



Babu Jagjivan Ram Government Degree College

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POLICY ON STUDENT-CENTRED METHODOLOGY

Babu Jagjivan Ram Government Degree College, Narayanaguda, has adopted the paradigm shift from teacher-centred methodology to learner-centred (student-centred) methodology. The rapidly changing world of Higher Education necessitates the shift as there is a need to produce students who have to make sense of the explosion of information that is available. They have to not only be creative and critical thinkers, but also become problem-solvers. Similarly, the teaching-learning process should not only improve student engagement but also encourage student ownership of learning.

DEFINITION OF KEY TERMS:

Teacher-centred learning: It is the traditional or conventional approach in teaching-learning in which the focus of instruction is on the teacher. He/she presents information to the students who are expected to passively receive the knowledge being presented.

Student-centred learning: It refers to the methods of teaching-learning that shift the focus of instruction from the teacher to the student. It aims to develop learner autonomy and independence by putting responsibility for the learning in the hands of the students and focuses on skills and practices that enable lifelong learning and independent problem-solving

Experiential learning: It refers to the student-centric method which involves the active engagement of students in opportunities to learn through doing, and reflection on those activities. The students gain the confidence to apply their theoretical knowledge to practical endeavours in activities that embed learning within real world contexts like laboratory, workshop, field trip, etc.

Participative learning: It refers to the methods like Pair work; Group work; Cooperative learning; Collaborative learning; Peer teaching; etc., where the focus shifts from what is being taught to what is being learned, and students spend time on reflecting, talking & listening, writing and reading.

Problem-solving methodologies: They refer to methods where students work in groups to

- investigate and resolve a problem based on real-world issues or situations (Problem-Based Learning)
- resolve cases which are narratives, situations, select data samplings, or statements that present unresolved and provocative issues, situations, or questions (Case Study Method)
- find creative solutions to projects given to them (Project-Based Learning)

Policy Statement: The college shall provide an educational ecosystem that facilitates the paradigm shift to student-centred learning with a focus on learner autonomy. In such an ecosystem, the teachers shall act as facilitators as students are encouraged to take responsibility for their own learning through activities like active learning, collaborative learning, experiential learning, etc.

Aims:

- To develop the autonomy of the learner
- To foster creativity and problem-solving competencies, and
- To enable lifelong learning among the students.

Implementation:

The college has evolved certain strategies for the effective implementation of student-centred methods. Accordingly, the following activities have been conducted with the purpose of facilitating student-centred methods and learner autonomy:

- The college organizes orientation classes/workshops on student-centred methodology for the teachers and trains them in the various methods like experiential learning, participative learning, case-study method, project-based learning, problem-solving, service learning, etc.
- These programmes familiarize the teaching faculty with the concepts of '*Sage on the Stage*' and '*Guide on the Side*' which are used to describe the role of the teacher as the fount of all knowledge in the traditional approach and the role of the teacher as facilitator in the student-centred approach, respectively.
- Induction/Orientation programmes for students are conducted, to familiarize them with the new methods like peer learning, collaborative learning, group and pair work, project-based learning, etc.
- Individual departments are motivated to use various methods as per suitability and encourage the students to participate in them.
 - The Science departments encourage their students to learn through experiential methods in their laboratories, field trips, simulations, etc.
 - The Arts departments conduct activities like mock parliament, case study methods, etc. They also take students on field trips to museums, art galleries and palaces.
 - The departments of Commerce and Management use methods like Problem-Based Learning and Project-Based Learning where groups of students are given problems or projects and asked to find solutions, collectively.
 - The Language departments use student-centric methods like pair work, group work, task-based learning, etc., to infuse students with enthusiasm in learning language.

- Collaborative partnership and mutual respect between students and teachers are encouraged for a better learning environment
- Students are encouraged to reflect over the learning methods; greater learner autonomy; and lifelong learning
- Engaging students in such active learning experiences helps them to think for themselves
- Students learn to become critical thinkers and creative problem solvers so that they can deal effectively with the challenges of the twenty-first century.

Policy Title	Policy on Student-Centred Methodology
Ratified by College Planning and Development Council	February 2020
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