

Christ University, Bengaluru-560029

Feedback Analysis Report- 2016-17

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS

The Department of Economics engages in meaningful revisions of the curriculum of various programs that it offers every year. The purpose of such revisions is to enhance student learning, improve quality of instruction and ensure relevance of the curriculum to the real-world issues and events. Students should be able to develop skills that are employable as well as transferable to the understanding of several of the societal problems that confront us and find creative and practical solutions for the same. While doing so, the theoretical and analytical aspects of the courses offered in the discipline are also given adequate attention given that there are several students who may wish to pursue higher studies or careers in teaching, research and academics at large.


Curriculum development and revision process in the Department of Economics involves a four-step process:

Stage 1: We collect both quantitative and qualitative feedback on the curriculum every year from various stakeholders such as students, alumni, employers and teachers.

Stage 2: Feedback analysis is conducted using descriptive statistics to identify areas of strengths and weaknesses. Qualitative comments are also analysed for identifying areas for improvements as well as for initiating new courses in the curriculum.

Stage 3: Based on the feedback analysis results, the Curriculum Development Committee (CDC) meets to discuss the opinions and feedback provided by various stakeholders on the basis of which changes or revisions to the existing curriculum are suggested. The action taken by the CDC with respect to curriculum revision is placed for discussion and approval at the Department for ratification by all the faculty members. The CDC meets to finalise the revisions in the curriculum and creates a proposal for changes to be placed in the Board of Studies for approval.

Stage 4: The Board of Studies meeting is conducted annually. The CDC proposal for revisions is placed for approval during this meeting. The BOS members consist of CDC members of the faculty as well academic, industry and alumni members who are experts in the field. After


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discussion and deliberations, the courses or changes approved by the BOS members are incorporated in the curriculum for the academic year.

Given below are the summary of feedback analysis conducted by the Department.

Major Suggestions by stakeholders:

Students:

1. The course can focus on business skills not just research skills
2. The content is challenging and more electives of wide interest would add value to the course
3. Skill based courses should have more focus and weightage

Alumni:


1. Curriculum should focus more on employability
2. Curriculum needs to be upgraded on timely basis based on Industry expectations
3. The curriculum fits aptly from a research and employment perspective but needs to focus more on analytical skills

Teachers:

1. It is important to incorporate skill-based courses in the curriculum for corporate employability and other course of contemporary relevance such as climate change and ecological economics
2. Subjects such as History of Economic Thought should be introduced as a course to improve students' understanding of the context and economic thinking of various economists at different points of time
3. The inclusion of Ethics and Economics may further strengthen the curriculum

Industry Experts:

1. The syllabus is quite updated in terms of the new concepts
2. More of analytical and application oriented as well as data interpretation-oriented curriculum would help a lot.
3. The curriculum needs to develop an employability orientation, especially in the second year as the syllabus tends to focus on academic roles


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Based on the feedback the CDC met to discuss the changes required in the curriculum.

Meeting Date and Time: 5-01-2016 at Room No.110, Block IV at 3 PM


Agenda of the meeting: To discuss changes required in all the programs of the Department of Economics based on feedback from stakeholders and present the same for approval in the forthcoming **Board of Studies Meeting, 2016-17**

Action taken report based on stakeholders' feedback

The Curriculum Development Committee has discussed and recommended changes to the curriculum for the year 2016-17 based on opinions and suggestions from all stakeholders such as students, teachers, alumni and employers. Program or course changes have also been recommended based on recent developments in the Economics field, the growth of particular types of careers in Economics and the pertinence of economic issues in recent times. The committee also deliberated on the changes in existing courses, credits, deletion or addition of new courses and the changes in the sequencing of courses across semesters.

The following changes have been proposed to be tabled for approval in the forthcoming BOS in February.

- ✓ **MA Applied Economics-** Restructuring of the elective streams offered in the program
- ✓ Introduction of a new core course on History of Economic Thought
- ✓ Introduction of courses with employable skills- Financial Econometrics
- ✓ Introduction of courses with contemporary significance- Economics of Climate Change
- ✓ Introduction of a course on Ethics and Economics to understand the ethical and normative aspects in the study of markets and economic decision making.


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Appended below is the statistical analysis of feedback received from stakeholders:

Stakeholder	Number of Responses	Excellent (%)	Good (%)	Satisfactory (%)	Average (%)	To be Improved
Students	20	35.88%	37.06%	18.24%	4.71%	4.12%
Alumni	19	26.32%	39.85%	22.56%	6.02%	5.26%
Teachers	5	11.90%	80.95%	7.14%	0.00%	0.00%
Industry	10	25.00%	38.00%	23.00%	10.00%	4.00%



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