

# University of Mumbai



No. UG/ 84 of 2021

## CIRCULAR:-

Attention of the Principals of the Affiliated Colleges and Directors of the recognized Institutions in Faculty of Humanities.

They are hereby informed that the recommendations made by the Board of Studies in **Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar International Research Centre** at its online meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> July, 2020 vide item No. 2 and subsequently approved by the Board of Deans at its meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> July, 2020 vide item No. 35 have been accepted by the Academic Council at its meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> July, 2020 vide item No. 4.93 and subsequently approved by the Management Council at its online meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> August, 2020 vide item No. 2 and that in accordance therewith, in exercise of the powers conferred upon the Management Council under Section 74(4) of the Maharashtra Public Universities Act, 2016 (Mah. Act No. VI of 2017) the Ordinance 6601 & 6602 Regulations 9346 & 9347 and the syllabus of **M.A. in Buddhist Thought** has been introduced and the same have been brought into force with effect from the academic year **2020-21**, (The said course might be introduced from the academic year 2021-2022 in the wake of prolonged Covid-19 pandemic situation in the country and subsequent delay in the commencement of the new academic year) accordingly. (The same is available on the University's website [www.mu.ac.in](http://www.mu.ac.in)).

MUMBAI - 400 032

25<sup>th</sup> January, 2021

To,

(Dr. B.N. Gaikwad)

I/c. REGISTRAR

The Principals of the affiliated Colleges and Directors of the recognized Institutions in Faculty of Humanities. (Circular No. UG/334 of 2017-18 dated 9<sup>th</sup> January, 2018.)

A.C/4.93/23/07/2020

M.C/2/28/08/2020

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No. UG/ 84-A of 2021

MUMBAI-400 032

25<sup>th</sup> January, 2021

Copy forwarded with Compliments for information to:-

- 1) The Dean Faculty of Humanities,
- 2) The Chairman, Board of Studies in Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar International Research Centre,
- 3) The Director, Board of Examinations and Evaluation,
- 4) The Director, Board of Students Development,
- 5) The Co-ordinator, University Computerization Centre,

(Dr. B.N. Gaikwad)

I/c. REGISTRAR

**Copy to :-**

- 1. The Deputy Registrar, Academic Authorities Meetings and Services (AAMS),**
- 2. The Deputy Registrar, College Affiliations & Development Department (CAD),**
- 3. The Deputy Registrar, (Admissions, Enrolment, Eligibility and Migration Department (AEM),**
- 4. The Deputy Registrar, Research Administration & Promotion Cell (RAPC),**
- 5. The Deputy Registrar, Executive Authorities Section (EA),**
- 6. The Deputy Registrar, PRO, Fort, (Publication Section),**
- 7. The Deputy Registrar, (Special Cell),**
- 8. The Deputy Registrar, Fort/ Vidyanagari Administration Department (FAD) (VAD), Record Section,**
- 9. The Director, Institute of Distance and Open Learning (IDOL Admin), Vidyanagari,**

**They are requested to treat this as action taken report on the concerned resolution adopted by the Academic Council referred to in the above circular and that on separate Action Taken Report will be sent in this connection.**

- 1. P.A to Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor,**
- 2. P.A Pro-Vice-Chancellor,**
- 3. P.A to Registrar,**
- 4. All Deans of all Faculties,**
- 5. P.A to Finance & Account Officers, (F.& A.O),**
- 6. P.A to Director, Board of Examinations and Evaluation,**
- 7. P.A to Director, Innovation, Incubation and Linkages,**
- 8. P.A to Director, Board of Lifelong Learning and Extension (BLLE),**
- 9. The Director, Dept. of Information and Communication Technology (DICT) (CCF & UCC), Vidyanagari,**
- 10. The Director of Board of Student Development,**
- 11. The Director, Department of Students Welfare (DSD),**
- 12. All Deputy Registrar, Examination House,**
- 13. The Deputy Registrars, Finance & Accounts Section,**
- 14. The Assistant Registrar, Administrative sub-Campus Thane,**
- 15. The Assistant Registrar, School of Engg. & Applied Sciences, Kalyan,**
- 16. The Assistant Registrar, Ratnagiri sub-centre, Ratnagiri,**
- 17. The Assistant Registrar, Constituent Colleges Unit,**
- 18. BUCTU,**
- 19. The Receptionist,**
- 20. The Telephone Operator,**
- 21. The Secretary MUASA**

**for information.**

AC- 23/07/2020

Item No.-4.93

# UNIVERSITY OF MUMBAI



## **M.A in Ambedkar Thoughts**

(To be introduced from Academic Year 2020-21)

**University of Mumbai**  
**Faculty of Humanities**  
**Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar International Research Centre ( AIRC)**  
**Core and Elective Courses Semester wise:**  
**MA in Buddhist Thought**

<b>Title of the Course O.6601</b>	: MA Buddhist Thought
<b>Eligibility for the course O.6602</b>	: Graduation in any faculty
<b>Duration of the Course R.9347</b>	: Two Year (Full Time)
<b>Intake Capacity R. 9346</b>	: 60 (Sixty)
<b>Fee Structure</b>	: To be determined by the University (suggestion Same as regular MA Programmes in under the aided courses Fees For Indian Students – Rs. 5,405/- Foreign Students: As per the university regulations for SAARC and other countries)
<b>Standard of Passing</b>	: A candidate must obtain 50% of the full marks in all the semesters as prescribed by the university standards and any other circular published from time to time.

**Objectives of the programme:**

MA in Buddhist studies aspires to train the student in the philosophical traditions of Buddhism. The course shall bring the current and relevant philosophical debates on the practice of Buddhism in terms of a scientific perception to widen and encourage the science of Buddhist education to be more universally accessible. The centre aspires to promote Buddhist values and to demonstrate the validity and relevance of the Buddhist teachings as the foundation for building a universal humanistic culture for the globalized world;

**Structure of the course:**

1. The credit-based semester system shall be a full-time, two year, four semester course.
2. A student shall have to acquire 96 credits to qualify for the degree of MPP, 48 of which shall be obtained from core courses while the other 48 shall be obtained from electives.
3. Each semester is roughly of fifteen weeks duration.

**Master's Dissertation:** During the second year of study, students will work on a dissertation under the guidance of a faculty member. In Semester IV the learner will submit the thesis of a minimum 12,000 words. However it is expected that the candidate must start exploring the subjects/themes in their first semester itself and finalize their research topic before the first semester end. It is expected that the student write a brief proposal of their study and get it approved by the beginning of the second semester, conduct the field survey or other data as may be required and submit the final dissertation in the fourth semester. Following the presentation and viva-voice examination, shall the student be evaluated.

Semester	Core Courses	Elective Courses
ONE	<p>I. History of Buddhism in South Asia from earliest to Fourth Century CE</p> <p>II. Understanding Pali Language</p> <p>III. Pali Texts; History, Context, Structure, and Compilations</p> <p>IV. Indian Buddhist Philosophy -I</p>	
TWO	<p>V. History of Buddhism in South Asia from the Fifth Century CE to 11th Century CE</p> <p>VI. Understanding Buddhist non Pali/Sanskrit Language and Literature</p> <p>VII. Indian Buddhist Philosophy -II</p>	<p>1. Pali Sutta Pitaka</p> <p>2. Pali Abhidhamma Pitaka</p> <p>3. Pali Vinay Pitaka</p> <p>4. Non-Canonical Pali Literature.</p>
THREE	<p>VIII. History of Buddhism in South Asia from 11th Century to 18th Century CE</p> <p>IX. Madhyamika Philosophy and Literature</p> <p>X. Buddhist Logic: Dignag and Dharmakirti</p>	<p>1. Soutantrik Buddhism</p> <p>2. Buddhist Art and Archeology in India</p> <p>3. Survey of Buddhism in China, Japan and Korea</p> <p>4. Vajrayana Buddhism</p>
FOUR	<p>XI. Buddhism in Modern Times: revival and Neo-Buddhism</p> <p>XII. Role of Buddhism in International relations</p>	<p>1. Tibetan Buddhism</p> <p>2. Chinese Buddhism</p> <p>3. Buddhism in South East Asia</p> <p>4. Dr Ambedkar</p>

**Justifications for the new courses under the Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar International Research Centre, University of Mumbai sought by the Hon'ble Chancellors Office under Section 74(4) of the Maharashtra Public Universities Act, 2016.**

**Introduction:**

Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar, the chief architect of the Constitution of India, is one of the most illustrious alumni of the university of Mumbai. His contribution not only as a student but also as a teacher in Sydhenam College, Principal of Government Law College and the Member of the Senate to the University of Mumbai is immense. It is needless to say what he has contributed to the social and political life of country.

The Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar International Research Centre is one of the demand that has originated from the society to give a respectable place in academics to Dr. Babasaheb Ambekdar not in terms of naming the chair or a building in his name but to have a centre of higher learning and research on Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar.

This year we will be entering into 100 years of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar's admission to London School of Economics. The London School of Economics has offered a collaboration with the Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar International Research Centre, University of Mumbai. They have promised that one scholar will be visiting London School of Economics every year. A joint Conference on Dr. Ambedkar and a Public Lecture in Mumbai. Apart from this a student delegation will be hosted by LSE every year.

Following these developments the University of Mumbai has instituted Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar International Research Centre to study Dr. Ambedkar. The Centre has proposed four MA Programmes namely,

1. MA in Ambedkar Studies (4.91)
2. MA in Buddhist Studies (4.93)
3. MA in Development Policy. (4.94)
4. MA in Social Policy (4.92)

Each of these courses are well thought keeping under consideration the current academic developments in India and in leading universities. There is a serious attempt to also look at the employability and high-end research in Ambedkar thoughts.

1. Maharashtra is one of the important centres of Buddhism. There has been extensive philosophical work undertaken on Buddhist Studies. Ajanta in Aurangabad, International Vipassana Centre at Igatpuri are located in Maharashtra.

However, a Maharashtra perspective is not well developed. It is essential to curate a MA Programme in Buddhist Thought. The course content can range from Buddhist aesthetics to, literature, philosophy and the practice of Vipassana and more. Therefore, the course is one of the most important to be introduced in the university.

There is ample demand for Buddhist studies from the South East Asian countries. Mumbai being well connected internationally and a number of Buddhist sites gives the University of Mumbai a natural advantage to host the course in Buddhist Thought.

2. The course is already taught in some of the leading universities in the country. Hence, it can be inferred that the course has a recognition from the UGC.
3. The courses are not yet offered. The university plans to begin the courses from the ensuing academic year November 2020.
4. The course may not be self-financed in strict sense. The university proposes to keep the fee at par with any conventional courses and a higher fee for the students from other nationalities. This way the programme may become sustainable. Initially, this programme will need some sort of financial assistance from the university. However, the other programmes



like the MA in Social Policy and Development policy would also help sustain the programme.

Philosophy department offers an elective on Buddhism. Teachers teaching these courses may be of great help to begin this course. However, once a full-fledged Department is functional, more teachers can be recruited.

The university is due to invite applications for various courses in the university. It may also call for applications for Buddhist Thought.

5. A detailed syllabus and the papers proposed in all the semesters is passed by the Academic Council of the University and the same has been sent to your good office. Since it is an MA Programme, thus four semesters are mandatory as per the UGC. Hence, the course content or duration cannot be compressed. The course is designed with the needs of New Education Policy in terms of internship and training component as an integral part of the course.
6. At this moment the intake capacity proposed is 60 students. Depending upon the popularity the intake capacity would be extended to 80 students.
7. Enriched learning and teaching opportunities will be amply available to the students undergoing this course. Techniques of mediation, Vipasana, art and paintings, aesthetics will be some of the fields where the students can gain.