ORDINANCE 29: CONDUCT AND EVALUATION OF EXAMINATIONS FOR MASTER'S DEGREES FOLLOWING TRI-MESTER SYSTEM

In pursuance of the provisions of Section 27 of the Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University Act 1998 (9 of 1998), the Board of Management of the Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University, hereby makes the Ordinance 29 relating to the conduct and evaluation of examinations for Master's degrees following tri-mester system.

APPLICABILITY: This ordinance shall apply to all weekend programmes leading to Master's degrees following tri-mester system [other than programmes for which a separate Ordinance is notified]

1. **DEFINITIONS:**

- a) Academic Programmes shall means a programme of courses and/or any other component leading to a Master's degree.
- b) An **Academic Year** is a period of nearly 12 months devoted to completion of requirements specified in the Scheme of Teaching and the related examinations.
- c) **Tri-mester System** a programme wherein each academic year is apportioned into three semesters. Each semester will be referred to as a term.
- d) Board of Studies (BOS) shall mean the Board of Studies of the School concerned.
- e) **Courses** mean a component of the academic programme, carrying a distinctive code no. and specific credits assigned to it.
- f) **External examiner** shall mean an examiner who is not in the employment of the University or its affiliated institutions.
- g) **Student** shall mean a person admitted to the Schools of the University and its affiliated institutions for any of the academic programmes to which this Ordinance is applicable.
- h) University shall mean Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University.

2. The University shall hold examinations for all such academic programmes as are approved by the Academic Council and as it may notify from time to time for awarding Master's Degrees, as per the prescribed Schemes of Teaching & Examinations and Syllabi as are approved by the Academic Council.

3. Examinations of the University shall be open to regular students of weekend Programme i.e. candidates who have undergone a course of study in the University for a period specified for that programme of study in the Scheme & Teaching & Examination and Syllabi.

Provided further that a student may be debarred from appearing in the tri-mester-end examination as provided in Clause 8 of this Ordinance or as provided in any other ordinance of the University.

4. PROGRAMMES CONTENT & DURATION

- (a) A Master's Degree, Post-graduate diploma programme shall comprise of a number of courses and/or other components as specified in the Scheme of Teaching & Examination and Syllabi of the concerned programme, as are approved by the Academic Council. Each course shall be assigned a weightage in terms of specified Credits.
- (b) The minimum period required for completion of a programme shall be the programme duration as specified in the Scheme of Teaching & Examination and Syllabi for the concerned programme.
- (c) The maximum permissible period for completing a programme for which the prescribed programme duration is n years, shall be (n+2) years. All the programme requirements shall have to be completed in n+2 years.

5. TRI-MESTER

(a) An academic year shall be apportioned into three trimesters each of a working duration of about 17 weeks.

The University shall notify the Academic Calendar each year, before the start of Academic Year.

(b) The academic break-up of the tri-mesters devoted to instructional work shall be as below:

Imparting of instructions and/or laboratory work	-	14 Weeks
(Including class tests)		
Tri-mester-end Examination, including Practical /	-	02 Weeks
Laboratory Examination		
End-term break	-	01 Week

6. ACADEMIC PROGRAMME COMMITTEE

- (a) There shall be an Academic Programme Committee in each University School.
- (b) In the case of Schools of Studies of the University, all the teachers of a School of Studies shall constitute the Academic Programme Committee of which the Dean of the School shall act as its Chairman. This Committee shall coordinate the implementation of the courses for optimum utilization of resources and shall also take care of the coordination of the School's programmes with the other programmes run by the different Schools of the University.
- (c) In case any of the above programme is being conducted by a Centre, the Director of the Centre shall be an ex-officio member of the Academic Programme Committee.
- (d) The Academic Programme Committees shall also perform other tasks as assigned to it by the Board of Studies of the concerned School of the University.

(e) The Academic Programme Committee shall meet as and when required but at least once every tri-mester. The Chairman of the Committee will convene the meetings.

7. EXAMINATION FEES

The Registrar shall notify the fees payable by the students for various examinations, after the Vice-Chancellor approves the same. A student who has not paid the prescribed fees before the start of examinations shall not ordinarily be eligible to appear in the examination. The Vice-Chancellor may at his discretion allow, in certain cases of genuine hardship, an extension in the last date of payment of fees. The result of such students shall, however, be withheld till all the dues are cleared.

8. ATTENDANCE

In the weekend programme, the student is expected to devote some time during weekdays for self-study. A student shall be required to have a minimum attendance of 70% or more in the aggregate of all the courses taken together in a tri-mester, provided that the Dean of the school in case of University Schools/Director of the Institution may condone attendance shortage upto 5% for individual student for reasons to be recorded. However, under no condition, a student who has an aggregate attendance of less than 65% in a trimester shall be allowed to appear in the end-term examination.

Student who has been detained due to shortage of attendance shall not be allowed to be promoted to the next tri-mester and he/she will be required to take re-admission and repeat all courses of the said tri-mester with the next batch of students. The University Enrolment number of such student shall however remain unchanged and he or she shall be required to complete the programme in a maximum permissible period of (n+2) years as mentioned in clause 4(c).

Dean of the School / Director of the Institution shall announce the names of all such students who are not eligible to appear in the end-term examination, at least 5 calendar days before the start of the end-term examination and simultaneously intimate the same to the Controller of Examinations.

In case any student appears by default, which in fact has been detained by the University School, his/ her result shall be treated as null and void.

9. EVALUATION & EXAMINATION

- (a) The overall weightage of a course in the Syllabi and Scheme of Teaching & Examination shall be determined in terms of credits assigned to the course.
- (b) The evaluation of students in a course shall have two components unless specifically stated otherwise in the Scheme of Teaching & Examination and syllabi:
 - (i) Evaluation through an end-term Examination
 - (ii) Continuous evaluation by the teacher(s) of the course.

(c) The distribution of weightage for various components of evaluation shall be as below:

•	THEORY COURSES	
	(i) End-term examination	60%
	(ii) Continuous evaluation by the teachers	40%
•	PRACTICAL/LABORATORY COURSES	
	(i) Semester-end examination	60%
	(ii) Continuous evaluation by the teachers	40%
•	DISSERTATION/PROJECT REPORT	
	(i) Assessment by External Examiner -	50%
	(ii) Assessment by Internal Examiner -	50%

• For any other component of a programme not covered by the above, the weightage shall be prescribed by the Board of Studies / Programme Coordination Committee, with the approval of the Vice-Chancellor.

(d) **Conduct of end-term examinations**

(i) All end-term examinations shall be conducted by the Controller of Examinations.

- (ii) The schedule of examination shall be notified by the Controller of Examinations at least 10 days prior to the first day of the commencement of end-term examinations.
- (iii) For theory as well as practical examinations and dissertation/ thesis/project report/training report all examiners shall be appointed by the Controller of Examinations with the approval of the Vice-Chancellor.

Provided that the Vice-Chancellor may at his discretion, delegate his authority for approval of examiners.

For programmes being run in the University Schools, recommendations for names of examiners shall be obtained from the concerned Board of Studies through their respective Chairmen. Where there is an exigency and the Board of Studies cannot meet, the Chairman, Board of Studies may recommend the names, stating clearly why the meeting of Board of Studies could not be convened.

In emergency situations, where, for some reason the recommendations cannot be obtained from the Board of Studies / Programme Coordination Committee as stipulated above, recommendations may be obtained from one of the Deans nominated by the Vice–Chancellor.

(e) Teacher's Continuous Evaluation:

COURSE COMPONENTS APPORTIONED MARKS

• **Theory Courses**: The teacher's continuous evaluation shall be based on the following:

One Class Tests*

Assignment / Group Discussion /

Viva-Voce / Quizzes / Regularity etc. 20 marks

*The class test shall be held in accordance with the University Academic Calendar for the programme.

Practical / Laboratory Courses:

The teachers continuous evaluation shall be based on performance in the laboratory, regularity, practical exercises / assignments, quizzes, etc. The assessment shall be given at three nearly equi-spaced intervals.

40 marks

The internal teacher shall set question paper and submit to the Controller of Examinations at least eight weeks before the commencement of End-Term Examinations. The external examiner shall be appointed by the Vice-Chancellor from the panel of examiners recommended by Board of Studies of the concerned programme. The paper shall be sent to external examiner for setting the final question paper.

(f) Dissertation / Project

For dissertation / project for Master's degree programmes, wherever specified in the syllabus, the evaluation shall be done and marks awarded by a Committee comprising of an internal examiner, who will ordinarily be the supervisor, and one or more external examiners. The internal examiner shall award marks out of 50%, and the external examiner(s) out of 50%. The examiners shall be appointed by the Vice-Chancellor out of a panel of three or more names suggested as specified in clause 9(d)(iii) of this Ordinance.

- (g) The University shall have the right to call for all the records of teacher's continuous evaluation and moderate the teacher's evaluation, if it deems fit in any specific case(s).
- (h) End-term practical examinations shall be conducted by a Board of Examiners for each course. The Board shall consist of one or more examiners.
- (i) For any other type of examination, not covered by sub-clause (e) and (f) above, the mode of conduct of examination shall be as specifically provided in the syllabus/scheme of examination and in the absence of such a provision shall be decided by the Controller of Examinations on the recommendation of the Board of Studies / Coordination Committee concerned, with the approval of the Vice-Chancellor.
- (j) The results of a tri-mester (including both the end-term examinations and teacher's continuous evaluation) shall be declared by the Controller of Examination. However, after scrutiny of the detailed result, if it is observed by Controller of Examination that there has been a distinct change of standard in the examination as a whole or in a particular course, he may refer the matter to the Moderation Committee, specially constituted for the purpose by the Vice Chancellor.

(k) The award list containing the marks obtained by a student in various courses shall be issued by the Controller of Examinations, at the end of each tri-mester, after the declaration of the result.

10. CRITERIA FOR PASSING COURSES, MARKS AND DIVISONS

- (a) (i) Obtaining a minimum of 50% marks in aggregate in each course including the end-term examination and the teacher's continuous evaluation shall be essential for passing the course and earning its assigned credits. A candidate, who secures less than 50% of marks in a course, shall be deemed to have failed in that course.
 - (ii) A student may apply, within two weeks from the date of the declaration of the result, for re-checking of the examination script(s) of a specific course(s) on the payment of prescribed fees. Rechecking shall mean verifying whether all the questions and their parts have been duly marked as per the question paper, and the totalling of marks. In the event of a discrepancy being found, the same shall be rectified through appropriate changes in both the result as well as marks-sheet of the concerned end-term examination.
- **(b)** (i) A student obtaining less than 50% of maximum marks (including semester end examination and Teacher's Continuous Evaluation) assigned to a course and failing in the course shall be allowed to re-appear in a semester end examination of the course in a subsequent semester(s) when the course is offered, subject to maximum permissible period of (n+4) semesters as mentioned in clause 4(c). The re-appearing students who secured less than 50% marks in the teacher's continuous evaluation have the option to repeat and improve the two class tests performance with the next batch of students, in such cases the student will request for such improvement in the beginning of the said semester to the Dean / Director of the School / Institute and the improved internal marks, if received from the school/institution concerned at least 7 days before the commencement of semester end-term examination shall be considered, otherwise the previous internal marks already obtained by the student shall be taken into account without any modification. In such cases where the students opt to improve the two class tests performance with the next batch of students, the marks obtained in two class tests will be proportionately increased to include the component of assignment / group discussion / viva voce/additional test/quizzes etc.

No extra fee shall be charged from the students in this regard.

(ii) A student who has to reappear in a end-term examination in terms of clause 10(b) (i) above shall be examined as per the syllabus, which will be in operation during the subsequent tri-mester(s). However, in case the student(s) claimed that there are major modifications in the syllabus which is in operation as compared to the syllabus which was applicable at the time of his/her joining the concerned programme and the Dean of the School / Chairman / Coordinator of the Programme Committee so certifies, the examination may be held in accordance with the old syllabus, provided such request shall be received by Controller of Examination at least 3 weeks prior to commencement of end-term examination.

Students who are eligible to reappear in an examination shall have to apply to the Controller of Examinations through the School / Institution concerned to be allowed to reappear in an examination and pay the fees prescribed by the University.

- (iii) A student will be promoted to the next academic year only if such student has obtained at least,
 - 50%, (accurate upto two decimal digits) of the total credits of the ensuing academic year from which the promotion to next academic year is being sought, and
 - 90%, (accurate upto two decimal digits & rounding of thereafter to full digits) of the total credits of all previous years excluding the credits of the ensuing academic year from which the promotion to next academic year is being sought.

All such students who fail to get promoted to next academic year for the reason of deficiency in required credits as stated here in above will automatically be declared to have taken academic break to reappear in such examinations of previous semesters in which the student has failed, so as to obtain sufficient credits to be promoted to the next academic year.

Only two academic breaks are permissible for a student for the completion of the academic programme/course. In no situation a student will be allowed to take more than two academic breaks, for any reason whatsoever, including for the reasons of detention for shortage of attendance or deficiency of credits during the whole term of completion of the course/programme. A student who has exhausted two academic breaks and a further occasion arises for him or her to take academic break because of non promotion or detention, in such cases the admission of such student would automatically stand cancelled right at the time such an occasion of more than two academic breaks arise.

(c) A candidate who has earned the minimum number of credits prescribed in the concerned Scheme of Teaching & Examination and Syllabi, either entirely from the concerned University School of Studies/ Affiliated Institute/ Centre for Learning & Education or including those credits which have been transferred after earning them for one semester/ semesters from any other University operating in and outside India and with which MoU has been done by the GGS Indraprastha University, shall be declared to have passed the programme, and shall be eligible for the award of the relevant degree or diploma. The Scheme of Teaching & Examination and Syllabi shall clearly specify the minimum credits to be earned to qualify for a degree or diploma. The credits included in the Scheme of Teaching & Examination and Syllabi of a programme shall generally be 5-10% more than such minimum specified credits subject to prescribed guidelines of the concerned statutory or regulatory authority, if any.

Further, the successful candidates will be placed in Divisions as below:

- i. **Second Division**: A candidate obtaining a Cumulative Performance Index (CPI) at the end of the programme of 50 and above but below 60, shall be placed in Second Division.
- ii. **First Division**: A candidate obtaining a CPI at the end of the programme of 60 and above but below 75 shall be placed in the First Division.
- iii. **First Division with Distinction**: A candidate obtaining a CPI at the end of the programme of 75 and above shall be placed in First Division with Distinction, provided the candidate has passed all the courses for which he has earned credits, in the first attempt. Further, a candidate obtaining a CPI of 90 and above shall be deemed to have passed the programme with exemplary performance provided he/she has passed all the courses for which he has earned the credits, in the first attempt. Such candidates will be awarded a special University Certificate to this effect.

iv. For the above, Cumulative Performance Index (CPI) shall be calculated as in Clause 13 and shall be based only on marks obtained in courses for which credits have been earned.

11. (a) USE OF UNFAIR MEANS

All cases regarding reported use of Unfair Means in the examination shall be placed before a Standing Unfair Means Committee/s for decision in individual cases, recommending penalties, if any. The actions deemed as "Use of Unfair Means" shall be specified by the Academic Council and procedure for dealing with cases of suspected/alleged/reported use of unfair means shall also be approved by the Academic Council.

(b) STUDENTS GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE

In case of any written representation / complaints received from the students within seven days after completion of the examination regarding setting up of question paper etc. along with specific recommendations of the Dean of the school / Director of the institution, the same shall be considered by the Students Grievance Committee to be constituted by the Vice Chancellor. The Vice Chancellor shall take appropriate decision on the recommendations of the Students Grievance Committee, before the declaration of result(s) of the said examination.

12. AWARD OF DEGREE

A student shall be awarded a degree if:

i) He/she has registered himself/herself, undergone the course of studies, completed the project report/dissertation specified in the curriculum of his/her programme within the stipulated time, and secured the minimum credits prescribed for award of the concerned degree.

- ii) There are no dues outstanding in his/her name to a School of the University/ Institution; and
- iii) No disciplinary action is pending against him/her

13. PERFORMANCE INDEX

The overall performance of a candidate will be determined at any stage as follows:

Cumulative Performance Index (CPI) =
$$\frac{\sum_{n=1}^{N} C_n M_n}{\sum_{n=1}^{N} C_n}$$

Where Cn is the number of credits earned for the course n in any semester and Mn is the marks obtained by the student for the course n. N is the total number of courses over which the performance is being measured. All courses shall have maximum marks of 100, irrespective of the number of credits assigned to the courses. In calculating CPI, only those courses, which the student has passed obtaining not less than 50% marks and for which credits are earned, will be taken into account, the other courses in which the students have appeared but secured less than 50% marks shall be treated as "Audit Courses" and the same shall be reflected in the Final mark sheet accordingly.

CPI of the candidate shall be calculated on the basis of the minimum credits required for each programme considering his/her performance in the subjects, wherein he/she has secured highest marks. However in the mark sheet, the maximum credits earned by the candidate shall also be reflected.

14. Subject to the provisions of the Act, the Statutes and the Ordinances such administrative issues as disorderly conduct in examinations, other malpractices, dates for submission of examination forms, issue of duplicate degrees, instructions to examiners, superintendents, invigilators, their remuneration and any other matter connected with the conduct of examinations will be dealt with as per the guidelines approved for the purposes by the Academic Council.

15. Notwithstanding anything stated in this Ordinance, for any unforeseen issues arising, and not covered by this Ordinance, or in the event of differences of interpretation, the Vice-Chancellor may take a decision, after obtaining if necessary the opinion / advice of a Committee consisting of any or all the Deans of the Schools. The decision of the Vice-Chancellor shall be final.

The above ordinance has come into force with effect from the date of approval by the Board of Management.

BOM Resolution : 29.4 dated 20.3.2006 Gazette Notification F.2(31)/Ord/IPU/DRP/2006/ 3302 dated 01.08.2006

BOM resolution : 41.03 dated 29.06.2009 Gazette Notification No. F.2(29)/Ord./IPU/ADRP/2009/11727 dated 20.10.2009 [Partial amendment in Clause 10 (b)(i),b(iii) and 10 (c)]