Activity-Oriented Credit-based Courses for B Tech under HSS Category

1. Preamble

It is one of the declared objectives of NIIT University to build in its students a holistic personality. The 24X7 residential Campus of NIIT University has been designed to provide students with a variety of experiences out of classroom, which fall under extra-curricular or co-curricular domain. The University has recently taken a more constructive view of the activities traditionally considered outside of the curricular purview. It is a well-recognized fact that success in the world of work is not achieved merely by being good in knowledge domain, but it is determined by the so called non-academic attributes or qualities possessed by an individual, such as collaboration and cooperation or team work, ability to withstand the time pressure without loss of focus, planning and organizing abilities, leadership, etc. It is the 'out-of-class' extra-curricular activities which impart the above qualities so essential for competitive survival in professional world, but they lie totally outside the ledger of academic accounting. NIIT University has decided to reverse this practice by bringing the so called co-curricular activities into the domain of curricular.

2. Objective

To convert all possible activities outside of the class that any student participates in, such as Sports, Music, Dance, Theatre, Clubs, Students' Festivals, etc. into credit-based courses under HSS category in the B Tech Programme thereby providing ample opportunities for students to participate in such activities and inculcate qualities as mentioned above that are essential in professional career.

3. HSS Courses in the B Tech Programme architecture

➢ B Tech Programme architecture requires every B Tech student, irrespective of stream, to do six HSS Courses of 3 credits each, one each Semester starting from Second Semester of the Programme.

➢ Out of the six HSS courses, three are compulsorily given to all students. These are Professional ethics and Values, Economics for Engineers and Basics of Management. Students choose remaining three HSS courses comprising 9 credits, one a Semester, out of a list of other HSS courses.

4. The Proposal

➢ Following Activity-Oriented Courses of 1 credit each are proposed to be created:

Sl #	Course Code / LTPC	Course Name
1	AOC 101 / 0041	Connect with Community and Nature
2	AOC 111 / 0041	Dance and Music
3	AOC 121 / 0041	Fine & Digital Arts
4	AOC 131 / 0041	Organizing and managing University/ Students' activity or events
5	AOC 141 / 0041	Photography
6	AOC 151 / 0041	Health exercise and Sports

| 7 | AOC 161 / 0041 | Theatre |

- In future, more courses may be added to the above category.
- Students will have an option of choosing Activity-Oriented HSS Courses in lieu of two classroom- based HSS courses.
- A student will be permitted to register only in one Activity-Oriented course in a given Semester.
- A student will be permitted to collect a maximum of 2 additional credits through Activity-Oriented courses under HSS category over and above 18 required credits. Additional credits will be counted to his/ her CGPA.
- A student can register in the same Activity-Oriented course twice (in two different Semesters) and thus collect 2 credits. For example, if a student is passionate about playing a particular game, say Cricket, he should be encouraged to play and perfect his skills for another semester.
- There will be a limit to no of total student registrations in each Activity-Oriented course, which will be announced ahead of each Semester.
- One Course-In-Charge will be assigned to every course, assisted by more Faculty members or staff members depending upon the course and no of registrations.

5. Evaluation

- Responsibility for schedule of evaluation will rest wholly with students. A student has to inform in advance the Course-in-Charge requesting for evaluation.
- Every 5 weeks, a student must get her/ his evaluation done, three times in a Semester and the final at the end of the Semester.
- Thus, there will be 4 Evaluation Components. Evaluation will be evidence-based (proof of work or demonstration) or event-based (real-time).
- Illustrative Evaluation Parameters:
  - Demonstration of new skill learnt or existing skill upgraded
  - Degree and quality of participation if it is a group activity
  - Quality of Output – artistic quality, creativity, perfection, for example
  - Evidence of Soft Skills- Team spirit, Organisational skills, Leadership, Performing under time pressure, strategizing in real time, etc.
- Evaluation Rubrics will be prepared for each course as part of the Course Hand-out.

6. Course Descriptions

Course Code: AOC 101
Course Title: Connect with Community and Nature
LTPC: 0041

Course Description:

The course aims to sensitise the student to the local environment of Neemrana where s/he will spend the bulk of her/ his graduation days. The Connect is with the local population, their customs, language dress and eating habits as well as with the local flora and fauna.

The student is expected to spend time in developing relationships with the local environment and recording it through photos videos and diaries. Readings and understanding about the local people, the local animals, birds and plants will be encouraged and a viva will be taken at regular intervals to access his progress.

Visit diaries will be maintained by the student with records of people met, trekking done, photos taken, etc.

Topics to be covered:

1. Visit to Local Schools
2. Local Plants: Photography, Study & Catalogue
3. Local Animals: Photography, Study & Catalogue
4. Local Birds: Photography, Study & Catalogue
5. Local People, Festivals, Language, Costume & Food: Photography, Study & Catalogue

Course Code: AOC 111
Course Title: Dance and Music
LTPC: 0041
Course Description:

The objective of the course is to improve perception of the arts by creating cultural and artistic responsiveness and consciousness in the students. It will generate an understanding of the arts in India, which will give students "the ability to appreciate the richness and variety of artistic traditions as well as make them liberal, creative thinkers and good citizens of the nation". This course will give exposure to the student through music and dance to the cultural multiplicity of the country. The goal is to nurture future citizens who are mentally and physically robust, assertive, confident, empathetic and helpful to the community, intellectually inquisitive and reflective, tolerant and with creative vision and global perspective.

One or more of the following areas to which a student may be exposed:

1.Laya and Swara: Linking conventional concepts and definitions of music with genres of tribal, regional and urban music

2. Gayan, vadan and nritya : in the context of locally known songs and dances commonly performed

3.Instrumental music

4. Indian classical music

5.Carnatic Music

6. Popular Music

7. Western music

8. Indian classical dance

9. Western dance

10. Sufi music and dance

11. Any other

Course Code: AOC 121
Course Title: Fine & Digital Arts
LTPC: 0041

Course Description:

This course aims at the following:

To enable the students to learn new skills or to upgrade the skills related to Fine Arts, Craft or Digital Designing; to develop aesthetic sense; to enhance creative and imaginative thinking; to introduce them to the practices in Fine & Digital Arts that are in vogue; to help them in acquiring the necessary skills to handle day-to-day responsibilities such as team spirit, poise and balanced mental set-up, controlled pshycho-motor skills, etc.; to sensitize them to their potential to become the better artists; and finally, to enjoy their life by participating in such recreational activities.

Any one or a combination of few Topics will be covered by any student:

1. Calligraphy
2. Pencil & Charcoal Sketching
3. Embroidery 1
4. Embroidery 2
5. Still Life Sketching & Painting (Water-Poster Colour)
6. Water Colour Painting
7. Oil Colour Painting
8. Ceramics
9. Pottery
10. Sculpture
11. Digital Designing 1- PageMaker
12. Photoshop
13. Corel Draw
14. Digital Designing 2- Flash & 3D Animation

Course Code: AOC 131
Course Title: Organizing and managing University/ Students' activity or events
LTPC: 0041

Course Description:

Event planning and management is an exciting field which demands a host of skills and meticulous effort. As the course name suggests, it entails conceptualizing, planning, organizing, managing people and resources and finally executing an event to the satisfaction of end-user. The event could be of any type – student activity, tech fest, concert, exhibition, guest lectures, seminars etc. This course will expose the students to various aspects of planning, organizing and management.

One or a combination of areas on which a student will be expected to work:

1. Understanding of user requirement/ objective
2. Planning the activity/ event
3. Budgeting and getting necessary approvals
4. Communication – internal and external and written as well oral
5. Logistics
6. Organization of sub-activities or sub-events and teams and managing teams
7. Cost and resource management
8 Stage management
9. Resource generation
10 Any other

Course Code: AOC 141
Course Title: Photography
LTPC: 0041

Course Description:

The course aims to help an amateur to focus on learning Photography by herself/ himself, through mistakes and the remedial action. The student is encouraged to seek help from an older student who is well versed in Photography and seek advice as well as read about how to take better pictures.

The student will keep records of Photographs taken on a fortnightly basis and show consistent activity. His range of subjects and the depth of his technical practical knowledge of photography will be the basis for evaluation besides improvement shown in the quality of photos taken over the semester.

Topics on which a student is expected to acquire skills/ knowledge:

1. Exposure (Aperture)
2. Shutter speed and Depth of Field.
3. ISO settings
4. Lens Focal Length
5. Rule of Thirds.
6. Framing essentials.
7. Cropping.
8. Shooting in RAW and JPEG
9. Learning and Understanding the Photo's Histogram
10. Essentials of landscape photographs and their composition.
11. Portraits and how to shoot them
12. Nature photography essentials. Here Animals and Plants will be treated separately.
13. Sports Photography essentials. Fast action shooting.
14. Party Photography essentials.

Course Code: AOC 151
Course Title: Health Exercise and Sports
LTPC: 0041

Course Description:

This course aims at the following:

To enable the perfect blend of academics and sports; to provide both indoor and outdoor sports with necessary guidance; to inculcate the life skills like team spirit, coordination & cooperation, leadership, physical & mental balance, decision making, etc.; and to enjoy sports by participating in various sports competitions On-Campus as well as Off-Campus.

Any one of the Topics will be covered by any student:

1. Yoga & Meditation
2. Table Tennis
3. Lawn Tennis
4. Volleyball
5. Tennis
6. Cricket
7. Badminton
8. Pool
9. Football
10. Basketball
11. Chess
12. Athletics

Course Code: AOC 161
Course Title: Theatre
LTPC: 0041

Course Description:

The course aims to promote young talent into taking responsibility for organising a complete play and in the process learn the role of theatre in human society, text and its interpretation, types of stages and their requirements, nuances of costumes, lighting, sound, prop arrangement and management, backstage handling and writing scripts if required.

The students involved will inform faculty mentors on a regular basis and show consistent activity. The students' level of involvement and consistent progress in the particular role taken up in the project will be the criterion for evaluation.

One or a combination of topics to be covered by any given student:

1. Text and its Interpretation
2. Schools of Drama
3. Understanding roles
4. Understanding kinds of Stages and Their Purposes
5. Stage Space Management

6. Actor's Movement on Stage
7. Costume Requirements
8. Understanding Light Effects
9. Understanding Sound Effects
10. Voice Throw for Actors
11. Prop Management
12. Back-Stage Work