

1. Title of the Best Practice

Choice Based Credit System (CBCS)

2. The Context

St. Joseph's College of Commerce, with a firm focus on holistic education strives to continually adapt a student-centric approach to education. Choice Based Credit System (CBCS) is one of the Best Practice introduced by SJCC to create flexibility in the learning process for the student and to enable them to learn in a more creative manner.

3. Objectives of the Practice

- CBCS gives students greater flexibility and mobility to determine their learning choices.
- This choice will help student to take inter-disciplinary or allied field of subjects to their liking/ interest.
- CBCS helps to develop interdisciplinary approach in higher education with transparency and accountability.
- Allows greater interaction with industry and helps to develop a curriculum, keeping in mind the requirements of the industry.

4. The Practice

In the CBCS, the awarding of the degree is based on the number of credits earned by the students from 4 major sections:

- i. Languages
- ii. Core Course and Elective Courses
- iii. Co-Curricular Activities
- iv. Extension Activities

The students of the second year have the choice of selecting two open electives from a list of diverse multidisciplinary subject topics that they wish to study during the duration of their degree. The third- year students have the choice of selecting one elective of their choice from a list of five major electives which further consists of four core papers and one skill based paper.

5. Advantages

- Various tie-ups and collaborations with foreign universities and professional bodies.
- Introduction of courses which have Global relevance and Demand.
- Greater industry-academia integration.
- Enhances scope for student participation and experiential learning

6. Challenging issues

- Providing students with multidisciplinary subject choices in a single disciplinary college.
- The choice of open electives is limited as only two subject papers can be accommodated into the second years' curriculum and one elective can be opted for by the third- year students.
- Due to the availability of limited seats for each allied option and elective it may lead to denial of seats to some students who may be passionate about the subject.
- Intensive efforts also have to be made to change the mindsets of the existing teaching staff that have to inculcate these interdisciplinary subjects into the curriculum and make a radical change from a teacher centric approach to a student centric approach.

7. Evidence of Success

- Positive student testimonials and feedback have been received.
- The CBCS approach has led to an increase in the rate of placement rates and opportunities for the students.

8. Resources Required

- Skilled teachers with a wide knowledge of various interdisciplinary subjects.
- A library which enables students to access books from various disciplines.
- Fully equipped computer labs so that skill -based papers such as excel, SAP programs, etc. can be easily taught to the students.

9. Contact Details

The Principal

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