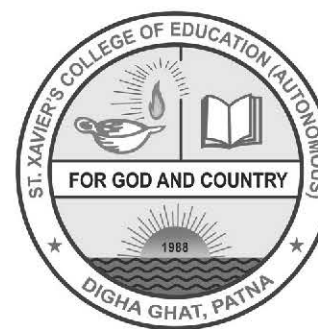# Journal of Research in Education
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10

An Analysis of Evaluation System of M. A. in Sociology of Central University

Abstract

The evaluation system in India is guided by the University Grants Commission (UGC) and is primarily based on the Credit–Based Semester System (CBSS) that allows students to accumulate credits for each course completed successfully. Recently, the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 has brought significant changes to the evaluation system in higher education. Present study aimed to analyse the Evaluation System of M.A. in Sociology academic program of Central University (Allahabad University). The present study was undertaken using the analytical method. Ordinance of the program, question papers, mark–sheets and evaluation related documents were collected and analysed in reference of weightage, given to various aspect of evaluation system i.e. External evaluation, Internal evaluation, different theory courses, practical courses. Findings has been drawn from the analysis of collected data and concluded in context of recommendations of National Education Policy – 2020 regarding evaluation system at University level.

Keywords: Evaluation System, University, NEP 2020, Academic Program, Sociology

Introduction

Sociology is one of the most contemporary and versatile among all branches of social science. It enables students to understand diversified social structures, social interactions, social processes, dynamics of social change, which helps them to understand individual and collective experience in their social and cultural context. Sociology is a critical, theoretical, conceptual as well as constructive, applied and empirical science that is constantly conscious of its methods, research techniques and standards of evidence. Evaluation is an integral part of the education process as it plays a vital role in determine academic progress, identifying areas of improvement and certifying students' achievements. The evaluation system in India is being reformed by striking a balance between traditional evaluation methods and innovative methods of Evaluation. Present paper is a sincere attempt to analyse the prevalent evaluation system of M.A. in Sociology of Central University to improve it. Numerous research studies done by Dr. P. Karthieyan (2015), Santu Biswas (2018), Dipanjali Mehar (2018), Sarkar Kapildeb (2019), Dr. Aditi Sarkar (2019), Tapsi Howlader and Binoy Roy (2021), Mondal (2021) in sphere of Evaluation system found that evaluation have a profound impact on teaching-learning process which could affect the whole process positively or negatively. So, it is imperative to analyse the evaluation system of university to know its pros and cons.

Objective

To study the Evaluation System of Post Graduate Program Master of Art in Sociology of Central University of UP.

Type of Research

Keeping in view the needs of the present research study, analytical research method has been used for the study. In this research, the facts and information related to the research are analysed to get the most relevant information from the data.

Population

All the Central Universities of Uttar Pradesh are the population for the study.

Sample

One Central University was randomly selected from the list of Central Universities (CU) of Uttar Pradesh. Allahabad University (AU) get selected, so Allahabad University is the sample of the study.

Method of Data Collection

The present study analyses the evaluation system of a central university (University of Allahabad). The ordinances, question papers and results of the Master of Arts programme in Sociology were studied and analysed.

The programme is divided into 4 semesters and consists of different types of courses i.e. theory core papers, electives papers and practical activities, hence these different courses of all the four semesters were studied in terms of the evaluation system by calculating the percentage of total marks.

Statistical Technique used in study

In the present study, the obtained data was analysed quantitatively in terms of weightage given to each course and activities, the weightage is determined in terms of percentage:

Weightage (%) of the course category in semester of the Program:

$$\frac{\textit{Total marks of the specific courses category in semester of PG program}}{\textit{Total marks of the Semester of PG program}}$$

Weightage (%) of the course category in the Program:

$$\frac{\textit{Total marks of the specific courses category in PG program}}{\textit{Total marks of the PG program}}$$

The data sheets and course categorization tables of the program were prepared for the analysis. Tables are consisting of separate columns names as Papers, Courses type, credits, Practical, Semester End Exam, Internal, Theory & percentage. Relevant information units were selected from evaluation related documents and added in place. The total of various course categories and practical activities of the program were converted into Percentage to draw conclusions.

Analysis of Data:

Data was analysed and presented in tubular form, which are given below-

Table 1
Evaluation scheme of M. A. (Sociology) - Semester I of CU (AU)

S.No.	Paper	Course Type	Credit	Practical	Semester End Exam	Theory			Total (SEE+Internal)
						Internal		Total (a+b)	
						Best of the test and Assignment (a)	Mid Term Examination (b)		
1	Paper - 1	CC	05	-	60	20	20	40	100
2	Paper - 2	CC	05	-	60	20	20	40	100
3	Paper - 3	CC	05	-	60	20	20	40	100
4	Paper - 4	CC	05	-	60	20	20	40	100
	Total		20	-	240	80	80	160	400
	Total in %			-	60%	20%	20%	40%	100

CC= Core Corse

It is evident from table 1 that M. A. (Sociology) Semester I of CU (AU) consist 4 core theory papers of 5 credits each. It is of 20 credits in total. The table also shows that theory has received 100% weightage, with 60% going to Semester end exam and 40% going to internal. Theory Internal is further subdivided into Best of the test and Assignment of 20% weightage and Mid-term examination of 20% weightage.

Table 2 (a)
Evaluation scheme of M. A. (Sociology) - Semester II of CU (AU)

S.No.	Paper	Course Type	Credit	Practical	Semester End Exam	Theory Internal Best of the test and Assignment (a)	Theory Internal Mid Term Examination (b)	Total (a+b)	Total (SEE+Internal)
1	Paper - 1	CC	05	-	60	20	20	40	100
2	Paper - 2	CC	05	-	60	20	20	40	100
3	Paper - 3	CC	05	-	60	20	20	40	100
4	Paper - 4	EC	05	-	60	20	20	40	100
	Total		20	-	240	80	80	160	400
	Total in %			-	60	20%	20%	40%	100%

It is evident from table 2 (a) that M. A. (Sociology) - Semester II of CU (AU) consist 3 Core theory papers and 1 Elective paper of 5 credits each. It is of 20 credits in total. The table also shows that theory has received 100% weightage with 60% going to Semester end exam and 40% going to internal. Theory Internal is further subdivided into Best of the test and Assignment of 20% weightage and Mid-term examination of 20% weightage.

Table 2 (b)
Course Category of M. A. (Sociology) Semester II of CU (AU)

Theory/practicum/ Dissertation/activities	Course Type	ESE/ Internal	Marks	Percentage	Total %
Theory (20 Credit)	Core (15 Credit)	ESE	180	45	75%
		Internal	120	30	
	Elective (05 Credit)	ESE	60	15	25%
		Internal	40	10	
Total	(20 Credit)		400	100%	100%

It is evident from table 2 (b) that M. A. (Sociology) Semester II consist Core theory courses of 15 credits and Elective courses of 5 credits. The table also shows that theory Core courses has received 75% weightage, with 45% going to End Semester exam and 30% going to internal. Elective courses have received 25% weightage, with 15% going to Semester end exam and 10% going to Internal. Theory has received 100% weightage.

Table 3 (a)
Evaluation scheme of M. A. (Sociology) - Semester III of CU (AU)

S.No.	Paper	Course Type	Credit	Practical	Semester End Exam	Theory Internal Best of the test and Assignment (a)	Theory Internal Mid Term Examination (b)	Total (a+b)	Total (SEE+Internal)
1	Paper - 1	CC	05	-	60	20	20	40	100
2	Paper - 2	CC	05	-	60	20	20	40	100
3	Paper - 3	EC	05	-	60	20	20	40	100
4	Paper - 4	EC	05	-	60	20	20	40	100
	Total		20	-	240	80	80	160	400
	Total in %			-	60%	20%	20%	40%	100%

Elective Courses: All Courses from the same Group to be opted as in the 3rd Semester.

It is evident from table 3 (a) that M. A. (Sociology) Semester III of CU (AU) consists 2 Core theory courses and 2 Elective courses of 5 credits each. It is of 20 credits in total. The table also shows that theory has received 100% weightage, with 60% going to Semester end exam and 40% going to internal. Theory Internal is further subdivided into Best of the test and Assignment of 20% weightage and Mid-term examination of 20% weightage.

Table 3 (b)
Course Category of M. A. (Sociology) Semester III of CU (AU)

Theory	Course Type	ESE/Internal	Marks	Percentage	Total %
Theory (20 Credit)	Core (10 Credit)	ESE	120	30%	50%
		Internal	80	20%	
	Elective (10 Credit)	ESE	120	30%	50%
		Internal	80	20%	
Total			400	100%	100%

It is evident from table 3 (b) that M. A. (Sociology) Semester III consists Core theory papers of 10 credits and Elective papers of 10 credits. The table also shows that theory Core courses has received 50% weightage, with 30% going to End Semester exam and 20% going to internal. Elective courses have received 30% weightage, with 20% going to Semester end exam and 20% going to Internal. Theory has received 100% weightage.

Table 4 (a)
Evaluation scheme of M. A. in Sociology Semester IV of CU (AU)

S.No.	Paper	Course Type	Credit	Practical	Semester End Exam	Internal Best of the test and Assignment (a)	Internal Mid Term Examination (b)	Internal Total (a+b)	Total (SEE+Internal)
1	Paper – 1	CC	05	-	60	20	20	40	100
2	Paper – 2	EC	05	-	60	20	20	40	100
3	Paper – 3	EC	05	-	60	20	20	40	100
4	Field work/ library based project	CC	05	100	-	-	-	-	100
	Total		20	100	180	60	60	160	400
	Total in %			25%	45%	15%	15%	30%	100%

It is evident from table 4 (a) that M. A. (Sociology) Semester IV of CU (AU) consist 1 Core theory papers, 2 Elective papers and 1 Field work of 5 credits each. It is of 20 credits in total. The table also shows that Practical has received 25% weightage while theory has received 75% weightage, with 45% going to Semester end exam and 30% going

to internal. Theory Internal is further subdivided into Best of the test and Assignment of 15% weightage and Mid-term examination of 15% weightage.

Table 4 (b)
Course Category of M. A. in Sociology Semester IV of CU (AU)

Theory/practicum/ activities	Course Type	ESE/Internal	Marks	Percentage	Total %
Theory (15 Credit)	Core course (05 Credit)	ESE	60	15%	25%
		Internal	40	10%	
	Elective course (10 Credit)	ESE	120	30%	50%
		Internal	80	20%	
Field work/library based project work (05 Credit)	Core course (05 Credit)	External	60	15%	25%
		Internal	40	10%	
Total	(20 Credit)		400	100%	100%

It is evident from table 4 (b) that M. A. (Sociology) Semester IV consists Core theory courses, Elective courses, and Field Work of 5, 10 and 5 credits, respectively. The table also shows that theory Core courses have received 25% weightage, with 15% going to End Semester exam and 10% going to internal. Elective courses have received 50% weightage, with 30% going to Semester end exam and 20% going to Internal. Theory has received 75% weightage while Field work has received 25% weightage, with 15% going to External and 10% going to Internal.
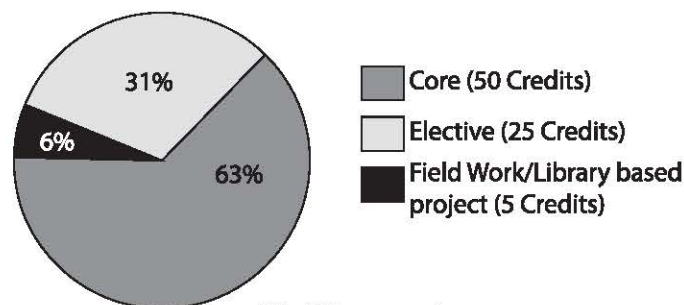
Table 5
Course Category of M. A. in Sociology (Semester I to IV) of CU (AU)

Theory/practicum/ Dissertation/activities	Course Type	ESE/Internal	Marks	Percentage	Total %
Theory (75 Credit)	Core course (50 Credit)	ESE	600	37.50%	62.50%
		Internal	400	25.00%	
	Elective course (25 Credit)	ESE	300	18.75%	31.25%
		Internal	200	12.50%	
Field work/library based project work (05 Credit)	Core course (05 Credit)	ESE	60	03.75%	06.25%
		Internal	40	02.50%	
Total	(80 Credit)		1600	100%	100%

Course Category of M. A. in Sociology Semester I to IV of CU (AU)

Core (50 Credits)
Elective (25 Credits)
Field Work/Library based project (5 Credits)

Pie Diagram 1

It is evident from table 5 and Pie Diagram 1 that M.A. in Sociology programme (Semester I to IV) consists Core theory papers of 50 credits, Elective papers of 25 credits and Field Work of 5 credits. The table also shows that theory Core courses have received 62.50% weightage, with 37.5% going to End Semester exam and 25% going to internal. Elective courses have received 31.25% weightage, with 18.75% going to Semester end exam and 12.50% going to Internal. Theory has received 93.75% weightage while Field work has received 6.25% weightage, with 3.75% going to External and 2.5% going to Internal.

Findings

❖ In Central University (AU), the M.A. in Sociology Program has given 94% weightage to theory out of which Core theory courses received 63% weightage and Elective Courses received 31% weightage.

❖ In CU (AU), the M.A. in Sociology program has given 6% weightage to Field Work and Practical.

❖ In CU (AU), the M.A. in Sociology program has 60% External weightage and 40% internal weightage for each theory course as well as for field work and practical based activities.

Conclusion

Modern society receives high quality talented manpower that promotes innovation for development in various social sector through Higher education. In the present study, it was found that Central university (Allahabad University) has included Core courses, Elective courses and field based activities in the M.A. in Sociology Post Graduate Program.

The NEP 2020 on page no. 37 recommended that to attain the aim of holistic and multidisciplinary education, the curriculum of all higher education intuitions shall be flexible, innovative, credit-based. Hence this is advised that Universities should include variety of courses with due weightage in Post graduate level programs to step forwards on the path of achieving academic supremacy.

It is revealed that the program M.A. in Sociology has given less weightage to Practical in comparison of Theory. Hence, it is advised that practical based activities should be increased to give more and more opportunities of hands on practices or students experiences which is also recommended by National Educational Policy - 2020 to revamp curriculum, pedagogy, assessment, and student support for enhanced student's experiences.

It is observed from the study that the M. A. in Sociology program has 60% External weightage and 40% Internal weightage. Higher education institutions in western counties are evaluating students entirely on internal evaluation methods, following the principle "those who teach should evaluate". The world is accepting this educational evaluation system adopted in western countries and their students are being given more importance than the degree holder students of Indian HEIs. UGC also guided in this reference in report on Evaluation Reform in Higher Educational Institutions on Page no. 48 that the ratio of Internal Evaluation and External Evaluation for Post-Graduation levels may be less (40:60) to start with. It can be increased to 50% in phased manner, depending on the outcome of experience. Thus, it is better to that adopt continuous and comprehensive evaluation system by giving more weightage to Internal evaluation that is also recommended in the document of NEP 2020.

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Website

Syllabus of M.A. in Sociology retrived form https://www.allduniv. ac.in/faculties/sociology