

Choice Based Credit System (CBCS)

UNIVERSITY OF DELHI

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS

**UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMME
(Courses effective from Academic Year 2015-16)**



SYLLABUS OF COURSES TO BE OFFERED **Core Courses, Elective Courses & Ability Enhancement Courses**

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Undergraduate Programme Secretariat

Preamble

The University Grants Commission (UGC) has initiated several measures to bring equity, efficiency and excellence in the Higher Education System of country. The important measures taken to enhance academic standards and quality in higher education include innovation and improvements in curriculum, teaching-learning process, examination and evaluation systems, besides governance and other matters.

The UGC has formulated various regulations and guidelines from time to time to improve the higher education system and maintain minimum standards and quality across the Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs) in India. The academic reforms recommended by the UGC in the recent past have led to overall improvement in the higher education system. However, due to lot of diversity in the system of higher education, there are multiple approaches followed by universities towards examination, evaluation and grading system. While the HEIs must have the flexibility and freedom in designing the examination and evaluation methods that best fits the curriculum, syllabi and teaching-learning methods, there is a need to devise a sensible system for awarding the grades based on the performance of students. Presently the performance of the students is reported using the conventional system of marks secured in the examinations or grades or both. The conversion from marks to letter grades and the letter grades used vary widely across the HEIs in the country. This creates difficulty for the academia and the employers to understand and infer the performance of the students graduating from different universities and colleges based on grades.

The grading system is considered to be better than the conventional marks system and hence it has been followed in the top institutions in India and abroad. So it is desirable to introduce uniform grading system. This will facilitate student mobility across institutions within and across countries and also enable potential employers to assess the performance of students. To bring in the desired uniformity, in grading system and method for computing the cumulative grade point average (CGPA) based on the performance of students in the examinations, the UGC has formulated these guidelines.

CHOICE BASED CREDIT SYSTEM (CBCS):

The CBCS provides an opportunity for the students to choose courses from the prescribed courses comprising core, elective/minor or skill based courses. The courses can be evaluated following the grading system, which is considered to be better than the conventional marks system. Therefore, it is necessary to introduce uniform grading system in the entire higher education in India. This will benefit the students to move across institutions within India to begin with and across countries. The uniform grading system will also enable potential employers in assessing the performance of the candidates. In order to bring uniformity in evaluation system and computation of the Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) based on student's performance in examinations, the UGC has formulated the guidelines to be followed.

Outline of Choice Based Credit System:

- 1. Core Course:** A course, which should compulsorily be studied by a candidate as a core requirement is termed as a Core course.
- 2. Elective Course:** Generally a course which can be chosen from a pool of courses and which may be very specific or specialized or advanced or supportive to the discipline/ subject of study or which provides an extended scope or which enables an exposure to some other discipline/subject/domain or nurtures the candidate's proficiency/skill is called an Elective Course.
 - 2.1 Discipline Specific Elective (DSE) Course:** Elective courses may be offered by the main discipline/subject of study is referred to as Discipline Specific Elective. The University/Institute may also offer discipline related Elective courses of interdisciplinary nature (to be offered by main discipline/subject of study).
 - 2.2 Dissertation/Project:** An elective course designed to acquire special/advanced knowledge, such as supplement study/support study to a project work, and a candidate studies such a course on his own with an advisory support by a teacher/faculty member is called dissertation/project.
 - 2.3 Generic Elective (GE) Course:** An elective course chosen generally from an unrelated discipline/subject, with an intention to seek exposure is called a Generic Elective.

P.S.: A core course offered in a discipline/subject may be treated as an elective by other discipline/subject and vice versa and such electives may also be referred to as Generic Elective.
- 3. Ability Enhancement Courses (AEC)/Competency Improvement Courses/Skill Development Courses/Foundation Course:** The Ability Enhancement (AE) Courses may be of two kinds: AE Compulsory Course (AECC) and AE Elective Course (AEEC). "AECC" courses are the courses based upon the content that leads to Knowledge enhancement. They ((i) Environmental Science, (ii) English/MIL Communication) are mandatory for all disciplines. AEEC courses are value-based and/or skill-based and are aimed at providing hands-on-training, competencies, skills, etc.
 - 3.1 AE Compulsory Course (AECC):** Environmental Science, English Communication/MIL Communication.
 - 3.2 AE Elective Course (AEEC):** These courses may be chosen from a pool of courses designed to provide value-based and/or skill-based instruction.

Project work/Dissertation is considered as a special course involving application of knowledge in solving / analyzing /exploring a real life situation / difficult problem. A Project/Dissertation work would be of 6 credits. A Project/Dissertation work may be given in lieu of a discipline specific elective paper.

Details of courses under B.A (Honors), B.Com (Honors) & B.Sc. (Honors)

Course	*Credits	
	Theory+ Practical	Theory + Tutorial
<u>I. Core Course</u>		
(14 Papers)	14X4= 56	14X5=70
Core Course Practical / Tutorial*		
(14 Papers)	14X2=28	14X1=14
<u>II. Elective Course</u>		
(8 Papers)		
A.1. Discipline Specific Elective	4X4=16	4X5=20
(4 Papers)		
A.2. Discipline Specific Elective		
Practical/ Tutorial*	4 X 2=8	4X1=4
(4 Papers)		
B.1. Generic Elective/		
Interdisciplinary	4X4=16	4X5=20
(4 Papers)		
B.2. Generic Elective		
Practical/ Tutorial*	4 X 2=8	4X1=4
(4 Papers)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Optional Dissertation or project work in place of one Discipline Specific Elective paper (6 credits) in 6th Semester 		
<u>III. Ability Enhancement Courses</u>		
1. Ability Enhancement Compulsory		
(2 Papers of 2 credit each)	2 X 2=4	2 X 2=4
Environmental Science		
English/MIL Communication		
2. Ability Enhancement Elective (Skill Based)		
(Minimum 2)	2 X 2=4	2 X 2=4
(2 Papers of 2 credit each)		
Total credit	140	140
Institute should evolve a system/policy about ECA/ General Interest/Hobby/Sports/NCC/NSS/related courses on its own.		

* wherever there is a practical there will be no tutorial and vice-versa

Course Structure for B.A. (Hons.) Economics

Semester-I	Semester-II
Economics Core Course 1 : Introductory Microeconomics	Economics Core Course 3 : Introductory Macroeconomics
Economics Core Course 2 : Mathematical Methods for Economics-I	Economics Core Course 4 : Mathematical Methods for Economics-II
Ability Enhancement Compulsory Course (AECC)-I	Ability Enhancement Compulsory Course (AECC)-II
Generic Elective (GE) Course-I	Generic Elective (GE) Course-II

Semester-III	Semester-IV
Economics Core Course 5 : Intermediate Microeconomics-I	Economics Core Course 8 : Intermediate Microeconomics-II
Economics Core Course 6 : Intermediate Macroeconomics-I	Economics Core Course 9 : Intermediate Macroeconomics-II
Economics Core Course 7 : Statistical Methods for Economics	Economics Core Course 10 : Introductory Econometrics
Skill Enhancement Course (SEC)-I	Skill Enhancement Course (SEC)-II
Generic Elective (GE) Course-III	Generic Elective (GE) Course-IV

Semester-V	Semester-VI
Economics Core Course 11 : Indian Economy-I	Economics Core Course 13 : Indian Economy-II
Economics Core Course 12 : Development Economics-I	Economics Core Course 14 : Development Economics-II
Discipline Specific Elective (DSE) Course-I (From List of Group-I)	Discipline Specific Elective (DSE) Course-III (From List of Group-II)
Discipline Specific Elective (DSE) Course-II (From List of Group-I)	Discipline Specific Elective (DSE) Course-IV (From List of Group-II)
Group-I (Discipline Specific Elective (DSE) Courses)	Group-II (Discipline Specific Elective (DSE) Courses)
(i) Economics of Health and Education	(viii) Political Economy-II
(ii) Applied Econometrics	(ix) Comparative Economic Development (1850-1950)
(iii) Economic History of India (1857-1947)	(x) Financial Economics
(iv) Topics in Microeconomics-I	(xi) Topics in Microeconomics-II
(v) Political Economy-I	(xii) Environmental Economics
(vi) Money and Financial Markets	(xiii) International Economics
(vii) Public Economics	(xiv) Dissertation/Project

Syllabus for B.A. (Hons.)

Generic Elective Courses in Economics

Semester I	Semester II
Generic Elective in Economics I: Introductory Microeconomics	Generic Elective in Economics II: Introductory Macroeconomics
Semester III	Semester IV
Generic Elective in Economics III: (a) Indian Economy-I <i>OR</i> (b) Money and Banking <i>OR</i> (c) Environmental Economics	Generic Elective in Economics IV: (a) Indian Economy-II <i>OR</i> (b) Economic History of India 1857-1947 <i>OR</i> (c) Public Finance
Semester V	Semester VI

Generic Elective in Economics I: Introductory Microeconomics

Course Description

This course is designed to expose the students to the basic principles of microeconomic theory. The emphasis will be on thinking like an economist and the course will illustrate how microeconomic concepts can be applied to analyze real-life situations.

Course Outline

1. Exploring the subject matter of Economics

Why study economics? Scope and method of economics; the economic problem: scarcity and choice; the question of what to produce, how to produce and how to distribute output; science of economics; the basic competitive model; prices, property rights and profits; incentives and information; rationing; opportunity sets; economic systems; reading and working with graphs.

2. Supply and Demand: How Markets Work, Markets and Welfare

Markets and competition; determinants of individual demand/supply; demand/supply schedule and demand/supply curve; market versus individual demand/supply; shifts in the demand/supply curve, demand and supply together; how prices allocate resources; elasticity and its application; controls on prices; taxes and the costs of taxation; consumer surplus; producer surplus and the efficiency of the markets.

3. The Households

The consumption decision - budget constraint, consumption and income/price changes, demand for all other goods and price changes; description of preferences (representing preferences with indifference curves); properties of indifference curves; consumer's optimum choice; income and substitution effects; labour supply and savings decision - choice between leisure and consumption.

4. The Firm and Perfect Market Structure

Behaviour of profit maximizing firms and the production process; short run costs and output decisions; costs and output in the long run.

5. Imperfect Market Structure

Monopoly and anti-trust policy; government policies towards competition; imperfect competition.

6. Input Markets

Labour and land markets - basic concepts (derived demand, productivity of an input, marginal productivity of labour, marginal revenue product); demand for labour; input demand curves; shifts in input demand curves; competitive labour markets; and labour markets and public policy.

Readings

1. Karl E. Case and Ray C. Fair, *Principles of Economics*, Pearson Education Inc., 8th Edition, 2007.
2. N. Gregory Mankiw, *Economics: Principles and Applications*, India edition by South Western, a part of Cengage Learning, Cengage Learning India Private Limited, 4th edition, 2007.
3. Joseph E. Stiglitz and Carl E. Walsh, *Economics*, W.W. Norton & Company, Inc., New York, International Student Edition, 4th Edition, 2007.

Generic Elective in Economics II: Introductory Macroeconomics

Course Description

This course aims to introduce the students to the basic concepts of Macroeconomics. Macroeconomics deals with the aggregate economy. This course discusses the preliminary concepts associated with the determination and measurement of aggregate macroeconomic variable like savings, investment, GDP, money, inflation, and the balance of payments.

Course Outline

1. Introduction to Macroeconomics and National Income Accounting

Basic issues studied in macroeconomics; measurement of gross domestic product; income, expenditure and the circular flow; real versus nominal GDP; price indices; national income accounting for an open economy; balance of payments: current and capital accounts.

2. Money

Functions of money; quantity theory of money; determination of money supply and demand; credit creation; tools of monetary policy.

3. Inflation

Inflation and its social costs; hyperinflation.

4. The Closed Economy in the Short Run

Classical and Keynesian systems; simple Keynesian model of income determination; IS-LM model; fiscal and monetary multipliers.

Readings:

1. Dornbusch, Fischer and Startz, *Macroeconomics*, McGraw Hill, 11th edition, 2010.
2. N. Gregory Mankiw. *Macroeconomics*, Worth Publishers, 7th edition, 2010.
3. Olivier Blanchard, *Macroeconomics*, Pearson Education, Inc., 5th edition, 2009.
4. Richard T. Froyen, *Macroeconomics*, Pearson Education Asia, 2nd edition, 2005.
5. Andrew B. Abel and Ben S. Bernanke, *Macroeconomics*, Pearson Education, Inc., 7th edition, 2011.
6. Errol D'Souza, *Macroeconomics*, Pearson Education, 2009.
7. Paul R. Krugman, Maurice Obstfeld and Marc Melitz, *International Economics*, Pearson Education Asia, 9th edition, 2012.

Generic Elective in Economics III(a): Indian Economy-I

Course Description

Using appropriate analytical frameworks, this course reviews major trends in economic indicators and policy debates in India in the post-Independence period, with particular emphasis on paradigm shifts and turning points.

Course Outline

1. Economic Development since Independence

Major features of the economy at independence; growth and development under different policy regimes—goals, constraints, institutions and policy framework; an assessment of performance—sustainability and regional contrasts; structural change, savings and investment.

2. Population and Human Development

Demographic trends and issues; education; health and malnutrition.

3. Growth and Distribution

Trends and policies in poverty; inequality and unemployment.

4. International Comparisons

Readings:

1. Jean Dreze and Amartya Sen, 2013. *An Uncertain Glory: India and its Contradictions*, Princeton University Press.
2. Pulapre Balakrishnan, 2007, The Recovery of India: Economic Growth in the Nehru Era, *Economic and Political Weekly*, November.
3. Rakesh Mohan, 2008, -Growth Record of Indian Economy: 1950-2008. A Story of Sustained Savings and Investment, *Economic and Political Weekly*, May.
4. S.L. Shetty, 2007, -India's Savings Performance since the Advent of Planning, in K.L. Krishna and A. Vaidyanathan, editors, *Institutions and Markets in India's Development*.
5. Himanshu, 2010, -Towards New Poverty Lines for India, *Economic and Political Weekly*, January.
6. Jean Dreze and Angus Deaton, 2009, -Food and Nutrition in India: Facts and Interpretations, *Economic and Political Weekly*, February.
7. Himanshu. 2011, -Employment Trends in India: A Re-examination, *Economic and Political Weekly*, September.
8. Rama Baru et al, 2010, -Inequities in Access to Health Services in India: Caste, Class and Region, *Economic and Political Weekly*, September.
9. Geeta G. Kingdon, 2007, -The Progress of School Education in India, *Oxford Review of Economic Policy*.

10. J.B.G. Tilak, 2007, –Post Elementary Education, Poverty and Development in India, *International Journal of Educational Development*.
11. T. Dyson, 2008, –India’s Demographic Transition and its Consequences for Development in Uma Kapila, editor, *Indian Economy Since Independence*, 19th edition, Academic Foundation.
12. Kaushik Basu, 2009, –China and India: Idiosyncratic Paths to High Growth, *Economic and Political Weekly*, September.
13. K. James, 2008, –Glorifying Malthus: Current Debate on Demographic Dividend in India, *Economic and Political Weekly*, June.
14. Reetika Khera, 2011, –India’s Public Distribution System: Utilisation and Impact *Journal of Development Studies*.
15. Aniruddha Krishna and Devendra Bajpai, 2011, –Lineal Spread and Radial Dissipation: Experiencing Growth in Rural India, 1992-2005, *Economic and Political Weekly*, September.
16. Kaushik Basu and A. Maertens, eds, 2013, *Oxford Companion to Economics*, Oxford University Press.

Generic Elective in Economics III(b): Money and Banking

Course Description

This course exposes students to the theory and functioning of the monetary and financial sectors of the economy. It highlights the organization, structure and role of financial markets and institutions. It also discusses interest rates, monetary management and instruments of monetary control. Financial and banking sector reforms and monetary policy with special reference to India are also covered.

Course Outline

1. Money

Concept, functions, measurement; theories of money supply determination.

2. Financial Institutions, Markets, Instruments and Financial Innovations

a. Role of financial markets and institutions; problem of asymmetric information – adverse selection and moral hazard; financial crises.

b. Money and capital markets: organization, structure and reforms in India; role of financial derivatives and other innovations.

3. Interest Rates

Determination; sources of interest rate differentials; theories of term structure of interest rates; interest rates in India.

4. Banking System

- a. Balance sheet and portfolio management.
- b. Indian banking system: Changing role and structure; banking sector reforms.

5. Central Banking and Monetary Policy

Functions, balance sheet; goals, targets, indicators and instruments of monetary control; monetary management in an open economy; current monetary policy of India.

Readings

1. F. S. Mishkin and S. G. Eakins, *Financial Markets and Institutions*, Pearson Education, 6th edition, 2009.
2. F. J. Fabozzi, F. Modigliani, F. J. Jones, M. G. Ferri, *Foundations of Financial Markets and Institutions*, Pearson Education, 3rd edition, 2009.
3. L. M. Bhole and J. Mahukud, *Financial Institutions and Markets*, Tata McGraw Hill, 5th edition, 2011.
4. M. Y. Khan, *Indian Financial System*, Tata McGraw Hill, 7th edition, 2011.
5. Various latest issues of R.B.I. Bulletins, Annual Reports, Reports on Currency and Finance and Reports of the Working Group, IMF Staff Papers.

Generic Elective in Economics III(c): Environmental Economics

Course Description

This course introduces students to concepts, methods and policy options in managing the environment using tools of economic analysis. This course should be accessible to anyone with an analytical mind and familiarity with basic concepts of economics. Since several environmental problems are caused by economic activity (for instance, carbon emissions, over-harvesting of renewable resources and air and water pollution as a by-product of industrial activity), this course examines different approaches to adjusting behaviour through economic institutions such as markets and incentives as well as through regulation, etc. It also addresses the economic implications of environmental policies through practical applications of methods for valuation of environmental goods and services and quantification of environmental damages. Conversely, the impact of economic growth on the environment is also addressed under the rubric of sustainable development. Environmental problems and issues from the Indian and international context (especially global warming) are used to illustrate the concepts and methods presented in the course. The course will be useful for students aiming towards careers in the government sector, policy analysis, business, journalism and international organisations.

Course Outline

1. Introduction

Key environmental issues and problems, economic way of thinking about these problems, basic concepts from economics; Pareto optimality and market failure in the presence of externalities; property rights and other approaches.

2. The Design and Implementation of Environmental Policy

Overview, Pigouvian taxes and effluent fees, tradable permits, implementation of environmental policies in India and international experience; transboundary environmental problems; economics of climate change.

3. Environmental Valuation Methods and Applications

Valuation of non-market goods and services--theory and practice; measurement methods; cost-benefit analysis of environmental policies and regulations.

4. Sustainable Development

Concepts; measurement; perspectives from Indian experience

Readings

1. Roger Perman, Yue Ma, Michael Common, David Maddison and James McGilvray, "*Natural Resource and Environmental Economics*", Pearson Education/Addison Wesley, 4th edition, 2011.
2. Charles Kolstad, "*Intermediate Environmental Economics*", Oxford University Press, 2nd edition, 2010.
3. Robert N. Stavins (ed.), "*Economics of the Environment: Selected Readings*", W.W. Norton, 6th edition, 2012.
4. Robert Solow, "An Almost Practical Step toward Sustainability," Resources for the Future 40th anniversary lecture, 1992.
5. Kenneth Arrow et al., "Are We Consuming Too Much?" *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 18(3): 147-172, 2004.
6. IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change), Fifth Assessment Report (forthcoming 2014).

Generic Elective in Economics IV(a): Indian Economy-II

Course Description

This course examines sector-specific policies and their impact in shaping trends in key economic indicators in India. It highlights major policy debates and evaluates the Indian empirical evidence.

Course Outline

1. Macroeconomic Policies and Their Impact

Fiscal Policy; trade and investment policy; financial and monetary policies; labour regulation.

2. Policies and Performance in Agriculture

Growth; productivity; agrarian structure and technology; capital formation; trade; pricing and procurement.

3. Policies and Performance in Industry

Growth; productivity; diversification; small scale industries; public sector; competition policy; foreign investment.

4. Trends and Performance in Services

Readings:

1. Shankar Acharya, 2010, –Macroeconomic Performance and Policies 2000-8, in Shankar Acharya and Rakesh Mohan, editors, *India's Economy: Performances and Challenges: Development and Participation*, Oxford University Press.
2. Rakesh Mohan, 2010, –India's Financial Sector and Monetary Policy Reforms, in Shankar Acharya and Rakesh Mohan, editors, *India's Economy: Performances and Challenges: Development and Participation*, Oxford University Press.
3. Pulapre Balakrishnan, Ramesh Golait and Pankaj Kumar, 2008, –Agricultural Growth in India Since 1991, *RBI DEAP Study no. 27*.
6. Kunal Sen, 2010, –Trade, Foreign Direct Investment and Industrial Transformation in India, in Premachandra Athukorala, editor, *The Rise of Asia*, Routledge.
7. A. Ahsan, C. Pages and T. Roy, 2008, –Legislation, Enforcement and Adjudication in Indian Labour Markets: Origins, Consequences and the Way Forward, in D. Mazumdar and S. Sarkar, editors, *Globalization, Labour Markets and Inequality in India*, Routledge.
8. Dipak Mazumdar and Sandeep Sarkar, 2009, –The Employment Problem in India and the Phenomenon of the Missing Middle, *Indian Journal of Labour Economics*.
9. J. Dennis Rajakumar, 2011, –Size and Growth of Private Corporate Sector in Indian Manufacturing, *Economic and Political Weekly*, April.
10. Ramesh Chand, 2010, Understanding the Nature and Causes of Food Inflation,

- Economic and Political Weekly*, February.
11. Bishwanath Goldar, 2011, Organised Manufacturing Employment: Continuing the Debate, *Economic and Political Weekly*, April.
 12. Kaushik Basu and A. Maertens, eds, 2013. *The New Oxford Companion to Economics in India*, Oxford University Press.

Generic Elective in Economics IV(b): Economic History of India 1857-1947

Course Description

This course analyses key aspects of Indian economic development during the second half of British colonial rule. In doing so, it investigates the place of the Indian economy in the wider colonial context, and the mechanisms that linked economic development in India to the compulsions of colonial rule. This course links directly to the course on India's economic development after independence in 1947.

Course Outline

1. Introduction: Colonial India: Background and Introduction

Overview of colonial economy.

2. Macro Trends

National Income; population; occupational structure.

3. Agriculture

Agrarian structure and land relations; agricultural markets and institutions – credit, commerce and technology; trends in performance and productivity; famines.

4. Railways and Industry

Railways; the de-industrialisation debate; evolution of entrepreneurial and industrial structure; nature of industrialisation in the interwar period; constraints to industrial breakthrough; labor relations.

5. Economy and State in the Imperial Context

The imperial priorities and the Indian economy; drain of wealth; international trade, capital flows and the colonial economy – changes and continuities; government and fiscal policy.

Readings:

1. Lakshmi Subramanian, “*History of India 1707-1857*”, Orient Blackswan, 2010,

Chapter 4.

2. Sumit Guha, 1991, 'Mortality decline in early 20th century India', *Indian Economic and Social History Review (IESHR)*, pp 371-74 and 385-87.
3. Tirthankar Roy, *The Economic History of India 1857-1947*, Oxford University Press, 3rd edition, 2011.
4. J. Krishnamurty, *Occupational Structure*, Dharma Kumar (editor), *The Cambridge Economic History of India*, Vol. II, (henceforth referred to as CEHI), 2005, Chapter 6.
5. Irfan Habib, *Indian Economy 1858-1914*, A People's History of India, Vol.28, Tulika, 2006.
6. Ira Klein, 1984, 'When Rains Fail: Famine relief and mortality in British India', *IESHR* 21.
7. Jean Dreze, *Famine Prevention in India in Dreze and Sen (eds.) Political Economy of Hunger*, WIDER Studies in Development Economics, 1990, pp.13-35.
8. John Hurd, *Railways*, CEHI, Chapter 8, pp.737-761.
9. Rajat Ray (ed.), *Entrepreneurship and Industry in India*, 1994.
10. AK Bagchi, 'Deindustrialization in India in the nineteenth century: Some theoretical implications', *Journal of Development Studies*, 1976.
11. MD Morris, *Emergence of an Industrial Labour Force in India*, OUP 1965, Chapter 11, Summary and Conclusions.
12. K.N. Chaudhuri, *Foreign Trade and Balance of Payments*, CEHI, Chapter 10.
13. B.R. Tomlison, 1975, *India and the British Empire 1880-1935*, IESHR, Vol.XII.
14. Dharma Kumar, *The Fiscal System*, CEHI, Chapter 12.
15. Basudev Chatterjee, *Trade, Tariffs and Empire*, OUP 1992, Epilogue.

Background reading for students:

Irfan Habib, *Indian Economy 1858-1914* (A People's History of India), Vol.28, Tulika 2006.

Daniel Thorner, *Agrarian Prospect in India*, 1977.

Generic Elective in Economics IV(c): Public Finance

Course Description

This course is a non-technical overview of government finances with special reference to India. The course does not require any prior knowledge of economics. It will look into the efficiency and equity aspects of taxation of the centre, states and the local governments and the issues of fiscal federalism and decentralisation in India. The course will be useful for students aiming towards careers in the government sector, policy analysis, business and journalism.

Course Outline

Part 1: Theory

1. Overview of Fiscal Functions, Tools of Normative Analysis, Pareto Efficiency, Equity and the Social Welfare.
2. Market Failure, Public Good and Externalities.
3. Elementary Theories of Product and Factor Taxation (Excess Burden and Incidence).

Part 2: Issues from Indian Public Finance

4. Working of Monetary and Fiscal Policies.
5. Current Issues of India's Tax System.
6. Analysis of Budget and Deficits
7. Fiscal Federalism in India
8. State and Local Finances

Readings

1. Musgrave, R.A. and P.B. Musgrave, *Public Finance in Theory and Practice*, Mc-Graw Hill, 1989.
2. Mahesh Purohit, "*Value Added Tax: Experience of India and Other Countries*", Gayatri Publications, 2007.
3. Kaushik Basu, and A. Maertens (ed.), *The Oxford Companion to Economics in India*, Oxford University Press, 2007.
4. M.M Sury, *Government Budgeting in India*, Commonwealth Publishers, 1990.
5. Shankar Acharya, "Thirty years of tax reform" in India, *Economic and Political Weekly*, May 2005.
6. Government of India, *Report of the 13th Finance Commission*.
7. *Economic Survey*, Government of India (latest).
8. State Finances: A Study of Budgets, *Reserve Bank of India* (latest).

Skill Enhancement Courses (SEC) offered by Economics Department

Skill Enhancement Course (SEC) I: FINANCIAL ECONOMICS

Course Description

This course introduces students to the economics of finance. The course does not require any prior knowledge of economics. This course should be accessible to anyone with an exposure to elementary mathematics. The course is designed to impart the essential aspects of financial asset valuation. The students will be introduced to numerical techniques in finance using spreadsheet programmes such as Microsoft Excel. The course will impart skills that will be useful in a variety of business settings including investment banks, asset management companies and in the field of financial and business journalism.

Course Outline

1. Deterministic cash-flow streams

Basic theory of interest; discounting and present value; internal rate of return; evaluation criteria; fixed-income securities; bond prices and yields; interest rate sensitivity and duration; immunisation; the term structure of interest rates; yield curves; spot rates and forward rates.

2. Single-period random cash flows

Random asset returns; portfolios of assets; portfolio mean and variance; feasible combinations of mean and variance; mean-variance portfolio analysis: the Markowitz model and the two-fund theorem; risk-free assets and the one-fund theorem.

3. Capital Asset Pricing Model (CAPM)

The capital market line; the capital asset pricing model; the beta of an asset and of a portfolio; security market line; use of the CAPM model in investment analysis and as a pricing formula.

Readings

1. David G. Luenberger, *Investment Science*, Oxford University Press, USA, 1997.
2. Richard A. Brealey and Stewart C. Myers, *Principles of Corporate Finance*, McGraw-Hill, 7th edition, 2002.
3. Burton G. Malkiel, *A Random Walk Down Wall Street*, W.W. Norton & Company, 2003.
4. Simon Benninga, *Financial Modeling*, MIT Press, USA, 1997.

Skill Enhancement Course (SEC) II: DATA ANALYSIS

Course Description:

This course introduces the student to collection and presentation of data. It also discusses how data can be summarized and analysed for drawing statistical inferences. The students will be introduced to important data sources that are available and will also be trained in the use of free statistical software to analyse data.

Course Outline:

1. Sources of data. Population census versus sample surveys. Random sampling.
2. Univariate frequency distributions. Measures of central tendency: mean, median and mode; arithmetic, geometric and harmonic mean. Measures of dispersion, skewness and kurtosis.
3. Bivariate frequency distribution. Correlation and regression. Rank correlation.
4. Introduction to probability theory. Notions of random experiment, sample space, event, probability of an event. Conditional probability. Independence of events. Random variables and probability distributions. Binomial and normal distributions.
5. Estimation of population parameters from sample data. Unbiased estimators for population mean and variance.
6. Basics of index numbers: price and quantity index numbers.

Readings:

1. P.H. Karmel and M. Polasek (1978), *Applied Statistics for Economists*, 4th edition, Pitman.
2. M.R. Spiegel (2003), *Theory and Problems of Probability and Statistics* (Schaum Series).