to students, relevant courses since these were to be considered as part of internal assessment. Dr. Anuradha Majumdar recommended Coursera as a beneficial online learning tool. The Principal informed the Council of Coursera for Campus tie-up of Ruia College, whereby students availed of the free online courses during the two years of the pandemic. However, it was brought to account that these courses were not credited courses as their evaluation modalities were yet to be assimilated with the college evaluation system.

Moving forward, the Member Secretary quickly took the Council through the syllabi changes proposed and approved by the respective BoS of each department. She stated that the main objective of these syllabi modifications was to account for the proposed increase to 132 credits for the Bachelor's programs and also to incorporate minor and major subject title revisions, include New Normal and post pandemic industry and academic trends into the forthcoming syllabi. Dr. Suvarnapathki explained the composition of BoS and once again mentioned that

these changes would be limited to 30% and will be brought in gradually through the coming years.

Professor Vilas Gaikar suggested emailing the syllabi changes and any other documentation to the Council members in advance so as to enable everyone to study the same and suggest appropriate recommendations during the meeting.

There was a brief discussion on the syllabi changes for the Department of B. Voc. Tourism and Travel Management as their syllabi across the three years was heavily restructured. Principal, Prof. Dr. Anushree Lokur mentioned the novel structure of this program with its thrust on skilling and immediate employability and invited the HoD to explain the details of the syllabi revision. HoD, Ms. Amrita Gokhale informed the Council that the major revision was in form of changes in paper titles to ensure alignment of the skill and general components of the program as well as to fill the emerging skill gaps that have been identified post-pandemic. All the Council members suggested focusing on language training as an add-on skill for the students of this program. The HoD informed the members that current affairs and socio-economic and political trends like Blue tourism, staycation, workaction, UN SDG and environment-conscious business management, heritage and cultural assets management were all already a part of the syllabi for the program.

Following the above, the Council concluded the discussion for AGENDA 2. All the above modifications, were unanimously passed.

Resolution numbers for Syllabi changes as below:

**Resolution Numbers: Arts (UG)**

<b>Sr.no</b>	<b>Name of the Department</b>	<b>Resolution Number for the Academic year 2022-23 syllabus</b>
1.	Commerce	AC/I(21-22).2(II).RUA1
2.	Economics	AC/I(21-22).2(II).RUA2
3.	English	AC/I(21-22).2(II).RUA3
4.	French	AC/I(21-22).2(II).RUA4
5.	Hindi	AC/I(21-22).2(II).RUA5
6.	History	AC/I(21-22).2(II).RUA6
7.	Marathi	AC/I(21-22).2(II).RUA7

8.	Philosophy	AC/I(21-22).2(II).RUA8
9.	Political Science	AC/I(21-22).2(II).RUA9
10.	Psychology	AC/I(21-22).2(II).RUA10
11.	Sanskrit	AC/I(21-22).2(II).RUA11
12.	Foundation Course	AC/I(21-22).2(II).RUA12
13.	Mathematics	AC/I(21-22).2(II).RUA13
14.	Statistics	AC/I(21-22).2(II).RUA14

RESOLVED THAT the changes in the syllabi of the subjects under Arts Faculty including above subjects whereby changes in syllabi were reflected, as recommended by the respective Board of studies are approved with the requisite credits and corresponding number of lectures.

#### Resolution Numbers: Science (UG)

Sr.no	Name of the department	Resolution Numbers for Academic year 2017-18 syllabus
1.	Bio-Analytical Sciences	AC/I(21-22).2(II).RUS1
2.	Bio-Chemistry	AC/I(21-22).2(II).RUS2
3.	Biotechnology	AC/I(21-22).2(II).RUS3
4.	Botany	AC/I(21-22).2(II).RUS4
5.	Chemistry	AC/I(21-22).2(II).RUS5
6.	Computer Science	AC/I(21-22).2(II).RUS6
7.	Life Sciences	AC/I(21-22).2(II).RUS7
8.	Mathematics	AC/I(21-22).2(II).RUS8
9.	Microbiology	AC/I(21-22).2(II).RUS9
10.	Physics	AC/I(21-22).2(II).RUS10
11.	Statistics	AC/I(21-22).2(II).RUS11
12.	Zoology	AC/I(21-22).2(II).RUS12



RESOLVED THAT the changes in syllabi of the all Subjects under Science Faculty including above subjects whereby changes in syllabi were reflected, as recommended by the respective Board of studies are approved with the requisite credits and corresponding number of lectures.

**Resolution Numbers: B.Voc.**

<b>Sr.no</b>	<b>Name of the Course</b>	<b>Resolution Number for Academic year 2022-23 syllabus</b>
1.	PAS	AC/I(21-22).2(II).RUV2
2.	TTM	AC/I(21-22).2(II).RUV3

RESOLVED THAT the changes in the syllabi of all subjects under B. Vocational Programme whereby changes in syllabi were reflected, as recommended by the respective Board of studies are approved with the requisite credits and corresponding number of lectures.

**Resolution Numbers: BMM/BACM**

<b>Sr.no</b>	<b>Name of the Course</b>	<b>Resolution Number for Academic year 2022-23 syllabus</b>
1.	BMM/BACM	AC/I(21-22).2(II).RUM

RESOLVED THAT changes in the syllabi of all subjects under the same as recommended by the Board of Studies are approved with the requisite credits and corresponding number of lectures.

### Resolution Numbers: PG Courses

Sr.no	Name of the department	Resolution Number for Academic year 2022-23 syllabus
1.	Bio-Analytical Sciences	AC/I(21-22).2(II).RPS1
2.	Bio-Chemistry	AC/I(21-22).2(II).RPS2
3.	Biotechnology	AC/I(21-22).2(II).RPS3
4.	Botany	AC/I(21-22).2(II).RPS4
5.	Chemistry	AC/I(21-22).2(II).RPS5
6.	Computer Science	AC/I(21-22).2(II).RPS6
7.	Information Technology	AC/I(21-22).2(II).RPS7
8.	Life Science	AC/I(21-22).2(II).RPS8
9.	Microbiology	AC/I(21-22).2(II).RPS9
10.	Physics	AC/I(21-22).2(II).RPS10
11.	Zoology	AC/I(21-22).2(II).RPS11

RESOLVED THAT the changes in the syllabi of all subjects of PG Programs whereby changes in syllabi were reflected, as recommended by the respective Board of Studies, are approved with the requisite credits and corresponding number of lectures.

*The detailed list of syllabi changes in various Programs and the list of Certificate Courses instituted in this academic year is attached in Appendix.*

**Proposed by: Dr. Sucheta Ketkar**

**Seconded by: Dr. Seema Shinde**

- ❖ **Agenda Item No. 3: To recommend to the Governing Body proposals to seek sanction**
- i) **for the new Certificate courses approved by the Board of Studies of various subjects for accumulation of additional credits.**
  - i) **for Swayam/NPTEL courses approved by respective Board of Studies for accumulation of additional credits.**

Continuing with the earlier discussion on Certificate Courses and NPTL, SWYAM courses Professor Vilas Gaikar once again emphasized importance of verifying utility and relevancy of these courses. He also suggested conducting a course and student progression survey, to gauge the popularity of these courses among students. Principal, Dr. Lokur informed the members that all the SWYAM NPTL courses were first vetted by the faculty and only then recommended to students. She added that since there was an additional fee for college-offered Certificate courses, it was quite challenging to push them forward and requested the members to recommend viable solutions for the same. Professor Vilas Gaikar suggested playing by the College strengths and reviewing all courses for their sustainability and pitching only those courses that had real-time applicability and courses which successfully achieved the requisite financial breakeven point.

All the newly proposed and existing Certificate Courses were unanimously passed by the Academic Council.

*List of Certificate Courses (existing and proposed) attached in Appendix.*

**Proposed by: Dr. Manish Hate      Seconded by: Dr. Himani Chaukar**

❖ **Agenda Item No. 4: To seek suggestions for the entrance examination regarding the admission of the students for the Post Graduate program (M.Sc.) for the academic year 2022-23.**

Vice Principal Academics, Dr. Varsha Shukla opened the discussion on conducting entrance exams for PG courses offered by the College. She mentioned that due to cluster colleges and online exams during last few years, many students earned cent percent results, but there was an overall drop in theoretical and practical skills of students, especially research skills, required at PG level. To distinguish students with better analytical abilities and ensure diversity of student intake she proposed introducing entrance exams for PG programs and invited the Council to suggest exam modalities and structure. Dr. Sachin Palekar, HoD Bioanalytical Sciences explained the conduct of MCQ based entrance exam for the 5-years integrated program and suggested the Council to recommend a similar pattern for all PG programs. Principal, Dr. Lokur, proposed that course eligibility could be 50% marks scored at BSc, but final admission for PG must be guided solely on basis of scores of the college entrance exam.

Dr. Amol Dighe asked the College to review the number applications for PG programs and consider online or offline conduct of exams. Dr. Majumdar opined that online exam would require complete confidence in terms of AI proctoring as against offline exams, where the

challenges with infrastructure and logistics would be difficult to manage, given the large number of applications received for PG programs. She again recommended collaborating with other colleges for conducting the entrance exam – which would not only reduce the financial and fee aspects of the exam conduct, but also allow students wider choice to apply to multiple institutes, assuring the overall applications and intake for these programs.

Dr. Sybil Thomas also voiced her concerns on accommodating students with multiple intelligences citing the example of students who may be weak with MCQ based tests but possess good research aptitude and skills. Principal Dr. Lokur and Dr. Maya Lalwani both agreed that lack of parity in grading during pandemic put more onus on entrance exams for assuring inclusive and bias-free student intake. This could be done by setting question papers addressing multiple intelligence capacities of students. The Council recommended providing training to teachers for question paper setting so as to ensure the credibility of the final test results with 100% weightage for on the entrance exam. Dr. Sybil Thomas suggested conducting a survey on determining the Discrimination Index so as to not lose out on student diversity.

It was decided that there will be 100% weightage on the entrance exam for securing admission to the MSc. programs and that modus operandi for the same will be put forth to the Academic Council during the next meeting for approval.

The Council unanimously passed the above points.

**Proposed by: Dr. Sachin Palekar**

**Seconded by: Dr. Supriya Kale**

**❖ Agenda Item no. 5: To present the evaluation modalities for the even semester internal examinations and the even semester end examinations for the academic year 2021-22.**

Exam In-charge, Dr. Sunil Shankhadarwar, explained the current examinations pattern and informed the Council of MCQ based examination conduct through Eeklavya online proctoring for the last two years of the pandemic. He also informed the members that Semester II examinations for the academic year 2021-22 will be conducted in third week of April in offline mode, with subjective questions and an extended duration to attempt the exam.

Professor Vilas Gaikar advised the College to gradually increase weightage for practical assessments in view of the developments and changes initiated as per NEP and move towards skill-based education.

No other changes or suggestions were made by the Council and the existing exam modalities were approved and passed the Council.

❖ **Agenda item no:6: Any other matter with the permission of the chair**

It was reiterated by the Member Secretary that PG entrance exam modalities will be discussed in next Academic Council meeting.

As there was no other matter to be discussed, she called on the Principal to make the closing remarks.

Dr. Lokur began by thanking the Council for their patient listening and constructive suggestions through the meeting. She also offered her sincere appreciation to the college staff and her teacher colleagues for their dedicated efforts over the last many months to align the syllabi with the NEP and upcoming Academic Bank of Credits. She thanked the members for their valuable suggestions and assured them of incorporating the recommendations in the coming academic year.

As there was no further business, the Member Secretary, Dr. Sujata Suvarnapathki concluded with a Vote of Thanks to all the present members and closed the meeting at 2:15 pm IST.

**Dr. Sujata Suvarnapathki**

**Dean, Academic Affairs and Member Secretary, Academic Council**

**Minutes Approved by**

**Prof. Dr. Anushree Lokur**

**Principal, Chairwoman, Academic Council**

**Appendix:**

**Please refer to attached documents for:**

- 1. Credit distribution table – B.Sc.**

<b>CURRENT SYSTEM</b>		<b>PRPOSED SYSTEM</b>	
<b>Semester</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Semester</b>	<b>Credits</b>
I	20	I	20
II	20	II	20
III	20	III	20
IV	20	IV	20
V	20	V	26
VI	20	VI	26
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>132</b>

**Credit distribution table – B.A.**

<b>CURRENT SYSTEM</b>		<b>PRPOSED SYSTEM</b>	
<b>Semester</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Semester</b>	<b>Credits</b>
I	15	I	17
II	15	II	17
III	22	III	26
IV	22	IV	26
V	23	V	23
VI	23	VI	23
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>132</b>

## 2. List of Certificate Courses

Name of the Department	Certificate Course Title
Political Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sansad Watch - Engage to Change by Maadhyam and CRC Initiative- 45 hours – 3 credits</li> <li>• Understanding Cinema: Film Studies, Film theory and Film Criticism by Omkar Rege</li> <li>• Centre for Civil Society</li> <li>• E policy</li> <li>• Liberalism in India- MOOC</li> <li>• Education Policy - MOOC</li> </ul>
Microbiology	Revisions suggested in the existing course
Botany	Floristry
History	ARCHIVE MANAGEMENT: THEORY AND PRACTICE
Chemistry	Advanced Mathematics for Science Students

Name of the Department	Swayam/NPTEL Courses Approved by BOS
Psychology	(1)Qualitative Research Methods and Research Writing Developed by IIT Kharagpur (2) Consumer Behavior Developed by IIT Kharagpur
Physics	1] Introduction to Atmospheric Space Sciences through Swayam – Prof. M.V. Sunil Krishna, IIT Roorke.
	2] Introduction to Photonics-M.Sc. Photonics – Manipal University – Prof. Balaji Srinivasan, IIT Madras
	3] Quantum Mechanics, IIT Bombay

	4] Experimental Physics – I,II,III – Prof. Amal Kumar Das, IIT Kharagpur
	5] Physics of Biological Systems – Prof. Mithun Mitra
	6] Optical Sensors – Prof. Sachin Srivastava, IIT Roorke