



NEWS BULLETIN

Department of Non-Conventional Courses
NETAJI SUBHAS OPEN UNIVERSITY

Volume 1 • Number 1 • August 2011

From the Desk of the Vice-Chancellor



I write this almost at the end of my three-month stint in this office—a period which has been both momentous and very demanding for NSOU, in particular. Much of my time has been dominated by the jobs of publishing results of examinations held previously, conducting pending examinations & to redress students' grievances.

This all might seem rather obvious, but one of NSOU's great strengths, and one of the things that instills uniqueness here, is the courses run under the

aegis of the Department of Non-Conventional Courses (NCC). These innovative courses, which may be termed Festival of Ideas, are designed and run in collaboration with various NGOs, civic and statutory bodies—apart from numerous Study Centres. These are basically vocational in nature and are aimed mainly to empower rural and subaltern youths of our State. There are altogether 38 such courses presently running at NSOU. One bright addition to this list—“MA in Values, Ethics & Indian Culture” framed in collaboration with Rabindranath Tagore Centre for Human Values—under the aegis of Bengal Ambuja Group, has been launched with effect from July, 2011.

The gross annual intake in these courses—as may be envisaged from record, is 1500 - 1600 learners. Our commitment in smooth running of these NCCs, in days to come, could only justify its underlying objective of reaching the unreached.

In fine, I express my sincere thanks to the members of the Editorial Board of the maiden edition of this “News Bulletin” which could not have seen the light of the day without their untiring support and motivation.

(Professor Subha Sankar Sarkar)
Vice-Chancellor

Contents
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Delivery System• List of Programmes• Programmes on Anvil• List of Partner Institutes• Achievements• Past Events• Future Programme• Students' Corner• Growth of the Department• Success Stories• Photo Gallery
Guest Editor
Professor Subha Sankar Sarkar
Editorial Board
Dr. Anirban Ghosh Dr. Ashit Baran Aich Professor Bikas Ghosh
Communication Address
Department of Non-Conventional Courses Netaji Subhas Open University 1, Woodburn Park, Kolkata-700 020, West Bengal Website: www.wbnsou.ac.in e-mail : anirban.ghosh@wbnsou.ac.in (Corresponding Editor)

TO REACH THE UNREACHED

Delivery System

Dear learners,

We welcome you most cordially to the University and wish you a smooth journey in to the academic programme of our University.

You might be knowing that NSOU has been conferred upon the International Award 'Excellence in Distance Education Award (EDEA) for Institutional Achievement' by the Commonwealth of Learning in 2006. It is the apex body of all Distance Teaching institutions of the Commonwealth countries. Here we follow the methodology of Distance Education and the philosophy of Open Learning which are innovations in the scenario of higher education of the country. Naturally, the method you are going to adopt is unlike the conventional classroom study you are familiar with.

Now you will come across the delivery system of different academic programmes:

Counselling sessions:

You will be getting the Study Materials through your study centres where you have taken admission. Study Materials are dispatched to the study centres from the Headquarters of the University after admission is over. You have to collect the study materials from your study centre. You are supposed to read the Study Materials yourself as your teachers are inbuilt there since these are Self-Learning Materials (SLMs). The teacher talks and lectures to you through the study materials. Your doubts are clarified at the counselling sessions. Your study begins from the time of receiving the study materials and not from the time of beginning of counselling sessions. Counselling is a learner-centered activity where your queries are handled by the academic counsellors. So make it a point to read the study materials before attending the counselling sessions. Since the courses under this department are highly practical based and need hands on experience, you should not miss any counselling session. Your attendance in the session will enrich you and you will get the opportunity of interaction with your academic counsellors as well as with your peer group who stay scattered. Apart from the face to face counselling you may also take the benefit of radio

counselling. You may contact our subject experts directly on every Wednesday (from 2.15 pm to 2.45pm) in the (LIVE) phone-in-programme on 105.4MHz. (Gyan-Vani FM Channel).

Assignment/ Mid-term examination:

Your assignments/ mid-term examination, a pre-requisite for appearing in the Term-End Examination, must be submitted on time. So collect the assignment question paper from your study centre and submit the assignment response (answer) scripts to the same study centre. These carry weightage. You are also advised to keep a photocopy of the submitted assignments with you. The term-end examinations are conducted twice in a year June and December. You are also advised to keep contact with your study centre regarding filling up of examination form, examination schedule etc.

With limited resources and facing all obstacles, the Department has been able to publish the result of December 2010 term-end examination and successfully conducted the Term-end examinations June 2011 of all courses with the help of the Examination Department. The aim of the Department is to deal with students, teachers and the general public in an equitable and fair manner. We are here to offer quality service. All the staff of the Department are committed to constantly improving the services.

I take this opportunity to tell you that the University gives Gold Medal and Silver Medal to the toppers and the second highest scorers for each course. There is also a provision of Book Prizes for rank holders of different short-term courses. It is our cherished desire to see during a future Convocation that you go to the dais to receive a medal from our Vice-Chancellor.

Last but not the least, we shall be very happy if you contact us for any problem of yours rather than anyone else on your behalf. Please note that for us your identity as a learner of NSOU is the sole matter of importance.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

(Dr. Anirban Ghosh)

Assistant Professor of Commerce &
In-Charge, Non-Conventional Courses

List of Programmes

The University conducts conventional courses like Bachelors Degree Programme and Post Graduate Degree programme in Arts, Science and Commerce. In addition to these programmes, the University has a number of innovative courses which are basically vocational and job oriented courses. The University is now concentrating on the vocational training programme to develop the skill of the youths living in rural areas. The University is also keen to empower the women in the state of West Bengal. The University currently offers the following programmes:

Name of the Courses	Admission Session	Eligibility
1. MA in Values, Ethics & Indian Culture-2 year	July	Graduate
2. MCA in Distance & Regular Mode -3 years	July	BCA
3. BCA in Distance & Regular Mode-3 years	July	10+2
4. Graduate Programme in Physician Assistants-3 years	July	10+2
5. PG Diploma in Apparel Designing & Fashion Technology- 2 years	Jan	Graduate
6. PG Diploma in Taxation- 1 year	July	Graduate
7. PG Diploma in Psychological Counselling -1 year	July	Graduate
8. PG Diploma in Hospital Front Office Management -1 year	July	Graduate
9. PG Diploma in Cardiovascular Sonography- 1 year	July	Graduate (Sc.)
10. PG Diploma in Retail Management- 1 year	July	Graduate
11. Diploma in Medical Laboratory Technology-2 Years	July	10+2
12. Diploma in Community Based Health Management- 1 year	July	10+2
13. Diploma in Travel & Tourism-1 year	July	10+2
14. Diploma in Entrepreneurship Development and Small Business Management- 1 year	July	10+2

Name of the Courses	Admission Session	Eligibility
15. Diploma in Pre-Primary Teachers' Training- 1 year	Jan & July	10+2
16. Tailoring & Dress Designing (2-Year Advanced Diploma)	Jan & July	Graduate
17. Tailoring & Dress Designing (6-month Basic)	Jan & July	Class VIII
18. DTP Basic- 6 months Certificate	Jan & July	Class X
19. Certificate in Blood Donors' Motivation, Blood Science & Social Work- 6 month	Jan & July	Class X
Women's Empowerment Programme (exclusively for women)		
20. PG Diploma in Needlework & knitting -2 year	Jan	Graduate
21. Certificate in Amra Pari- 6 month	July	Class VIII

Programmes on Anvil

The University is planning to start the following employment oriented courses:

1. Post Graduate Diploma in Export-Import Management
2. Diploma in Food Processing & Nutrition

List of Partner Institutes

Apart from the Study Centres the University has signed MoU with a number of reputed Institutes/ Organization for its different collaborative programmes. These Partner Institutions supplement the programme delivery system of the University. The University utilizes the existing infrastructural facilities of the Partner Institutes. These Partner Institutions widen access to University's programme, by their available resources for promoting distance education at students' door steps. Currently the following organizations/ institutes act as the Partner Institutes of the University.

- West Bengal State Council of Technical Education
- West Bengal Red Cross Society, West Bengal State Branch

- Enterprise Development Institute (EDI) [Bengal National Chamber of Commerce & Industry]
- Sriniketan and Santiniketan Development Authority
- Rabindranath Tagore Centre for Human Values
- Pranavananda Institute of Management & Technology
- CARE Foundation, Hyderabad
- Rabindranath Tagore International Institute of Cardiac Sciences
- Learning and Living Resources Society
- La Martiniere SEOMP Society
- Vidyasagar Foundation
- CMC Ltd.
- Brainware Consultancy Pvt. Ltd.
- ACE Business Services Pvt. Ltd
- Girindra Sekhar Institute of Psychological Education & Research
- West Bengal Voluntary Blood Donors' Forum
- Nari Siksha Samiti
- Bangiya Bijan Parishad
- Suri Mahila Samity

Achievement

Dr. Anirban Ghosh, Asst. Professor of Commerce and In-Charge, Non-Conventional Courses received the Fellowship from Korea National Open University under Asian Association of Open Universities (AAOU) Staff Exchange Programme in 2010.

Past Events

The University does not compromise with the quality. Maintenance of quality at every stage of delivery system is a major concern of the University as it imparts practical oriented training programme through the network of study centres. As a measure of quality assurance the Department organizes seminars/ workshops for both the students and teachers/trainers. The objective of these programmes are to update and upgrade the knowledge of the both the students and teachers and giving the opportunities of interaction with eminent

personalities/ experts of different field of subjects. The Department has conducted the following programmes during the last few years:

1. State level seminar on “**Vocational Training through Open & Distance Learning**” held on 07 April 2009 at BNCCI.
2. Workshop for “**Academic Counsellors/ Teachers of Tailoring & dress Designing**” held on 09 September 2009 at the Seminar Room of the university.
3. A Seminar on “**Importance of Vocational education through ODL**” at Coochbehar College on 03 April 2010.
4. State level Seminar on “**Child Education in West Bengal: Present & Future**” held on 07 July 2010 in collaboration with Paschimbanga Rajya Shishu Shiksha Mission at Paschimbanga Bangla Akademi.
5. “**Apparel Show**” organized by the students of SSDA centre on 10th November 2010 at Gitanjali Auditorium, Bolpur, Birbhum.
6. 7-day Orientation Programme for **Trainers of Diploma in Pre-Primary Teachers' Training course** held on Dec. 6-10 and 13-14, 2010 at the Seminar Room of the University.
7. State level Seminar on “**Tax Reforms in India: Issues & Challenges**” held on 05 February 2011 at the Seminar Room of the University.
8. 2-day Workshop on “**Women's Studies: Awareness & its implications**” held on 17-18 March, 2011 at the Seminar Room of the University.

Future Programme

The Department is planning to organize the following programme in the present financial year:

1. 6-day Orientation Programme for **Trainers of Diploma in Pre-Primary Teachers' Training course**
2. Workshop for “**Academic Counsellors/Teachers of Tailoring & dress Designing course**”.

Students' Corner



I am simply a graduate. I had no opportunity to prosecute my studies further. However after being attracted by an advertisement I applied for admission in **Diploma in Pre-Primary Teachers' Training** course of this University. Now I am pursuing this course & feel proud to be associated with this esteemed University. The syllabus of this course equips one to meet the present day needs of child education. I hope after completion of this course I will be able to secure an employment. The University has helped me gain the confidence to guide the children so that they can become a good human being.

—Ms. Arupa Dey

(Enrolment No.-102219100084)



The primary reason which inspired me to join the **PG Diploma in Psychological Counselling** of this University comes from a purely personal standpoint. Ever since my childhood, I have always witnessed people from my family, friends and relatives trying to cope with problems of various kinds and then attempting to resolve them by discussing within their known circles. Eventually when I became a teacher (initially in the educational mainstream and currently in special education), I found the scenario to be much the same with some very rare exceptions. The children whom I teach often present psychological turmoil but sadly very few schools have counsellors for effectively addressing these issues. As a result, the child is simply labeled as insolent, brash or even 'special', albeit in a derogatory sense of the term.

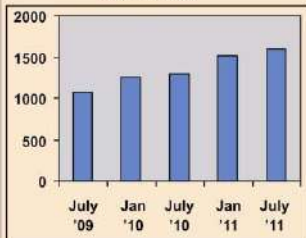
Looking out for remedial methodologies, I realized that even a preliminary training in psychological counselling can help greatly with a broad range of individual and social problems.

For this purpose, I have enrolled myself for this unique course on psychological counselling to equip myself with the appropriate techniques and methods based on latest scientific research. It is my firm belief that this course would fuel my dreams of becoming an efficient and productive educator.

—Ms. Nilanjana Bhattacharya

(Enrolment No.-112248032006)

Total Enrolment



After completion of my graduation I was totally in dark about my future. I was very anxious and I did not get any job at that time. I took a chance and got admission in the 2-year **Tailoring and Dress Designing** course conducted by Netaji Subhas Open University in 2007 with

an objective of self employment.

The course is a blend of both theoretical and practical components and it includes the hand-on experience.

After successful completion of the course, I was awarded 2-year Advanced Diploma Certificate by the University which helped me appear in the eligibility test for the recruitment of Assistant Teacher in Work education conducted by West Bengal School Service Commission. Now I am very happy that I am working as Assistant Teacher in Work education in a Govt. aided school in the district of Nadia. I sincerely convey my thanks to NSOU for giving this opportunity to me and many others who are pursuing this course to establish themselves in the society either by way of self employment or wage employment.

--Sri Gobinda Thakur
(Enrolment No.-07235800013)

After completion of Bachelor's Degree I had a subdued wish to do something on my own that will be an example to society. It took me about 16 years to make myself available for a social project. I got admission in **Diploma in Pre-Primary Teachers' Training** course of this University for advancement of knowledge and proper training in the specialized field specially in the area of child education. Just after completion of the course we were



totally charged up with the qualities of a proper Montessori teacher. This was possible only due to the friendly and methodical guidance of subject experts and quality study materials. Now I am a successful entrepreneur and have established a Montessori School in Konnagar, Hooghly. Thanks to Netaji Subhas Open University.

--Sm. Suparna Mukherjee
(Enrolment No.-101206300010)

When after completion of B.Sc. in Biotechnology and M.Sc. in Environmental studies I did not get any job. I was frustrated at that time. I tried my luck and I got admission in **Post Graduate Diploma in**

Apparel Designing & Fashion Technology of Netaji Subhas Open University

with an objective of self-employment. I was a student in the first batch of this course. This vocational course is highly practical based and includes hands on training. After successful completion of this course I appeared at the selection test for Assistant Teacher in the Govt. aided School conducted by West Bengal School Service Commission. Now I am working as an Assistant Teacher in Work Education in a school in Burdwan. Thanks to NSOU for giving me this opportunity to serve the society.



--Sri Supriya Paul
(Enrolment No.-082107600001)

I was born in a very poor family in a remote village of Paschim Medinipur. I continued my studies with very difficulty and financial constraints and obtained graduation degree. After completion of my college degree I took admission in **Post Graduate Diploma in Needlework and Knitting** of Netaji Subhas Open University in 2008 and completed in 2010. In the same year I appeared at the selection test for assistant teachers conducted by West Bengal School Service Commission. My dream came true when I received the recommendation letter from the Commission for appointment. Now I am working as an assistant teacher of a Govt. aided school in the district of Purba Medinipur. I am very proud to become a member of this noble profession. I am indebted to NSOU.



--Ms. Jyotiprabha Mahata
(Enrolment No. 082807700058)

Photo Gallery



Students of Tailoring & Dress Designing – in the workshop
(Study Centre: GHFTS, South 24 Parganas)



NSOU students at the Apparel Show (Study Centre: SSSA, Hirbhum)



Students of Needle work- engaged in their class work (Study Centre: Nari Siksha Samiti, Kolkata)



Dr. Mukul Sengupta, Former member of the State women's Commission speaking at the 2-day Workshop on Women's Studies: Awareness & its implications".



Members of the panel at a state level seminar on Vocational Courses through ODL

Dr. Ranajit Basu, Chairman, West Bengal School Service Commission,

Mr. Sandip Sen, President, Bengal National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BNCCI)

Mr. Phalguni Mookhopadhyay, Managing Director, BCPL

Dr. Anjan Ghosh, Vice-President-TQM, Exide Industries



Students performing cultural programme (Study Centre: Shanti Devi Vidyaniketan)

TO REACH THE UNREACHED



Speakers at the Orientation Programme of Trainers of DPIT course



Vocational Centre at SSDA, Prantik, Birbhum



Professor Jasodhora Bagchi, Former Chairperson, WB State Women's Commission delivering a lecture in the workshop on women empowerment. Professor Bharati Ray, Vice-President, Indian Council for Cultural relations, Govt. of India and former Pro-Vice-Chancellor, University of Calcutta also graced the occasion.



Professor Ratan Khasnobish, University of Calcutta delivering lecture at a seminar on Tax Reforms.



Vocational building at Kalyani Regional Centre, NSOU

TO REACH THE UNREACHED