



NETAJI SUBHAS OPEN UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
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Call for Papers for a Seminar and an Edited Volume with ISBN

This is for information of all concerned that a UGC-DEB-sponsored Research project entitled **“Teaching Political Science through Open and Distance Learning (ODL): A Comparative Study of Student Support Services (SSS) in Indian Universities”** is being conducted in the School of Social Sciences, NSOU. As a functional part of the Project, the School is going to organise a National–Level Seminar on an even broader theme of **“Teaching Social Science Disciplines through ODL: A 21st Century Perspective”** in the beginning of March 2017. (The exact date will be communicated in due course) **The School also plans to publish a volume (with ISBN) in the given area with contributions of the scholars working on the broad theme.** Be it noted that the proposed volume will be an inter-disciplinary one and will also represent a pioneering attempt in the field. Papers are being invited from the participants of the Seminar /authors, which may constitute the chapters in the proposed volume.

Title of the Proposed Volume;

Teaching Social Science Disciplines through ODL: A 21st Century Perspective

Concept Note:

The system of Open and Distance Learning (ODL) has emerged as an important mode for providing education to diverse sections of society. The changing dynamics of ODL over the years has opened up new horizons before us. With the proliferation of Information and Communication Technology (ICT), the boundaries of classroom or campus are becoming blurred. As it is said, the temporal and spatial boundaries are disappeared. The impressive number of Distance Education Institutions (DEIs) all over the world and also in our country bear testimony to the fact. In India, apart from one National Open University (IGNOU) and many other State Open Universities (SOUs), the number of dual mode Universities (imparting education both in conventional and distance mode) has risen to a remarkable extent. Added to this are the other DEIs offering different educational programmes through distance mode and operating at different levels. At present, nearly 25% students of higher education in the country are enrolled in the ODL system. The Courses/Programmes being offered in those institutions are also varied and large in number. The Social Science disciplines occupy the ‘lions’s share’ of those both in terms of number of courses and also of the number of learners. In absence of regular class room exercise, the DEIs are providing more comprehensive Student Support Services (SSS) to their learners. Besides conducting Personal Contact Programmes (PCPs) and supplying printed version of Self Learning Materials (SLMs), DEIs are now engaged in developing Multimedia Learning Materials (MLMs) in different forms not simply to compensate the regular contact hours but to go beyond. Efforts are on to develop Open Educational Resources (OER) of different types even to the extent of organising ‘virtual class rooms’. The present study seeks to understand the

progress of DEIs in this respect through a comparative estimate of SSSs in Indian Universities with particular focus on the teaching-learning processes in the social science disciplines. The comparison may be undertaken from different angles, with National and State Open Universities, with one or more SOUs, between and among SOUs and any dual mode University, between and among dual mode Universities and so on. The case study of any specific DEI may also be undertaken.

The proposed Sub-themes are:

1. ODL (Open and Distance Learning) in the 21st Century
2. Case Study of Student Support Services (SSS) in National / State Open Universities/ Dual Mode Universities and other Distance Education Institutions (DEIs)
3. Comparative Study of SSS in Open Universities, Dual Mode Universities and/or other DEIs
4. SSS in ODL in Social Science disciplines in comparison to Conventional system
5. Use of Technology in the Teaching-Learning Process of the Open Universities/Dual Mode Universities and/or other DEIs
6. Content analysis of the SLMs/MLMs developed by the Open Universities/Dual Mode Universities and/or other DEIs

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Important Dates

Submission of Abstracts (Not more than three hundred words):	03 February,
2017 Communication of Acceptance of the Paper:	10
February, 2017 Submission of Full Paper:	28
February, 2017	

The abstracts and papers should be typed in MS Word in 12 font and sent through personal e-mail to the following e-mail ID stating clearly the Title of the Paper, Name of the author, his/her designation and other relevant information : **sss@wbnsou.ac.in**

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