



SHARDA UNIVERSITY AGRA

UGC's 10-point
Quality Mandate

2024-2025

UGC's 10-point Quality Mandate

The following initiatives will be undertaken in compliance with UGC's 10-point quality mandate:

1. Induction Programme for students

The Induction Programme for students at Sharda University Agra is meticulously designed to align with the institution's vision and mission. When freshers arrive, they are given an orientation on the first day itself, organized by their respective Schools. This program helps students understand the institution, the geographical location, their peers, and what to expect during their studies. This initiative is in harmony with Sharda University's vision of crafting a globally esteemed business school dedicated to delivering excellence in value-based education, fostering transformative leadership, and nurturing an entrepreneurial spirit to empower society. By developing students' entire personalities, the Induction Programme nurtures them to become competent, dynamic, and accomplished business professionals, fulfilling **Mission 1 (M1)**, Transformative Educational Experience **Mission 2 (M2)**, Enrichment by educational initiatives that encourage global outlook **Mission 3 (M3)**, Develop research, support disruptive innovations and accelerate entrepreneurship with **Mission 4 (M4)**, Seeking beyond boundaries.

2. Learning Outcome-Based Curriculum Framework at Sharda University Agra

Sharda University Agra, in alignment with its vision of crafting a globally esteemed university dedicated to delivering excellence in value-based education, fostering transformative leadership, and nurturing entrepreneurial spirit to empower society, adopts a Learning Outcome-Based Curriculum Framework with regular revisions. This approach ensures that the curriculum remains relevant and responsive to global, national, regional, and local developmental needs.

The curriculum at Sharda University Agra is designed and implemented following the educational policies of the State and Central Governments, considering rapid developments in various fields of study, scientific and technological advancements. This ensures that the curriculum meets the demands of academia, industry, and society, consistent with the institution's goals and objectives.

Adhering strictly to the guidelines of the UGC, AICTE, PCI, DGS, NCTE, BCI and other Statutory Regulatory Authorities, Sharda University Agra periodically updates its curriculum based on societal needs and current job market trends. This proactive approach supports national development and ensures that the curriculum remains dynamic and effective.

The curriculum design and development process at Sharda University Agra involves comprehensive feedback from faculty, academic peers, industry experts, current students, parents, alumni, and other stakeholders. This inclusive approach ensures that the curriculum remains relevant and robust. The institution also integrates feedback from Central and State Governments and research organizations in India and overseas to refine and enhance the curriculum.

For example, in alignment with UGC directives, appropriate NPTEL courses are included in the curriculum. Additionally, in line with the Digital Initiatives of MHRD, "Fundamentals of Computing" is introduced as a compulsory course during the first semester in Engineering. The institution also addresses cross-cutting issues relevant to Gender, foreign language, Environment and Sustainability (SDG), Human Values, Professional Ethics and most importantly four cast of Viksit Bharat within the curriculum, promoting a holistic educational experience.

Annual academic audits are conducted to ensure quality and timely compliance. Based on suggestions from External Academic Auditors and feedback from faculty and students, the curriculum and syllabi are continuously improved during subsequent Board of Studies (BoS) meetings.

The courses are designed to inculcate leadership qualities, entrepreneurship, organizational capabilities, and team spirit among students. Courses on Personality Development and Soft Skills enhance Critical Thinking, Effective Communication, Social Interaction, and Ethics. For holistic personality development, a course on Basic Life Skills is introduced as a two-credit course. Besides Core Courses, students can choose from Discipline Specific Electives, Ability Enhancement Electives, and Generic Electives, benefiting from the multidisciplinary nature of the university.

Certification programs that are application-oriented are also conducted, providing practical training for skill acquisition and theoretical knowledge. This equips students to face real-time situations and work globally, aligning perfectly with Sharda University Agra's vision of nurturing competent, dynamic, and accomplished business professionals dedicated to empowering society.

3. ICT-Based Learning Tools for Effective Teaching-Learning Process at Sharda University Agra

Sharda University Agra, aligned with its vision of crafting a globally esteemed university dedicated to delivering excellence in value-based education, fostering transformative leadership, and nurturing entrepreneurial spirit to empower society, effectively integrates ICT-based learning tools to enhance the teaching-learning process.

The university enriches active learning by implementing various student-centric teaching-learning strategies, focusing on Learning Management Systems (LMS) and Knowledge Management Systems (KMS). These systems support the use of MOOC open courses, MHRD's Swayam, NPTEL, and resources from the UGC-INFONET Digital Library Consortium and the National Digital Library (NDL). These resources are accessible through Sharda's Knowledge Resource Centre, facilitating a comprehensive student-centric teaching-learning process.

By adopting blended and flipped learning models, Sharda University Agra ensures active student engagement in the learning process. The campus is equipped with state-of-the-art facilities including a well-stocked library, digital library, video conferencing capabilities, smart classrooms, ICT-enabled classrooms, and specialized laboratories such as the Language Lab, Business Analytics Lab, Cloud Computing Lab, and CADD Lab. The availability of 24/7 access to the Knowledge Resource Centre and an Open-Source Software Lab further supports student-centric learning.

Virtual learning will be enabled through collaborations with IITs under the Moodle program. Additionally, the university also plan to hosts a local chapter of the MHRD-NME-ICT's Virtual Lab, enhancing virtual lab experiences for students. Faculties from various schools, including the School of Pharmacy and School of Basic Sciences, will develop online content through MOOC, making these ICT course materials available on e-platforms for easy access by students.

Sharda University Agra will try interlinking the open-source community and promoting the use of open-source software in education. The teaching process extends to social networking sites where teachers and students can interact and discuss classroom instructions, ensuring continuous engagement and support. The campus-wide Wi-Fi facilitates seamless access to all e-resources of the central library from any location within the campus, including classrooms.

These ICT-based learning tools and resources at Sharda University Agra are integral to delivering excellence in value-based education, fostering transformative leadership, and nurturing an entrepreneurial spirit. This comprehensive approach to integrating technology in education empowers students to become competent, dynamic, and accomplished professionals, aligning perfectly with the university's vision and mission.

4. Soft Skills for Students at Sharda University Agra

At Sharda University Agra, the development of soft skills is a critical component of the curriculum, aimed at enhancing critical thinking, effective communication, social interaction, and ethics among students. These courses are meticulously designed to inculcate leadership qualities, entrepreneurship, organizational capabilities, and team spirit, all of which are essential for developing global business leaders.

Aligned with Sharda University's mission to offer cutting-edge expertise in all functional areas of management, the curriculum includes Personality Development and Soft Skills courses that contribute significantly to the holistic development of students. A two-credit course on Basic Life Skills has been introduced to ensure students receive comprehensive personality development training.

To support this initiative, Sharda University Agra provides dedicated Language and Soft Skills Laboratories, which are equipped with the necessary tools and resources to cater to the diverse needs of students. These labs offer an environment conducive to learning and practicing soft skills, under the guidance of professional trainers who are experts in their fields. The trainers employ various teaching

methodologies to ensure that students gain practical and theoretical knowledge, making them well-prepared to face real-world challenges.

By incorporating these courses and facilities into the curriculum, Sharda University Agra not only enhances the personal and professional growth of its students but also aligns with its mission to develop competent, dynamic, and accomplished professionals. The emphasis on soft skills ensures that graduates are not only proficient in their academic and technical knowledge but also possess the necessary interpersonal skills to lead and excel in the global business environment.

5. Social and Industry Connect at Sharda University Agra

Social Connect

Sharda University Agra strongly emphasizes on social responsibility, aligning with its vision to serve society as a global university of higher learning committed to academic excellence, innovation, and nurturing entrepreneurship. The University organizes a variety of social awareness camps focused on energy conservation, environmental protection, drinking water quality, proper usage of medicine, hygiene, sanitation, public health, self-help groups, and noise awareness.

The University's National Service Scheme (NSS) unit will establish soon. NSS volunteers will actively involve in cleaning the campus, adopted village streets, temples, and beaches, reflecting the institution's commitment to community service and environmental sustainability.

Sharda University Agra will sensitize its faculty and students to their Institutional Social Responsibilities (ISR). Faculty members and student volunteers frequently provide social services to the socially and economically disadvantaged populations near the campus. Collaborations with government organizations (GOs), non-governmental organizations (NGOs), self-help groups (SHGs), and local bodies will be encouraged to enhance the effectiveness of these societal outreach programs. The University acknowledges and appreciates the contributions of faculty and students who actively participate in these initiatives.

For undergraduate and postgraduate students in Pharmacy & Basic Science, field social work is an integral part of their training, including patient counseling in community settings. These experiences are designed to improve practical training, communication skills, adaptability to socio-environmental conditions, organizational skills, and leadership qualities.

Prominent contributions by the institution will include public service through various awareness camps, involvement in government-organized healthcare programmes, flood relief efforts, disease outbreak management and disaster management. Environmental awareness initiatives will also be a significant focus. Faculty members will encourage to participate in government-sponsored television and radio programs to provide public education and clarify doubts.

The University also organizes student-centric celebrations of events such as "Diabetes Day," "Women's Day," "Environment Day," and "Sharda Health Day." These activities are closely monitored by staff members to ensure meaningful student involvement and to track their development in practical training and social awareness.

Industry Connect

Sharda University Agra fosters strong connections with industry to bridge the gap between academic learning and industry requirements. Regular industry visits, internships and workshops will organize to provide students with hands-on experience and exposure to real-world business environments. These initiatives will design to enhance students' employability and entrepreneurial skills, ensuring they will be well-prepared to meet industry demands.

By integrating social responsibility and industry connect into its core activities, Sharda University Agra not only enhances the overall educational experience but also ensures its students are well-rounded individuals ready to contribute positively to society and excel in their professional careers. This approach is in perfect alignment with the University's vision of serving society through higher learning, innovation, and entrepreneurship.

Industry-Academia Interactions at Sharda University Agra

At Sharda University Agra, addressing the employability gap of graduates is a key priority, reflecting the institution's mission to offer cutting-edge expertise in all functional areas of management by developing global business leaders. Recognizing the common concern that many college graduates are not industry-ready, Sharda University Agra actively works to bridge this gap through robust industry-academia interactions.

Integration of Industrial Experts

To ensure that the courses remain relevant and aligned with industry standards, the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) encourages the inclusion of industrial experts in the Board of Studies (BoS) for various departments. This collaboration ensures that the curriculum incorporates the latest technologies and meets contemporary market demands. Periodic reviews of the curriculum are conducted to keep it updated with industry needs, thereby enhancing the employability of students.

Faculty Development Programs (FDPs)

Regular Faculty Development Programs (FDPs) will conduct to train and empower the faculty to teach new and emerging courses. This continuous professional development will ensure that educators will be well-equipped to provide high-quality, industry-relevant education to students. By staying abreast of the latest trends and technologies, faculty members can deliver cutting-edge knowledge and skills to their students.

Internships and Field Visits

Sharda University Agra strongly encourages departments to facilitate internships and field visits for students. These practical experiences are crucial for students to gain hands-on exposure to real-world industry environments. The university will monitor these activities to ensure that students gain meaningful insights and practical skills that are directly applicable to their future careers.

Guest Lectures and Industry Placements

Departments are also encouraged to invite industrial experts to address students on the latest trends in their respective fields. These guest lectures provide students with valuable insights into current industry practices and future directions. In several instances, these interactions have led to direct placements, with students being hired by the same industries that they engage with during these sessions.

Ensuring Industry Readiness

By fostering a dynamic and interactive relationship between academia and industry, Sharda University Agra ensures that its students shall well-prepared to meet the challenges of the professional world. This approach not only enhances the employability of graduates but also aligns with the university's vision of crafting a globally esteemed university dedicated to delivering excellence in value-based education, fostering transformative leadership, and nurturing entrepreneurial spirit to empower society.

Through these comprehensive industry-academia interactions, Sharda University Agra is committed to producing competent, industry-ready graduates who can contribute effectively to the global business landscape.

6. Examination Reforms - test the concept, and application; exit examinations.

At Sharda University Agra, we prioritize academic excellence through a meticulously structured examination framework that supports every academic program. Our commitment to transparency and efficiency is evident in our Academic calendar, Annual prospectus, and Website, which comprehensively outline the evaluation process for all students. The Controller of Examination ensures that students will brief on examination structures, continuous internal assessments, tutorial schedules, and crucial dates such as end-semester examinations, continuous assessment tests, and practical exams right from their induction into the university.

We have implemented the Choice Based Credit System (CBCS) to enhance student mobility across institutions nationally and internationally. Our curriculum integrates Core Courses, Discipline Specific Electives (DSE), Ability Enhancement Compulsory Courses (AECC), Skill Enhancement Courses

(SEC), Foreign Language and Generic Electives (GE). For undergraduate programs, 130-150 credits are allocated, emphasizing 50% core courses in Arts/Science, with the remainder divided among DSE, GE, AECC, and SEC. Engineering and Technology programs, following AICTE guidelines, range from 180-200 credits, including foundation, core, DSE, and GE courses, complemented by internships and project work opportunities in Science, Engineering, and Management streams.

Evaluation at Sharda University Agra adheres to a 10-point grading system prescribed by the UGC, ensuring consistency and fairness. Students' performances are assessed through a balanced approach of formative assessment (50%) and summative assessment (50%), each rigorously defined to gauge academic progress. Formative assessment criteria include continuous internal assessments, field visits/internships (for PG courses), class seminars, assignments, attendance records, and faculty evaluations. A structured grievance redressal mechanism ensures transparency and addresses any concerns regarding internal assessment marks, fostering increased student engagement and performance.

To streamline examination administration, we leverage Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) and Enterprise Application Software (EAS) for seamless coordination in hall-wise question paper allotment and logistics management. Examination papers undergo meticulous scrutiny by external experts to ensure alignment with the prescribed syllabus. Our hall tickets are uniquely designed to provide essential information such as subject codes, examination dates, session details, block and hall numbers and seat allocations, ensuring convenience and minimizing stress for students. Regular monitoring by flying squads and strict prohibition of mobile phones inside examination halls further safeguard the integrity of our examination process.

The use of barcoded and Optical Mark Recognition (OMR) enabled answer sheets ensures anonymity and accuracy in evaluation, eliminating manual data entry errors and expediting result processing. All examination-related operations will be fully computerized under the EAS system, ensuring efficiency and timeliness. Results are published in the VISTAS website within 21 days of the last day of examination, allowing students ample time to apply for revaluation or re-totaling within 10 days of publication. Photocopies of answer scripts are readily available upon request, adhering to established protocols for evaluation grievance resolution.

At Sharda University Agra, we uphold the highest standards of academic integrity and transparency. A dedicated committee, chaired by the Vice Chancellor, investigates instances of malpractice, ensuring swift and appropriate action in accordance with university bye-laws. All answer books undergo centralized assessment to maintain consistency and fairness, with supplementary examinations conducted during the even semester for outgoing students with minimal arrears, enabling timely progression to higher studies or employment opportunities.

For our graduates, we issue consolidated grade sheets and provisional certificates upon successful completion of all prescribed courses, with transcripts available on demand within a day. Our certificates are equipped with advanced security features to prevent duplication, ensuring the credibility and integrity of our graduates in the global academic and professional arenas.

Moreover, our Ph.D. programs will adhere to a stringent admission criterion, including comprehensive entrance examinations and coursework designed to identify and nurture motivated scholars with exceptional abilities. The evaluation process for Ph.D. will be fully transparent and thorough, involving multiple examiners, including external and international assessors, alongside viva-voce examinations conducted with rigor and fairness.

At Sharda University Agra, the Office of the Controller of Examinations conducts online certificate verification for our graduates, ensuring the authenticity and reliability of credentials. Our commitment to excellence in examination reforms continues to prepare our students for success in their academic and professional pursuits, fostering a culture of continuous learning and achievement.

7. Tracking of Student Progress after Completion of Course

At Sharda University, Agra, we place significant emphasis on tracking the progress of our students even after they complete their courses. Our Alumni Association plays a pivotal role in fostering lifelong connections and supporting the ongoing development of our graduates.

Alumni Association and Engagement

The Alumni Association at Sharda University is committed to promoting educational causes, maintaining a strong network among past and present students, and enhancing the value of our institution. Annual General Body Meetings will hold every March (subject to approval of competent authority) to facilitate interaction and collaboration among alumni members. Events are organized not only at the university level but also at departmental levels upon alumni requests, enriching the engagement and networking opportunities.

Distinguished alumni will regularly be invited to share their experiences with current students, particularly budding entrepreneurs, providing invaluable insights and inspiration. The association, in collaboration with the NSS unit, organizes an annual Blood Donation Camp, reflecting our commitment to community service.

Academic and Industry Integration

Alumni contribute significantly to bridge the gap between academic learning and industrial requirements. They participate as guest lecturers, offer insights into curriculum development, arrange industrial visits, and mentor students through interactive sessions. In the School of Engineering & Business Studies, alumni play a crucial role in imparting practical knowledge and advising on course structures, ensuring relevance and industry-readiness.

Recognition and Support

Sharda University Agra recognizes academic excellence by awarding gold, silver and bronze medals to the top three ranks in each department. Additionally, alumni from the School of Basic Sciences conduct annual medical camps and tree plantation drives, contributing to societal well-being and environmental sustainability.

Student Progression Metrics

Our commitment to student success is evidenced by our tracking metrics:

- 65% of our graduates' secure campus placements.
- 10% pursue higher studies to further their academic pursuits.
- 80% complete their programs within the minimum stipulated time.
- 25% qualify in competitive examinations, showcasing their academic preparedness and competitiveness.
- We foster professional development through nearly 15 professional associations, 8 student chapters, technical clubs and international collaborations.

Alumni Impact and Engagement Statistics

- Alumni contributions generate significant financial support, benefiting the university with resources for scholarships, internships, equipment and guest lectures.
- Regular alumni meet, approximately six per year, facilitate ongoing connections and collaborations, enhancing opportunities for jobs, internships and academic support.

At Sharda University, Agra, our commitment to holistic education extends beyond graduation. We ensure that our students not only excel academically but also thrive in their careers and contribute meaningfully to society. Through robust alumni engagement and structured tracking of student progression, we continue to uphold our reputation as a leading institution dedicated to excellence in education and alumni relations.

8. Induction and Training Programs for Teachers and Administrators at Sharda University Agra

At Sharda University Agra, induction training for all new teachers and annual refresher training for existing faculty are essential components of our commitment to maintaining high educational standards. Teaching & Learning Centre (TLC) play a crucial role in designing and implementing these training programs, ensuring that faculty members are well-equipped with the latest pedagogical skills

and knowledge. Additionally, mandatory leadership and management training for all educational administrators is in place to enhance their administrative capabilities and ensure effective governance.

Governance Structure and Stakeholder Participation

The governance structure at Sharda University Agra is designed to facilitate autonomy, transparency, and accountability through active participation of various stakeholders. This structure adheres to the guidelines set by the University Grants Commission (UGC) and the Memorandum of Association, ensuring that all regulatory bodies function efficiently. The key regulatory bodies include:

- **Governing Council**
- **Executive Council**
- **Academic Council**
- **Planning and Monitoring Board**
- **Board of Studies**
- **Finance Committee**

These bodies meet periodically and function as per UGC guidelines, involving key stakeholders such as faculty, students, parents, industry experts, academic peers and alumni in decision-making processes at every level.

Decentralization and Transparent Functioning

To ensure smooth and decentralized administrative and academic operations, Sharda University Agra has established various sub-committees comprising faculty and student representatives. The delegation of authority is facilitated by setting up Deans, Directors & Heads for different domains, including:

- Admissions
- Academics
- Research
- Student Affairs
- Faculty
- Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC)

The university leverages Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) systems to automate processes related to admissions, academics, administration, accounts, and examinations, ensuring transparency and efficiency.

Faculty Empowerment and Development

Sharda University Agra empowers its faculty by providing financial support to organize and attend Faculty Development Programs (FDPs), orientation programs, refresher courses, workshops, and conferences. Faculty members are encouraged to update their knowledge and skills through these training programs, both within the institution and externally. Additionally, the leadership team at Sharda University Agra participates in specialized programs for administrators to stay abreast of the latest trends and best practices in educational management.

This comprehensive approach ensures that Sharda University Agra, remains at the forefront of academic excellence, fostering an environment of continuous improvement and innovation.

9. Promoting Quality Research and Innovation at Sharda University Agra

At Sharda University Agra, we are dedicated to promoting quality research among our faculty and fostering the creation of new knowledge. To support these objectives, very soon we will be establishing an incubation centre aimed at driving innovation, entrepreneurship, and start-ups towards commercial success.

Sharda Incubation Centre

The Sharda Incubation Centre will focus on innovation, incubation, entrepreneurship, and the success of start-ups. The centre will be equipped with unlimited internet connectivity, product development consultancy, and support for intellectual property (IP) rights and licensing. Our primary areas of focus

include Automation and Power Conservation, the Internet of Things (IoT), and Information and Communication Technology (ICT).

Success Stories and Innovations

One of our standout success stories is a centre of excellence in **Drone Centre of Excellence & Business Clinic**:

SUA –Drone Centre of Excellence

Establishing a SUA-Drone Centre of Excellence (DCE) in a university can fulfill several important needs and provide significant benefits for students:

1. **Education and Training:** A SUA-DCE offers specialized courses and training programs related to drone technology. This includes both theoretical knowledge and practical skills in operating drones, understanding regulations, and applying them in various fields such as engineering, geography, environmental science, agriculture, and more.
2. **Research Opportunities:** It serves as a hub for research and development in drone technology. Students can engage in research projects, collaborating with faculty and industry experts to explore new applications, improve drone performance, and address challenges in the field.
3. **Industry Collaboration:** A SUA-DCE can facilitate partnerships with industry leaders and local businesses involved in drone technology. This collaboration provides students with opportunities for internships, placements and real-world projects, enhancing their learning experience and employability.
4. **Skill Development:** Students can develop practical skills in drone operation, maintenance, data analysis, and interpretation. These skills are increasingly in demand across various sectors including agriculture, infrastructure inspection, disaster response, and filmmaking.
5. **Innovation and Entrepreneurship:** It encourages innovation and entrepreneurship by supporting students in developing drone-based startups and innovative solutions. The centre can provide resources such as mentorship, funding opportunities, and access to prototyping facilities to help students turn their ideas into viable businesses.
6. **Community Engagement:** A SUA-DCE can engage community through outreach programs, workshops, and events. This promotes awareness about drone technology, its benefits, and ethical considerations. It will also inspire students to pursue careers in Science, Technology, Engineering and Management fields.

Sharda Business Clinic

At Sharda University Agra, we are dedicated to supporting small and medium-sized vendors, start-ups, and budding entrepreneurs through our Business Clinic. This initiative provides comprehensive consultancy services to address current challenges and identify growth opportunities.

Services Offered:

- **Consultancy for Vendors:** We work closely with small and medium-sized vendors to understand their current problems and devise tailored solutions. Our aim is to identify and summarize growth paths that can help these businesses thrive.
- **Support for Start-ups:** For newly established start-ups and aspiring entrepreneurs, we offer valuable insights and detailed business plans. Our goal is to guide them through the complexities of starting and growing a business, ensuring they have a strong foundation for success.

Through these services, the Sharda University Business Clinic plays a crucial role in fostering entrepreneurship and economic development in our community.

Training and Development

The Sharda Incubation Centre will provide outdoor training to secondary and higher secondary students in business, engineering and environment studies, IoT, Cyber Security and Automation as part of our Institutional Social Responsibility (ISR) activities.

Intellectual Property and Research Recognition

Sharda University Agra will establish a strong Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) Cell that will organize numerous seminars and workshops to encourage faculty and students to patent their innovations. The IPR cell will guide & assist faculty and students to file their patents.

By fostering an environment conducive to research and innovation, Sharda University Agra, continues to advance its mission of academic excellence and societal contribution.

10. Mentoring of non-accredited institutions, so that every institution can get accreditation by 2025 – 26.

- Anand School of Engineering & Technology
- Sharda School of Business Studies
- Sharda School of Basic Science & Research
- Sharda School of Smart Agriculture
- Sharda School of Pharmacy
- Sharda School of Design

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29/7/24

Sachin

29/7/24
Dean- ASBT

29/07/2024
Dean. SSP

Monika
29/7/24
A. Dean SSD

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