

## **Implementation and Outcome of Credit and Grading System In Evening Degree Colleges Under University of Mumbai**



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### **Introduction**

#### **Importance of study**

An evening or night college is mandatory in each district as per the UGC recommendations. The Science subjects for which chemical laboratory is required, not permitted in such colleges. However, Arts and Commerce streams can be imparted at graduation and post graduation levels. Most of the evening colleges are run by the Government or by the Government Aided Colleges. Many renowned and eminent personalities had made use of such institutions as they education was not affordable for them without working during the day time.

The concept of evening college was to Earn and Learn. No reason should be an obstacle for higher education. Of course, the syllabus is the same for all the affiliated colleges to a university. But some relaxations had to be provided to the students pursuing their university education through evening colleges. The students who are working in the sales area or having shift duties would not be able to attend lectures regularly. So the colleges allow some grace time and concession in attendance.

As and when the Semester based Credit and Grading System was introduced and implemented, the colleges are not in a position to grant relaxations anymore, There are grades for all types of performances like attendance/class participation, projects submissions, class tests and other internal assessments other than for the regular examinations. The importance of this study is to analyze if the Evening College Students can benefit the Semester Based Credit and Grading System. as it is expected to be benefitted to the day college students.

### **Background of the problem**

The students, who take admission in night/evening colleges, mainly are employees as they need to financially support their parents to make both end meet. As they are only undergraduates, they cannot be conditional in choosing a job. So itself, a negotiation on salary, working time, leave, holidays etc, is impossible. This in turn will affect their attendance and subsequently their all round performances. The semester end result will not be positive for their promotion and ultimately their education will be on anvil with an ATKT or even a drop out. They have taken admission in an affiliated college approved by UGC and recognized by the Maharashtra Government. Their names are enrolled in the university and they are issued an enrolment number also. The state government and the university gave permission to run such colleges only to encourage Earn and Learn or to pursue some other course during the day time. These colleges are accredited and re-accredited by the statutory body called in brief as NAAC and have been awarded grades as per the performance of the college. Nevertheless, no comments have been made by the University, Government or UGC so far to justify the grievances of the night/evening college students working to have a quality life. In fact, these students deserve special appreciation not only for the support extended to their parents but the efforts they are taking to cover up the missed lectures due to the unavoidable assignments at their work places.

### **Definition of the study**

An analysis is intended to be made about the problems faced by the undergraduate students studying in Evening/Night colleges through a data collections with the help of a questionnaire.

### **Objectives of the study**

#### **The following are the objectives of this study:-**

- To know if the night/evening college students are really comfortable with the newly introduced semester based credit and grading system.
- To know if these students undergo any kind of stress either at the work place or in the college education or both because of the new system.
- To know the opinions of the third year undergraduate students who were in the old system and now with the new system.
- To know any other academic facilities are to be extended for the students to cop up with the new system.
- To know if any inclusion has to be incorporated to ease the hectic schedules due to the new system

#### **Formulation of Action Hypothesis**

Two sets of questionnaires have been prepared meticulously for the data collection from the students who have experiences only the new system and from the students who have experienced both the old and new students i.e; the current final year batch students. The data collected will be assessed and analyzed with the help of the Statistics Department. The final result of the analysis shall be pie charted for a faster understanding of the situation

#### **Limitation of the study**

The study is limited in Mumbai urban area only as there is no meaning in going to rural areas because Night colleges are not functioning there. As the number of Night/Evening colleges is one or two per district, the study is limited in one college only, interacting with twenty students each from the second year, and final year undergraduate programme.

#### **Introduction of the Methodology**

As this paper is analysis bound, an assessment is inevitable. It is possible only through an accurate feedback from the students who have experienced both the old and new systems and the students experienced the new system only.

Hence the ideal batches will be second and final year undergraduate students because the second year students have two years experience with new system only and the final year students have two years experience with the old and one year with the new system. Arrangements were made to meet the students having more than 50 per cent attendance, for the data collection.

#### **Preparation of tool**

The suitable tool for such a type of data collection shall be a diplomatically as well as sensibly prepared questionnaire. For this, a proper guidance was made available from the experienced teachers from the College of Post Graduate Programme in Education. Two different sets of questionnaires were prepared to collect data from second and final year undergraduate students separately.

#### **Samples and data gathering**

The teacher addressed the students about the objectives of the data collection from them. Xeroxed copies were distributed among the students gathered. When the data collection was over, the teacher got some quality time for an informal discussion with the gathering. This chanced for obtaining some other information related to the study. In fact, there were no questions in the questionnaire to provide this additional information.

#### **Data Analysis**

The responses collected from the students were analyzed with the help of the Faculty members in the Department of Statistics. Pie Charts were also prepared for quick understanding of the responses (The copy of the Questionnaire and output of the analysis are shown hereunder)

#### **Questionnaire**

(For the responses from the first year students from Night College only)

Q1 Are you studying in a night college?  
(Yes/No)

Q2 Are you employed?

Q3 If yes, do you have duty on shifts?

- Q 4 If Yes. Do you miss your lectures?
- Q 5 If Yes, Do you get any relaxation in attendance?
- Q 6 If No, Do you lose the newly introduced grade or credit?
- Q 7 If Yes, Does it affect your
- a) Performance in the examinations?
  - b) Promotion at the semesters end?
- Q 8 Do you get grace time to submit the internal assignments?
- Q 9 If No, Does your employer allow you to leave the work place early to complete the pending assignments?
- Q 10 Do you have stress at your workplace related to the works?
- Q 11 Do you have stress at the work place related to the education?
- Q 12 Do you have stress in the college related to the work?
- Q 13 Do you have stress in the college related to curriculum?
- Q 14 Can you cop up with this credit and grade system when you reach in the final semesters?
- Q 15 If No, What do you do from the following?
- a) Leave the job? b) Leave the college and join Distance Education Programme
  - c) Leave education?
- a)
  - b)
  - c)
- d) If No, Do you lose the newly introduced grade or credit?
- e) If Yes, Does it affect your
- 1) Performance in the examinations?
  - 2) Promotion at the semesters end?
- f) Do you get grace time to submit the internal assignments?
- g) If No, Does your employer allow you to leave the work place early to complete the pending assignments?
- h) Do you have stress at your workplace related to the works?
- i) Do you have stress at the work place related to the education?
- j) Do you have stress in the college related to the work?
- k) Do you have stress in the college related to curriculum?
- l) Can you cop up with this credit and grade system when you reach in the final semesters?
- m) If No, What do you do from the following?
- 1) Leave the job? 2) Leave the college and join Distance Education Programme
  - 3) Leave education?
- 1)
  - 2)
  - 3)
- Q 2) If No, Are you able to pursue the newly introduced credit and grade System?

#### ANALYSIS

##### Day college students

The day college students opined that they could do the assignments and projects during their leisure after the college hours. But the students who are doing part time jobs or attending extra courses like computers and Chartered Accountants basic courses are not that much comfortably completing their assignments and project works. However, they are able to do during the late evening hours.

Some day college students who manage their own family business find it difficult to cope up with the internal assignments. But they manage

taking breaks Night college students

These category of students find it very difficult to accomplish their internals satisfactorily because

Day time they are at work and at night till 10 o'clock they are at college.

The employed students on shift rotations are facing a worse condition.

Most of them decide to discontinue regular college education and take admission in the Dis-

tance Learning Programme.

A 10 per cent students stop education as they cannot pass the final year course without attending lectures.

**The Sturents Who Are Running Their Family Cannot Afford Joining Coaching Classes. Recommendations:**

It is advisable that a different discipline of syllabus be designed for the earning and learning students attending night classes, as done for the distance learning programmed.