

**Recommendations of the Expert Committee to Review the Notification  
on the Specification of Degrees and Suggest New Degree  
Nomenclature(s)**

The Committee recommended broad guiding principles to be adhered to specify the nomenclature of degrees in the future by the UGC, which are enumerated herein.

1. Given the provisions for Multiple Entry and Multiple Exit in Higher Education, the National Credit Framework (NCrF), and the Curriculum and Credit Framework for Undergraduate Programmes (CCFUP) as envisaged under the NEP 2020, it would be appropriate to recognise qualifications at the level of undergraduate certificate, undergraduate diploma, and postgraduate diploma also.
2. A student may be considered for the award of a qualification (like a certificate/diploma/degree) once the required number of credits have been earned, irrespective of the minimum duration of the programme.
3. The degree nomenclature may be modified to be in sync with international norms. Accordingly, in case of specialisation or a major subject at the undergraduate level, the programme nomenclature on the degree certificate awarded to the students may also be written as “Bachelor of Arts/ Bachelor of Commerce / Bachelor of Science in *specialisation*”. For example, a Bachelor of Arts in Music may also be a specified nomenclature in addition to BA (Music). The university is free to offer interdisciplinary and innovative specialisation in these programmes.
4. Procedure for introducing new nomenclature(s):
  - i. In case a need is felt to introduce new nomenclature(s) at any level relevant to contemporary and emerging societal needs, a

proposal for the same, along with justification, shall be submitted to the UGC. The Standing Committee constituted for the purpose shall consider the same and make recommendations to the Commission.

- ii. On the approval of the Commission, the newer degree nomenclature shall be notified by the UGC.
  - iii. UGC may adopt a practice of publishing its subsequent notifications with a comprehensive list, including the names of all previously specified degrees as well, for ease of reference and clarity.
5. In case the undergraduate degree programme is of three years duration, it may be referred to as BA / BCom / BSc. The existing three years undergraduate degree Honours programmes may also continue.
6. An undergraduate degree programme of four years duration shall be either of the following:
- i. An Honours degree programme with nomenclature having (Hons) in parenthesis, like BA (Hons), BCom (Hons), or BSc (Hons), as applicable
  - ii. An Honours degree programme with research components embedded into it and its nomenclature shall have (Hons with Research) in parenthesis, like BA (Hons with Research) and BCom (Hons with Research), as applicable
  - iii. A four-year undergraduate degree programme in any discipline may also have a Bachelor of Science abbreviated as BS as a specified nomenclature. This nomenclature shall apply to all disciplines like Sciences, Engineering and Technology, Arts, Humanities, Social Sciences, Business Administration, Management, Commerce etc.

7. For a postgraduate degree programme either of one-year or two-year duration, the existing nomenclature of MA / MCom / MSc, etc., may continue.
8. A one-year or two-year postgraduate degree programme in any discipline may also have a Master of Science abbreviated as MS as a specified nomenclature. This nomenclature shall apply to all disciplines like Sciences, Engineering and Technology, Arts, Humanities, Social Sciences, Business Administration, Management, Commerce etc.
9. Nomenclatures of the BVoc and MVoc degrees may continue. In addition, vocational programmes can also be offered as BA / BCom / BSc/ BS in Vocational Studies at the undergraduate level and MVoc as MA / MCom / MSc/ MS in Vocational Studies at the postgraduate level. For example, BA in Vocational Studies (Handicraft). This is recommended in view of the requirement of wider acceptance of such nomenclature in the public domain.
10. In general, all degrees should follow a common basic structure for nomenclature. Therefore, degrees in specific disciplines, such as BVSc, BStat etc., may continue. In addition, the nomenclature of BA / BCom / BSc/ BS may also be used at the undergraduate level and MA / MCom / MSc/ MS at the postgraduate level. For example, BSc/BS in Veterinary Science or BS in Veterinary Science (as it is a four-year course at present) and BStat as BA in Statistics or BSc in Statistics, based on the curriculum being adopted (as it is a three-year course at present).
11. The UGC Notification on Specification of Degrees published in the official Gazette shall include the details mentioned in Table 1 in view of the National Credit Framework (NCrF) and the Curriculum and Credit Framework for Undergraduate Programmes (CCFUP).

12. This Table defines the proposed specified degree, in both abbreviated and expanded forms. It also gives the minimum duration spent/ minimum credits earned through the programme. The minimum entry-level qualification required for admission to different programmes has also been mentioned. For further details, the NCrF and CCFUP may be referred to.

**Table1: Indicative list of nomenclatures**

S. No.	Specified Degree		National Credit Framework (NCrF) Credit Level	Minimum Duration/ Minimum Credits	Minimum Entry-Level Qualification
	Abbreviated	Expanded			
1)	UG Certificate	Undergraduate Certificate	4.5	1 year/ 40 Credits*	Level 4 of NCrF (Class XII-through CBSE/ School Boards/ NIOS; or Diploma Vocation) or equivalent
2)	UG Diploma	Undergraduate Diploma	5	2 years/ 80 Credits**	Level 4 of NCrF (Class XII-through CBSE/ School Boards/ NIOS; or Diploma Vocation) or equivalent
3)	BSc / BA / BCom /	Bachelor of Science/ Bachelor of Arts/ Bachelor of Commerce	5.5	3 years/ 120 Credits	Level 4 of NCrF (Class XII-through CBSE/ School Boards/

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					NIOS; or Diploma Vocation) or equivalent
4)	BSc (Hons) / BA (Hons) / BCom (Hons)	Bachelor of Science (Honours)/ Bachelor of Arts (Honours)/ Bachelor of Commerce (Honours)	5.5	3 years/ 120 Credits	Level 4 of NCrF (Class XII-through CBSE/ School Boards/ NIOS; or Diploma Vocation) or equivalent
5)	BSc (Hons) / BA (Hons) / BCom (Hons)/ BE/ BTech  <b>All the above can also be offered with BS nomenclature</b>	Bachelor of Science (Honours)/ Bachelor of Arts (Honours)/ Bachelor of Commerce (Honours)/ Bachelor of Engineering/ Bachelor of Technology/ Bachelor of Science	6	4 Years/ 160 Credits	Level 4 of NCrF (Class XII-through CBSE/ School Boards/ NIOS; or Diploma Vocation) or equivalent
6)	BSc (Hons with Research) / BA (Hons with Research) / BCom (Hons with Research)/	Bachelor of Science (Hons with Research)/ Bachelor of Arts (Hons with Research) /	6	4 Years/ 160 Credits, including 12 Credits from Research	Level 4 of NCrF (Class XII-through CBSE/ School Boards/ NIOS; or Diploma

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	BE/ BTech  <b>All the above can also be offered with BS nomenclature</b>	Bachelor of Commerce (Hons with Research)/ Bachelor of Engineering/ Bachelor of Technology/ Bachelor of Science		Project/ Dissertation	Vocation) or equivalent
7)	PG Diploma	PG Diploma in Science/ PG Diploma in Arts/ PG Diploma in Commerce	i. 6  Also, students exiting after the one year of the 2 years Master's degree programme will be awarded PGD at level 6  ii. 6.5	1 year/ 40 Credits	i. Level 5.5 of NCrF after a 3-year Bachelor's degree/  ii. Level 6 of NCrF after 4-year bachelor's degree

S. No.	Specified Degree		National Credit Framework (NCrF) Credit Level	Minimum Duration/ Minimum Credits	Minimum Entry-Level Qualification
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8)	MSc / MA / MCom  <b>All the above can also be offered with MS nomenclature</b>	Master of Science/ Master of Arts/ Master of Commerce	6.5	1 year/ 40 Credits	Level 6 of NCrF after obtaining a Bachelor's degree (Honours/Research)
9)	MSc / MA / MCom  <b>All the above can also be offered with MS nomenclature</b>	Master of Science/ Master of Arts / Master of Commerce	6.5	2 years/ 80 Credits	Level 5.5 of NCrF
10)	ME/ MTech etc.  <b>All the above can also be offered with MS nomenclature</b>	Master of Engineering/ Master of Technology	7	2 years/ 80 Credits	Level 6 of NCrF
11)	PhD	Doctor of Philosophy	8	3 years, including 12 Credits for coursework	Level 6 of NCrF***

\*: If students complete one vocational course of 4 credits during the summer vacation of the first year, they are allowed to re-enter the degree programme within three years and complete it within the stipulated maximum of seven years.

\*\* : If students complete one vocational course of 4 credits during the summer vacation of the second year, they are allowed to re-enter within three years and complete the degree programme within the maximum period of seven years.

\*\*\*: The admissions for PhD programmes shall be as per the extant UGC Regulations.

13. The nomenclature of the “MPhil” degree may be discontinued from the list of specified degrees in accordance with the recommendations of NEP 2020.
14. The Committee recommends that a Standing Committee be constituted, with nominees from respective regulatory authorities, on a need basis, for undertaking the exercise of renaming the nomenclatures as recommended herein. The Standing Committee shall look into all matters related to the specification of degree nomenclatures.
15. The proposed changes, as recommended by this Committee, would only be applicable on a prospective basis, and all such existing degree nomenclature shall continue to be relevant even after the promulgation of this document.