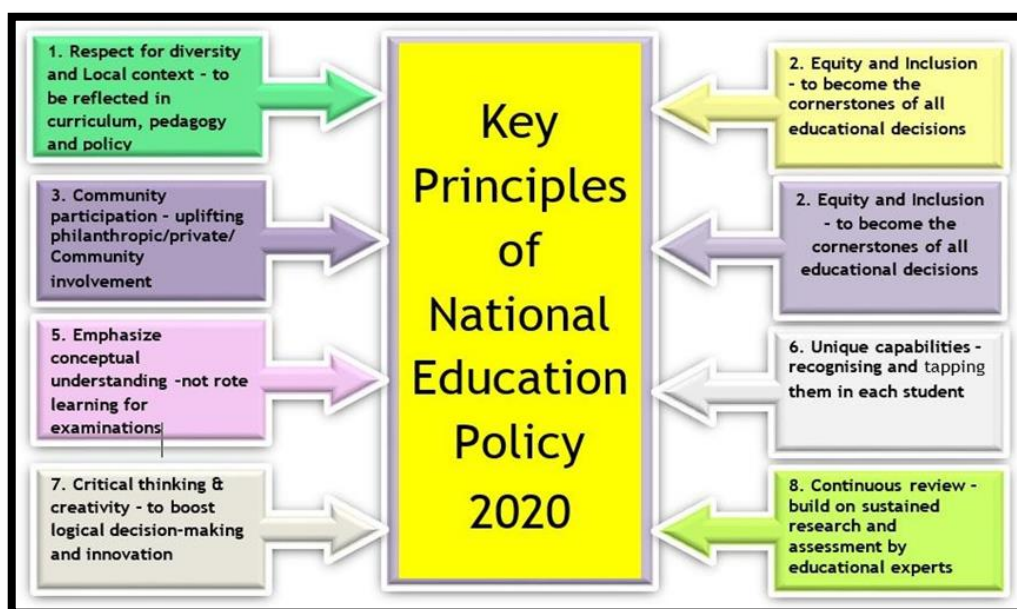# MANUAL

National Education Policy
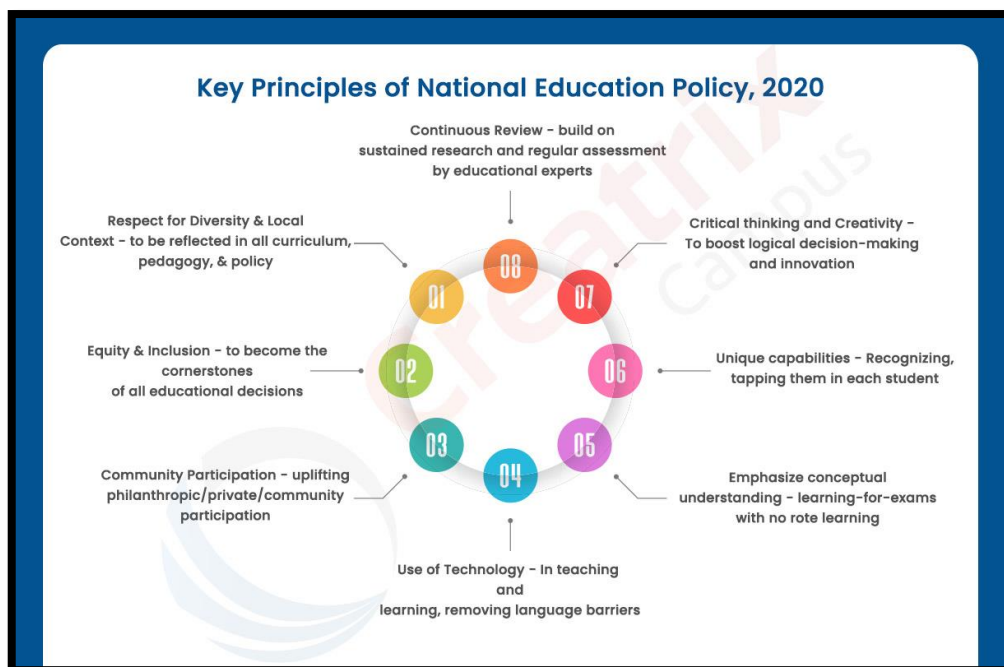
at

Integral University

The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, approved by the Union Cabinet on July 29, 2020, is a groundbreaking reform aimed at restructuring India's higher education system. Replacing the National Policy on Education 1986 (amended in 1992), NEP 2020 envisions India as a global knowledge superpower by fostering an inclusive, flexible, multidisciplinary, and future-ready education system.

National Education Policy- NEP 2020 is the first education policy of the 21st century built on the foundational pillars of Access, Equity, Quality, Affordability and Accountability. This policy is aligned to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and aims to transform India into a vibrant knowledge society and global knowledge superpower by making primary, secondary and higher education more holistic, flexible, as well as multidisciplinary to match the requirements of present century. The new education policy essentially aims at bringing out the unique capabilities of each student.

The policy envisages a broad-based multi-disciplinary holistic education at the undergraduate level with an integrated based approach having rigorous exposure to Arts, Science, Humanities, Mathematics and Professional fields. These multidisciplinary subjects having imaginative and flexible curricular structures, with creative combinations of study along with integration of vocational education would enable the development of multiskilled human resources. The new policy makes a provision for multiple entry/exit points to facilitate student to choose the path, pace and the place of acquiring the qualification. A holistic and multidisciplinary education will help develop well-rounded individuals who possess critical 21st century capacities in fields across the Arts, Science, Humanities, Mathematics, Languages, Professional fields, and Vocational fields; an ethic of social engagement; soft skills, such as communication, discussion and debate; and rigorous specialization in a chosen field or fields. Such a holistic education shall be the aim and approach of all undergraduate Programmes, including those in Professional, Technical, and Vocational disciplines.

A holistic and multidisciplinary education would aim to develop all capacities of human beings -intellectual, aesthetic, social, physical, emotional, and moral in an integrated manner. For students in higher education, including undergraduate, postgraduate, and doctoral programs, this policy introduces unprecedented opportunities to customize learning, develop interdisciplinary skills, and prepare for a competitive global landscape.

National Education Policy 2020
Government of India
Fundamental Principles

CABINET DECISIONS 29 JULY, 2020

Ministry of
Human Resource Development
Government of India

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SALIENT FEATURES OF NEP 2020:

FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES OF THE POLICY (5/5)

- A rootedness and pride in India, and its rich, diverse, ancient and modern culture and knowledge systems and traditions
- Education is a public service; access to quality education must be considered a basic right of every child
- Substantial investment in a strong, vibrant public education system as well as the encouragement and facilitation of true philanthropic private and community participation

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CABINET DECISIONS 29 JULY, 2020

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SALIENT FEATURES OF NEP 2020:

FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES OF THE POLICY (3/5)

- Focus on regular formative assessment for learning rather than the summative assessment that encourages today's 'coaching 'culture
- Extensive use of technology in teaching & learning, removing language barriers, increasing access for Divyang students, and
- Respect for diversity and respect for the local context in all curriculum, pedagogy, and policy, always keeping in mind that education is a concurrent subject
- Full equity and inclusion as the cornerstone of all educational decisions to ensure that all students are able to thrive in the education system
- Synergy in curriculum across all levels of education from early childhood care and education to school education to higher education

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CABINET DECISIONS 29 JULY, 2020

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SALIENT FEATURES OF NEP 2020:

FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES OF THE POLICY (4/5)

- Teachers and faculty as the heart of the learning process – their recruitment, continuous professional development, positive working environments & service conditions
- A 'light but tight' regulatory framework to ensure integrity, transparency, and resource efficiency of the educational system through audit and public disclosure while encouraging innovation and out-of-the-box ideas through autonomy, good governance, and empowerment
- Outstanding research as a corequisite for outstanding education and development
- Continuous review of progress based on sustained research and regular assessment by educational experts

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Major Hits of NEP 2020 in the Indian Education Sector

- Focus on Skill Development
- Increasing inclusivity in early education
- Focus on Open & Distance Learning
- Medium of Teaching & Language Education
- Establishment of the NRF
- Continuous & Holistic Assessment
- Multiple Entry and Exit Points
- Emphasis on Multidisciplinary Education

Why This Manual?

This manual has been prepared by Integral University to serve as a detailed guide for students, faculty, and academic administrators, helping them navigate the key provisions of NEP 2020. It explains:

- Academic structure and curriculum framework under NEP 2020.
- Assessment reforms and credit transfer mechanisms.

- Implementation timeline and practical strategies for students.
- Resources for maximizing learning opportunities.

The document also highlights Integral University's commitment to implementing NEP 2020 effectively, ensuring compliance with national standards and offering students a seamless transition into the restructured education system.

1: Understanding NEP 2020
1.1 What is NEP 2020?
NEP 2020 is a comprehensive policy framework designed to address challenges in India's education system, such as rigid curriculum structures, rote-based learning, and lack of flexibility. It aligns with United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal 4 (Quality Education) and aims to increase the Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) in higher education from 26.3% (2018) to 50% by 2035.

1.2 Vision for Higher Education
- Multidisciplinary Approach – Breaking silos between arts, sciences, and commerce.
- Flexibility – Allowing students to design their academic and career path.
- Research and Innovation– Encouraging groundbreaking discoveries and entrepreneurship.
- Global Competitiveness – Preparing students for international opportunities.

2: Core Features of NEP 2020 for Higher Education
2.1 Multidisciplinary and Holistic Education
- Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) will transition into multidisciplinary institutions by 2030.
- Students can take electives outside their core discipline.
- Emphasis on problem-solving, analytical thinking, and practical learning.

Example: A student pursuing B.Tech in Computer Science can take electives in Psychology or Classical Music.

2.2 Flexible Degree Structures
Multiple Entry and Exit System (MEES):

Duration	Exit Qualification
1 Year	Certificate
2 Years	Diploma
3 Years	Bachelor's Degree
4 Years	Bachelor's Degree with Research

- Students can pause their education and return without losing credits.
- This system allows career flexibility without forcing students to restart their academic journey.

3: Postgraduate and Doctoral Pathways
3.1 Master's and PhD Programs

Degree Path	Eligibility & Duration
2-Year Master's	After a 3-Year Bachelor's Degree
1-Year Master's	After a 4-Year Bachelor's with Research
Integrated 5-Year Programs	B.Tech + M.Tech, B.A. + M.A., etc.
PhD	4-Year Bachelor's with Research or Master's Degree

- M.Phil programs have been discontinued to streamline research pathways.

- Direct PhD admissions for students with 4-Year Bachelor's with Research (minimum 75% marks).

Example: A student completing a 4-year B.Sc. in Physics with Research can apply directly for a PhD, bypassing the traditional Master's requirement.

4: Skill Development and Vocational Integration
- At least 50% of coursework will be skill-based.
- Mandatory internships, apprenticeships, and hands-on projects.
- Integration of emerging fields like Artificial Intelligence, and Blockchain.

Example: A B.Com student could graduate with both Accounting expertise and a Certificate in GST Compliance.

5: Academic Bank of Credits (ABC)
5.1 What is ABC?
Launched in July 2021, the Academic Bank of Credits (ABC) is a digital repository under DigiLocker, allowing students to store, transfer, and redeem credits across multiple institutions.
- Students earn credits for each completed course, project, or internship.
- Credit Framework follows the National Credit Framework (NCrF) (40-44 credits per year).
- ABC Portal: www.abc.gov.in
- **Benefits:**
  Mobility – Transfer credits between universities.
  Flexibility – Resume studies after a gap.
  Customization – Combine online and offline learning.

6: Curriculum and Assessment Reforms
6.1 Outcome-Based Education (OBE)
- Shift from rote memorization to skill-oriented learning.
- Continuous Internal Evaluation (CIE): Assignments, presentations, and quizzes.
- Semester-end assessments: Focus on application-based problem-solving.

Example: Instead of writing an exam on Thermodynamics, students might design a mini-project on heat efficiency.

7: Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) Under NEP
7.1 Types of HEIs
- Multidisciplinary Research Universities (MERUs): Cutting-edge innovation hubs.
- Teaching Universities: Focus on undergraduate/postgraduate education.
- Autonomous Colleges: Independent curriculum design and degree awarding.

7.2 National Research Foundation (NRF)
- ₹50,000 crore fund (2021-2026) to support research and innovation.
- Open for faculty and students working on advanced research projects.

8: Maximizing NEP 2020 Opportunities
8.1 **Practical Strategies for Students**
- Plan your course combinations to align with career goals.
- Enroll in SWAYAM/NPTEL courses for additional credits.
- Utilize ABC to track your academic progress.
- Apply for internships and industry collaborations.

9: Implementation at Integral University
9.1 Institutional Support
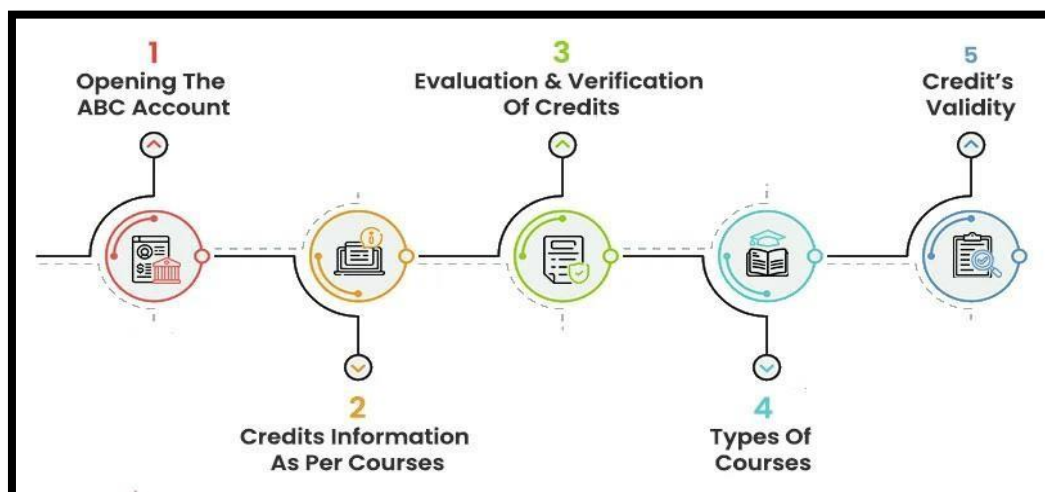Integral University is actively implementing NEP 2020 by:

- Restructuring programs to align with multidisciplinary learning.
- Introducing flexible credit-based assessment models.
- Partnering with industry and global institutions for research collaborations.
- Offering academic counseling and digital learning support.

Key features of the New Education Policy are:

- **Recognizing, identifying, and fostering the unique capabilities of each student,** by sensitizing teachers as well as parents to promote each student's holistic development in both academic and non-academic spheres.
- **Flexibility** to learners to choose their learning trajectories and programmes, and thereby choose their own paths in life according to their talents and interests.
- **Multidisciplinarity** and a **Holistic Education** across the sciences, social sciences, arts, humanities, Professional fields and sports for a multidisciplinary world in order to ensure the unity and integrity of all knowledge.
- **Creativity and Critical thinking** to encourage logical decision-making and innovation.
- **Ethics and Human & Constitutional values** like empathy, respect for others, cleanliness, courtesy, democratic spirit, spirit of service, respect for public property, scientific temper, liberty, responsibility, pluralism, equality, and justice.
- **Life Skills** such as communication, cooperation, teamwork, and resilience.

Academic Bank of Credits (ABC)

- **Academic Bank of Credits (ABC) is a virtual/digital storehouse that contains the information of the credits earned by individual students throughout their learning journey.** ABC can be considered as an authentic reference to check the credit record of any student at any given point in time. It helps faculty and establishment to manage & check the credits earned by students. It will enable students to open their accounts and give multiple options for entering and leaving Colleges or Universities. There will be "multiple exit" & "multiple entry" points during the higher education tenure & credits will be transferred through ABC seamlessly.

Key Features of Academic Bank of Credit (ABC)
Increases the student's freedom in choosing their courses and academics. Enables the student to drop out in any year and then exchange the credits earned so far with a certificate/diploma if they are eligible. They can redeem the credits and rejoin the same or any other Institute/ University in the future and continue their education.
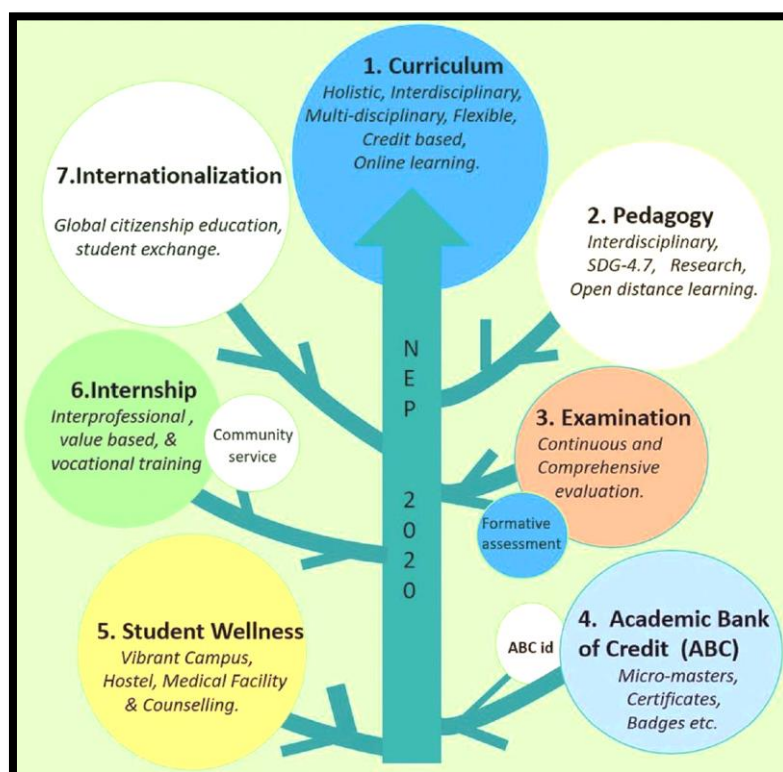
- Thus, the concept of ABC is helpful to the students to embrace a multi-disciplinary educational approach. The idea is to make students "skillful professionals" and help their overall growth. In a crux, the Academic Bank of Credits will be a game-changer in transforming Indian education to a great extent.

Creation of ABC Id for individual students

- As per the NEP 2020 policy it is compulsory for every student to generate ABC IDs. MIT Integral University has already generated more than 18000 ABC IDs for students. For newly admitted students, the respective school ABC ID Coordinator will share the step-by-step procedure to generate the ABC ID and help students to understand its potential benefits. The following figure illustrates the flow of process for generation of ABC ID.

Road Map for Implementation:

Integral University has decided to restructure and align all the Programmes in the Faculties of Business Management, Commerce, Humanities and Social Science & Science in accordance with the provisions of National Education Policy-NEP 2020 with effect from Academic Year 2023-24. The implementation of the same is being done in two phases with about 20+ Programmes restructured in the first phase (AY 2023-24) and remaining in the second phase. The road map for the implementation has been identified with key action plan necessary to facilitate the percolation of philosophy and salient features of NEP down to all the stakeholders particularly the students of this University.

The following are the key action plans as a road map to successful implementation of NEP 2020

- **Establishing a framework** for mapping academic credits through the Academic Bank of Credit (ABC).
- **Raising awareness** among students and providing necessary support.
- **Providing logistical support**, including infrastructure and faculty, to strengthen the existing environment for multidisciplinary education and research.
- **Developing state-of-the-art infrastructure** for the creation of online courses.

- **Implementing Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)** through the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) to streamline credit acceptance in multi-institutional learning.
- **Collaborating with institutes and industries** willing to offer courses, share credits, and sign MOUs.
- **Enhancing faculty and institutional capabilities** to effectively implement NEP-2020.
- **Drafting guidelines and policies** to facilitate mandatory internships in industries, including assessment mechanisms for awarding relevant grades.
- **Developing and implementing** an experiential and experimental learning curriculum.
- **Introducing industry-relevant courses** to align education with market demands.
- **Integrating flexible curriculum models** to support multiple entry and exit options.
- **Establishing a monitoring mechanism** to balance technical education and employability.
- **Expanding opportunities** for faculty development in unexplored academic domains.
- **Encouraging the use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) tools** in classrooms and laboratories.
- **Setting up regulatory frameworks** aligned with the National Innovation Startup Policy (NISP), enabling students to engage in start-up initiatives in exchange for academic credits.
- **Forming an Equivalence and Admissions Committee (EAC)** to oversee the seamless implementation of credit transfer policies.