

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) related to National Educational Policy (NEP)

1. What is National Educational Policy (NEP)?

It is the Educational Policy announced by the Government of India in the year 2020 and adopted by the Government of Karnataka in the year 2021. This educational policy will have a far-reaching impact on the educational scenario of Karnataka as well as India, spanning both schools as well as higher education institutions.

If you are interested in knowing more about it, please read the National Educational Policy Document

(https://www.education.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/NEP_Final_English_0.pdf)

2. What is the stand of the Government of Karnataka regarding NEP ?

The Government of Karnataka has accepted NEP with some minor modifications and has inaugurated NEP-Karnataka on 24th Aug. 2021. NEP will be implemented across all colleges and universities in Karnataka from October 2021.

Under NEP, all the undergraduate degree programmes will be of four years duration. It will also have multiple exit options for the students. A person who completes all the 4 years will become a graduate with an honours degree. A person who completes 3 years of degree will get a degree certificate and so on.

Details of NEP implementation are available on the [Bengaluru City University](#) website.

3. I am a student from outside Karnataka. What languages should I take under NEP?

As per the order of the Government of Karnataka, ALL students will have to take Kannada as the 1st Language and can choose the 2nd language from a bouquet of languages like English, Hindi, Sanskrit, Tamil, French and German.

St. Joseph's College, however, is thinking of introducing three levels of Kannada to cater to the needs of students from varied backgrounds. **Basic (Functional) Kannada** will be for students who are from other states or countries who have never been exposed to Kannada. **Middle level(intermediate level) Kannada** will be for those students who may have studied Kannada for 1-3 years during their school days. **Advanced Kannada** will be offered to those students who have studied in Kannada medium or have studied Kannada during their High school and PUC. Students who have taken Advanced Kannada will be able to pursue their higher studies in Kannada Literature if they wish to do so at a later stage.

4. How many semesters should I study the languages?

You will have to study Kannada and the other language of your choice for FOUR semesters.

5. What are Open Electives (OEs)? Is there any restriction on choosing the OEs?

Open Electives are courses offered by various departments of the college. These courses will be at an elementary level, introducing you to some of the interesting topics associated with a field of study.

Usually these OEs will be only of one semester duration. In extraordinary situations, a department may offer an advanced OE in the next semester too for which the prerequisite may be the previous semester's OE.

You may also be permitted to choose an open elective from the same departments associated with your major subjects.

6. **What are DSEs?**

DSEs are Department Specific Electives. These are courses that are offered by a department to those students who have opted to study their field as one of the major subjects.

Students will have to choose DSE in their 3rd and 4th years of study under various models.

7. **What are Skill Enhancement Courses (SEC)?**

SECs are courses that are meant to improve the skill levels of the students in various spheres. Most of these courses will be conducted online on the [SWAYAM](#) portal of the Govt. of India.

8. **What about Sports, NSS and NCC activities?**

Sports, National Service Scheme (NSS) and National Cadet Corps (NCC) etc. will also fall under the SEC category (under Activity Based Courses). Students can take part in these activities from Semester 1 onwards. However, the credits for these courses will be awarded only in the even semesters as can be seen in this document <https://bcu.ac.in/documents/NEP/Circular%20regarding%20NEP%202020-MPS%20for%20UG.pdf>

9. **Under NEP, can I choose any two subjects from all the 30 departments of St. Joseph's College?**

In principle yes. This is the essence of NEP. However, due to infrastructural and other constraints we will not be able to offer all the 435 combinations possible.

In addition, some of the subjects can only be studied in conjunction with certain other subjects. For example, a combination like Physics and Political Science may not be of much use in a real world situation.

Hence we will be able to offer you combinations that may be viable from the college's perspective at present. While making these combinations, we will be taking into account a survey that will be conducted among the 1st semester students.

10. **Since, I will not be studying Additional English/French/German, will the college be partially refunding my fees?**

Yes, the extra fee of Rs. 10000/- paid towards these languages will be refunded.