

# ACADEMIC FAQs (NEW CURRICULUM)

## OVERVIEW

### Q. What are the total credits as per the new system?

Ans. The total number of credits required for a four year course have been decreased from 180 to 145-155 depending upon the degree requirements formulated by each department. For dual degree, the requirements are typically B Tech. requirements + M Tech requirements - (about 10 credits). Apart from this, there are 15 non-graded units to be completed compulsorily as a degree requirement.

### Q. What are the graded credits?

Ans. The credits which add up to give your CGPA are called graded credits. The break-up of the graded credits is as follows:-

- a. **Departmental credits:** 65-80 credits which include a minimum of 10 credits for elective courses.
- b. **Outside Department requirement** which further has the following components:-
  1. **Basic Sciences (BS):** 22 credits. It includes courses from Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry and Biology departments. These courses are compulsory for all undergraduate students.
  2. **Engineering Arts and Sciences (EAS):** 18 credits - consisting of courses of Electrical Engineering, Computer Science and Mechanical Engineering fundamentals along with a course on Environmental Science.
  3. **Humanities and Social Sciences (HUSS):** 15 credits of undergraduate electives from Humanities and Social Sciences. It includes 200 level courses (4 credits) and 300 level courses (3 credits). To be eligible for a 300 level course, a student needs to complete 2 courses at 200 level in Humanities category.

The above add up to a total of 55 credits. In addition to the above requirements, a maximum of 15 credits have been allocated for departments to specify programme specific requirements of Basic Sciences and Engineering Arts and Sciences Courses, called Program – Linked courses.

### Q. What are the non-graded units?

Ans. These units do not add to your CGPA but have to be earned as a compulsory part of degree requirement. The break-up of the non-graded units is as follows:-

#### 1. **Introduction to Engineering and the programme:** 2 units

To earn these units, a student needs to undergo a course on Introduction to Engineering (NIN 100) in their first semester and a course on Introduction to their respective programme/Department in their third semester.

#### 2. **Language and Writing skills:** 2 units

This course forms a compulsory part of both semesters of the first year, in the form of courses NLN100 and NLN 101. This would require students to undergo exercises designed to impart language skills - enhancing their ability of listening comprehension, reading and writing English. Textual material and lectures will focus on relationship between Engineering and Humanities and Social Sciences. These exercises will be tailored according to the background of the students that would be assessed through a test conducted at the beginning of the semester. A student can be prescribed self-learning lectures or additional practice sessions during vacations as requirement for his/her S grade.

#### 3. **NCC/NSO/NSS:** 2 units

100 hours of NSO/NCC/NSS activity is compulsory for all. A student will be allowed to earn these

credits over the first two years of the under-graduate programme, and can make use of his/her participation in sports and social welfare activities for earning these credits. If this requirement is not completed in the first two years, these students won't be allowed to register for fifth semester.

**4. Professional Ethics and Social Responsibility: 2 units**

Workshops, discussions/debates will be organized to sensitize students about Professional Ethics and Social Responsibility. This course is administered in the form of regular weekly sessions with a mentor over the first two semesters followed by Internships/workshops etc. in subsequent semesters. A total involvement of 100 hours is required for earning S grade in PESR over the first three years of the student's stay at the institute. Involvement of students in these activities, to be done outside regular class hours, will be monitored by the coordinator for awarding the S grade.

**5. Communication Skill/Seminar: 2 units**

Departments will introduce a set of topic specific seminar courses for students. These courses will be elective, offered each semester. These seminar sessions will be held for two hours per week. Multiple such courses can run in parallel. These seminars will be open for all and can be scheduled outside office hours. Students need to register for at least one such course in his/her parent department for earning one unit. Further, students can earn remaining one unit through any one of the following means: By successfully undergoing Communication Skill course/workshop organized as an activity approved by Dean Academics. By documentary evidence of excellence in debating and/or writing as certified by faculty in-charge of these activities. By participating in course seminars of regular courses; for example regular L courses can have optional seminar component (e.g. EEL707 Multimedia Systems can have optional seminar component of 1 unit). Registering and completing an additional seminar course offered by any department or course. A student will be required to earn these credits in their 3rd and/or 4th year.

**6. Design/Practical Experience: 5 units**

Objective of this non graded core requirement component is to give opportunities to students to acquire substantial design/practical experience both as a part of formal courses as well in an informal setting before they graduate. Second and even more important objective of this course is to inculcate design thinking among students and facilitate them to gain some design immersion experience.

These units can be earned through the following avenues-

- a. Optional projects as part of regular courses.
- b. SURA, summer, winter vacation projects or semester-projects with IITD faculty
- c. Co-curricular technical activities such as Formula-1, Robocon, etc.
- d. Summer or Semester Internship, etc.

In all such cases, prior approval of Department and final assessment by Faculty/Department are required to decide the number of Design units to be awarded for each activity.

**Q. What are capability linked opportunities?**

Ans.

1. A student who completes all 1st year courses (34 credits) with CGPA 7.0 or above will be allowed to register for additional credits from 3rd semester onwards.
2. A student can register for up to 26 credits/semester provided:
  - a. The student has cleared all courses he has registered so far.
  - b. His/her CGPA is 7 or above
3. If he/she has cleared 20\*N credits (N is the total semesters spent) but might not meet the above requirements, then he can register for 24 credits/semester at maximum.

4. A student registering for 26 credits in each semester can complete a maximum of 190 credits. A student registering for 24 credits in each semester can complete a maximum of 178 credits. Given that the graduation requirement is 145-155 credits, this amounts to 23-45 additional credits in four years.
5. A student can make use of these extra credits to opt for either of the following or both of: minor/interdisciplinary area specialization or parent departmental specialization each of which is worth 20 credits.
6. Students can choose either or both of above. The student may not opt for either of them but can do additional credits through open choice of courses and these shall be indicated in the transcript.
7. The 10 open category credits may also be used for departmental specialization and/or minor area.

## **COURSE REGISTRATION & ADD/DROP**

### **Q. What are the minimum and maximum number of credits that can registered for?**

Ans. Register for a minimum of 15 credits and a maximum of 26 credits in a semester, subject to a maximum of 7 lecture courses. 26-28 credits can be done in two semesters subject to a few restrictions.

### **Q. Can I register for 28 credits while doing Major Project?**

Ans. No this is not allowed.

### **Q. Are there any special restrictions on the number of credits that a student can register for?**

Ans. The registration of any student will be limited to 1.25 times the average earned credits of the previous two registered semesters, subject to a minimum of 15 credits and a maximum of 26 credits.

In the 9th and 10th semesters, Dual Degree students will normally register for a minimum of 12 credits and a maximum of 22 credits per semester.

### **Q. Will non-departmental courses of 700 and 800 level qualify as OC?**

Ans. Yes they will. Just make sure that you have the eligibility to do a 700 or 800 level course.

### **Q. Up to what limit are HU courses counted in OC?**

Ans. One can do any number of HU course towards OC credits. They should be above the mandatory 15 credits to be done in HU category.

### **Q. Can mini project be done when someone is registered for BTP or MTP in the same semester?**

Ans. Yes.

### **Q. What is the maximum number of Lecture courses that can be done in a semester?**

Ans. Student can do maximum 7 'L' (Lecture) in a semester.

### **Q. Are the 'V' courses with course structure (1-0-0) counted as Lecture courses?**

Ans. Yes they are counted as Lecture course.

**Q. How many times can I do 28 credits during my degree?**

Ans. 28 Credits can be done in maximum two semesters.

**Q. Can I do more than one HUL course in a semester and get them counted towards HU credits?**

Ans. Seats in HU courses are usually limited. Subject to availability of seats, this may be allowed or disallowed in a given semester.

**Q. What is the minimum number of Lecture credits that one can register in a semester?**

Ans. Minimum 9 "lecture credits" must be registered in every semester.

**Q. What are the requirements for registering for a Mini Project and Independent Study?**

Ans. For taking a mini project course, one has to have minimum 6.5 CGPA and 65 earned credits. And for taking an independent study course, one has to have minimum 7.5 CGPA and 65 earned credits.

**Q. What are the Pre-requisite earned credits for special courses?**

Ans. Independent Study: 65  
Mini Project: 65  
Minor Project (Dual Degree): 100  
B. Tech. Major Project Part 1: 100  
M. Tech. Major Project Part 1 (Dual Degree /Integrated M. Tech.): 135  
Practical Training (summer): 30 (at the time of registration), 45 (before joining)  
Practical Training (semester): 60 (at the time of registration), 75 (before joining)

**Q. Are PG students allowed to register for 100-400 level courses?**

Ans. No. These are core and elective courses for UG programmes. These courses are not open to any PG student.

**Q. Can UG students register for 700-800 level courses?**

Ans. If no pre-requisite is specified for 700 and 800 level courses, a UG student needs to earn 75 and 100 credits to register for 700 and 800 level courses, respectively.

**Q. Can a 700 level course be done without fulfilling the criteria of 75 credits?**

Ans. Normally, No.

**Q. Are 500 level courses only for M.Sc. students?**

Ans. Yes. These courses are not open to other UG or PG students.

**Q. Is registration in an overlapping course as an alternative to a core course allowed?**

Ans. No.

**Q. What needs to be done for registration validation?**

Ans. Before the first day of classes, every student is required to be present on campus and validate his/her registration by logging in at the website. The updated registration record will be available on the website.

**Q. What is the consequence of non-validation of registration?**

Ans. If a student does not login for validating registration, he/she can't add or drop courses.

**Q. Can a Special Module Course 'V' be registered for if the pre-requisite course is being done at the time of registration?**

Ans. Normally, No.

**Q. After adding courses, when we will know whether we got the course or not?**

Ans. The UG section runs checks typically once a day to check for vacancies in courses. Add-drop happens on a first come – first serve basis only.

**Q. How many Mini Projects can a student take outside his/her department?**

Ans. A student can do maximum of 1 Mini Project outside his/her department.

**Q. Will Biology and Environment courses be floated every semester? Can we do these courses whenever we like during our degree tenure?**

Ans. Yes, but seats will be limited to students for whom the course is scheduled in that semester. Students are advised not to switch the semester of these courses as per their convenience since the logistics for these large courses do not allow the flexibility.

## **COURSE WITHDRAW & AUDIT**

**Q. What is the minimum number of credits earned to be eligible to audit a course?**

Ans. Minimum 85 credits should be earned in order to be eligible to audit a course

**Q. Can Minor Area courses be audited?**

Ans. If aiming for a minor area, the courses contributing to the minor degree must not be audited.

**Q. Can I audit the credits in addition to the total credit requirement?**

Ans. The 8-credit limit on audit courses applies within graduation requirements. Credits in addition to the total credit requirement for the completion of a degree are auditable.

**Q. Who sets up the audit pass criteria and when?**

Ans. The course instructor/coordinator has the right to set an audit pass criteria but this should be done at the beginning of the semester and conveyed to the students properly.

**Q. Are there any restrictions on the Audit facility?**

Ans.

(a) **B. Tech. (4-year) programme:** A maximum of 8 credits from the elective courses in any category out of the total credits required for B. Tech. degree may be completed on audit basis.

(b) **Dual-degree programme:** A maximum of 8 credits from the elective courses in any category may be completed on audit basis from the UG part of the programme.

**Q. Can dual degree students audit Program Electives (PE)?**

Ans. No. But, if you do, then that course is counted as a Departmental Elective (DE), only if the course is in the list of DEs.

**Q. Can a HM category course be audited?**

Ans. Undergraduate elective courses include DE, HM and OC. Any of these courses can be audited subject to the above mentioned restrictions.

## **DEGREE REQUIREMENTS**

**Q. Is there any CGPA requirement to be eligible for obtaining the respective degree?**

Ans. A student must obtain a minimum Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) of 5 to be eligible for award of the B.Tech. degree and 5.5 for the Integrated M. Tech. degree. The minimum CGPA requirement for M. Tech. part of dual degree programme is 6.0. Exceptions are dealt according to special rules given in course of study.

**Q. Is there some provision for those who can't obtain the stipulated credits required for the degree?**

Ans. If a student has earned at least two-thirds of the valid credits for the degree for which he/she is registered, then he/she can apply for the award of a diploma.

**Q. What is the procedure of mentioning the distribution of our OC, DE and PEs to the UG section and settle the degree requirement issues?**

Ans. At any point in time, a student can check his/her status of graduation requirements using the "Advisement" report on the campus ERP. Discrepancies should be sorted in time and shortfall categories completed, to ensure graduation.

## **HU CATEGORY**

**Q. How many credits do I have to do in HU category?**

Ans. In total you have to do 15 credits in HU category (including 1 credit for HUN)

**Q. Which courses can be done in HU category?**

Ans. It includes 200 level courses (4 credits) and 300 level courses (3 credits). To be eligible for a 300 level course, a student needs to complete 2 courses at 200 level in Humanities category. Some courses of the Department of Management Studies are also included in this category. These courses would be equivalent to 200-level HU courses in terms of allotment rules.

**Q. Are HUL 700,800 level courses counted towards HM or do they fulfil the OC requirements?**

Ans. They fulfil OC requirement.

## **MINOR AREA**

**Q. Can a student do multiple minor degrees/departmental specialization/interdisciplinary specialization?**

Ans. Yes. Up to 2 such Proficiency linked options are possible.

**Q. What is the complete list of departments offering minor area and the courses which need to be done?**

Ans. Please wait for courses of study. This is a long list.

**Q. Is there an upper limit on the maximum number of students who can enroll for a minor area in a particular department? If yes, what is the criteria for selecting them?**

Ans. Each minor area specifies its own limits, and will be listed in the courses of study.

**Q. I have done a course, which is an overlapping course with an optional course for minor degree. Will the course be considered valid for my minor degree requirement?**

Ans. If any course of a minor area overlaps with any core course (DC or PC category courses) or elective course (DE or PE category courses) of the student's programme, then credits from this course will not count towards the minor area credit requirements, though this course may contribute towards satisfying the core requirement of the minor area. In such a case, the requirement of 20 credits must be completed by taking other courses of the minor area.

## **GRADES**

**Q. What is the basis for awarding grades?**

Ans. The process of awarding grades is not based upon fitting performance of the class to some statistical distribution. The course coordinator and associated faculty for a course formulate appropriate procedure to award grades that are reflective of the student's performance vis-a-vis instructor's expectation.

**Q. Do 'E' & 'F' grades stay permanently on the grade card?**

Ans. 'E' and 'F' grades secured in any course stay permanently on the grade card. These grades are not counted in the calculation of the CGPA; however, these are counted in the calculation of the SGPA.

**Q. How is an 'E' grade different from 'F' grade?**

Ans. Apart from a higher SGPA, an 'E' grade in a course makes a student eligible to repeat the course in the summer semester, if the course is offered (only for undergraduate students).

**Q. What is an 'I' grade?**

Ans. An 'I' grade denotes incomplete performance in any L (lecture), P (practical), V (special module) category courses. It may be awarded in case of absence on medical grounds or other special circumstances, before or during the major examination period.

**Q. What is the time limit for award of 'I' grade?**

Ans. Requests for I-grade should be made at the earliest but not later than the last day of major tests. The student should complete all requirements within the first week of the next semester.

The request is to be made to Dean (Academics). A student may be considered for award of I grade in a course only if attendance in the course is 75 %.

**Q. Does the 'I' grade remain permanently on the grade sheet?**

Ans. Upon completion of all course requirements, the 'I' grade is converted to a regular grade (A to F, NP or NF). 'I' grade does not appear permanently in the grade card.

**Q. What is the 'X' grade?**

Ans. The 'X' grade is awarded for incomplete work in Independent Study, Mini Project, Minor Project, or Major Project Part 1 and Part 2, based on the request of the student. On completion of the work, X grade can be converted to a regular grade within the first week of the next semester. Otherwise, the student will be awarded 'X' grade on a permanent basis and it will appear in his/her grade card. Further, the student will be required to register for the course in the next semester. The credits of the course will be counted towards his total load for the semester. In case of Major Project Part 1, the student will not be permitted to register for Major Project Part 2 simultaneously as Major Part 1 is a pre-requisite for Major Project Part 2. A student can be awarded 'X' grade only once in a course, other than the summer semester.

## ASSISTANTSHIP

**Q. What are the eligibility criteria for Assistantship for Dual Degree?**

Ans. Student should have earned 135 credits. Only those students who have qualified GATE / have CGPA more than 8.0 will be eligible for this assistantship.

**Q. What are the work hours that a student has to put in for TA-ship?**

Ans. The student will be required to provide 8 hours of assistance per week besides his normal academic work.

**Q. How many days leave is a student receiving TA-ship eligible for?**

Ans. A student receiving assistantship will be eligible for total of 30 days leave during the 14-month period.

**Q. Is a student receiving TA-ship entitled to mid-semester breaks or vacations?**

Ans. He/she will not be entitled to mid-semester breaks, winter and summer vacations.

## DESIGN UNITS

**Q. Who will be responsible for monitoring the design units?**

Ans. Modalities are being worked out and will be available once finalised.

**Q. When can we start completing our design units?**

Ans. One can start soon after first year.

**Q. How can I earn the units for design/practical experience?**

Ans. Some of the suggested ways by which design/practical experience can be acquired are as follows:

1. Offering courses with design focus which would allow the students to earn not only some credits but also some design units
2. Regular courses (core or elective) in which faculty chooses to offer optional design/practical experience component requiring additional effort.
3. Summer/semester internships by students in R&D/Industry.
4. Summer/winter internships under the guidance of institute faculty.
5. Participation in design/project activity under the supervision of faculty during semester.
6. Participation in Design/innovation projects offered by Innovation Centre/CAIC.

7. Participation in short-term modules of certain minimum duration offered by industry/institute visitors/visiting faculty.

8. Minor/Major projects.

**Important Note:** Obviously with the above it is clear that summer internship with the industry will no longer be an integral core requirement. A student can earn Design Experience units through industrial/research internships.

## INTERNSHIPS AND EXCHANGE

**Q. Now industrial training after third year is not necessary. Still if a student wishes to do an internship in an industry or a R&D organization, will the institute help in getting the internship?**

Ans. The modalities for this are being worked out and will be announced once it is finalised.

**Q. What are the eligibility conditions for foreign exchange programme? (CGPA requirements, DISCO etc.)**

Ans. Min CGPA of 8.0 in 3 semesters. Students forbidden from representing IITD by Disciplinary Committee are not eligible.

**Q. What is the number of students per department who'll be selected for foreign exchange program?**

Ans. There is no such rule. Selection is based on criteria set by the committee appointed for the purpose.

## MISCELLANEOUS

**Q. What should a student do if he is absent for more than a week due to illness or emergency?**

Ans. In case of absence due to illness or any other emergency, up to a maximum of two weeks, the student should approach the course coordinator for make-up quizzes, assignments and laboratory work. The student should also inform the Dean Academics. Also, see FAQ related to 'I' grade.

**Q. What further activities will be undertaken to complete the NEN course?**

Ans. Students need to undergo social internships and/or attend workshops as identified by the coordinator.

**Q. What is the divisibility rule for credits?**

Ans. Credits overflowing from any elective category (DE/PE/HU) will be counted for OC requirements.

**Q. What are the timings for X/Y/Z slots?**

Ans. These slots are floating slots. The timings are decided by the instructor. Examination time and date are also decided by the professor.

**Q. Can a person register for more than one course in P slot?**

Ans. Yes you can register for more than one course in P slot.