

UNIVERSITY OF CALICUT
Academic & Administrative Audit of Teaching Departments
(2016 -2021)
Report

Name of the Department		Department of Sociology		
Sl. No.	Item	Grade A - Excellent, B - Good C - Average D - Poor	Comments-	Suggestions for improvement
I	Programmes Offered		M A Sociology	
1	Relevance, adequacy, innovativeness etc. (3-8)	A	This programme has great relevance in Calicut University as this is the only centre where Masters programme of sociology is taught in the entire northern Kerala region at the university level. The only other PG departments of Sociology in this region is in affiliated colleges.	Should take steps to upgrade the department into a regular university department instead of being in a self-financing mode. As the ratio of applicants reveal, there is a huge demand for the programme in the region
2	Demand ratio of courses (33,35,36)	A	The programme has a high demand ratio as reflected in the number of applicants. It has consistently increased over the last five years period	Should take steps to attract students from different backgrounds and regions in and outside of the state
3	Syllabus & curriculum (10,11, 46)	A	Syllabus is continuously up graded	Outcome Based Education could be integrated into the syllabus more effectively
4	Examination & Results (9, 34, 37)	A	The department has a well-structured assessment pattern and the outstanding results	OBE based examination system could be introduced so that the students would

			(More than 90 percent throughout) are also reflective of the standard with which the courses are taught within the department	become competent and equipped for career achievement
II	Faculty			
	Strength 1 (12, 14, 15)	B	All the four faculty members are well trained and the leadership of a co-ordinator, with more than 35 years of teaching experience	The department should take all possible steps to recruit permanent faculties as the future growth of this department will face large scale challenges without that.
	Student teacher ratio 2 (16)	A	Teacher student ratio is quite outstanding as it is on an average 1:6 per batch	Appointment of permanent faculties could lead to better outcomes
	Qualification, experience diversity, performance etc. 3 (13, 41, 48)	B	Two out of four teachers are having Ph D qualification	The remaining two faculty members should secure PhD degree as early as possible so that the department can take steps to upgrade it to a research department
	Participation of faculty in Professional development programmes, Seminars, Workshops etc. 4 (26-27)	B	All the faculty members are very productively active in various academic initiatives	Selective workshops and seminars could be organised by the department attracting financial support from funding agencies
	Recognitions received by faculty from notable institutions (state, national or international) 5 (28-30)	B	The co-ordinator of the programme has a very remarkable award from the Kendra Sahithya Academy	Faculty members should try to make more achievements in the area of research and publications
III	Research	D	Department is only in its initial stages of establishment. Hence, there is more scope for growth as a research centre.	University should up-grade the department into a full-fledged research department
	1 Thrust area	D	No Research programme in the department	Needs a strategic plan to start a research

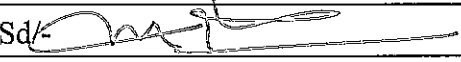
	(18)			programme
2	Facilities (21, 22)	D	As it is no facilities	Need to be addressed
3	Publications (23)	D	Publication is another missing area	Need to be considered strategically as it is a University Department
4	Patents (24)	D	No Patents	
5	Consultancy (25)	D	Nothing so far.	But can consider as the department has two Ph D holders
6	Projects (19)	D	No projects have been sanctioned, perhaps because the faculty members are working on a contract basis.	Can consider some NGO projects or Social Impact assessment projects etc., to begin with
7	External Funding (all funds secured by faculty other than normal grants received by the University) (20)	D	Not so far	Department should try for some linkages with industries or NGOs to explore some funding options
IV	Students			
1	Student achievements (state, national, international) (31)	C	Being a new department student achievements are too early assess.	Department can introduce more career oriented sessions or interactions with career specialists to promote better placements for the students
2	Diversity (male female ratio, from within the state, outside the state and international) (33, 38)	C	Student diversity is also a factor that the department is currently lacking. This is perhaps a result of the self-financial status of the department	Making it a regular programme will indeed help the department to overcome this challenge
3	Student Progression (39, 40, 49)	C	Being a Post graduate department, without any research programme, student progression is also a difficult factor to look for. However,	

			some of the students have moved forward to do research in some other universities	
	Financial support to Students 4 (45)	A	Provision of financial support to students is one of the highlights of the department. A large group of students every year have been provided with financial assistance since the beginning of the department	
V	Support Staff (Strength, Adequacy etc.)	C	Being a young department support staff is also limited for the time being	Department may consider some internship programmes to avail the services of more staff support
VI	Teaching- learning & Evaluation (47)	A	All the faculties are following an academic Teaching plan and all teachers take up interactive lecture methods since the Syllabus is framed in such a manner to promote interactive lecture and discussion methods. Some assessments are based on analytical tests.	Can make an attempt to introduce outcome oriented teaching and learning, which is a prescription of the UGC
VII	Feedback Mechanism (48)	A	Proper teacher assessment practices are in place. All teachers are evaluated highly too.	Peer and HoD evaluation can also be introduced to motivate better performance
VIII	Activities of the Department (conduct of seminar, workshops, student enrichment programmes, extension activities and other beyond scholarly activities) (32, 50, 55)	B	Department has a system of delegating different responsibilities to the teachers and ensure the participation of teachers as well as Students in various curricular and co-curricular activities.	Department can consider organising more national level seminars and workshops and can take steps to invite reputed scholars from abroad to give online lectures for the students Community engagement programmes can be made mandatory or as a certificate course
IX	Infrastructural facilities of the Department	C	As the department is in the early days of its establishment, the infrastructural provisions are	Needs to take up the matter with the authorities of the University

	(52)		yet to be procured	
X	Uniqueness of the Department & Innovative practices (53-55)	C	Induction, theatre workshop, weekly discussion forums and social intervention programmes are quite remarkable features of the department	The report has not highlighted the innovative teaching methods/modern teaching aids etc, with clarity. More programmes such as PRAs, internships, community adoption etc., could be considered
XI	SWOC (56)			
	1 Strength	B	Leadership by an experienced teacher who have won Best teacher award in University. Efficient field work system. System of core and elective papers. Including important areas like gender, environment and urban sociology	More diversities and collaboration efforts can be attempted
	2 Weakness	C	Absence of permanent faculty members Self financing status of the programme	
	3 Opportunity	A	Elevate the Department to a well established research centre. Establish collaborations with State, National and International level bodies and institutions.	
	4 Challenges		Digital infrastructure Student and faculty diversity Collaborations and networking	
XII	Future plans (57)		Department should make every effort to establish it as a full-fledged regular programme under the university having the required number of regular faculties and more infrastructural and staff supports. A fully functional research centre	

Overall remarks of the Auditor :

The department has been doing commendable work in curricular aspect, teaching/learning, student support and progression. The leadership of an HoD with an outstanding career record is indeed worth mentioning here. He is a role model teacher and he is running the department with the minimum infrastructure and support staff quite brilliantly. The department encourages extension activities and is offering many programmes to improve the skill base of the students. However there is an urgent need to improve the research/ publication/ consultancy part of the department. The prospect of the department is indeed very high as this region has no other PG programmes in sociology at the university level. Therefore, the department can consider starting a Ph.D programme so that the student progression can be ensured. Introducing a new journal will elevate the publication status of the department. More communication and softs skills programmes could be added to the syllabus as that will enhance the employability skills of the students. For all these to happen what is of urgent need is the recruitment of permanent faculties and elevation of the department into a regular full-fledged status in the university.

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