

OAC 5- Ordinance Relating to the Categorization of Courses Based on Levels

OAC-5.1 Preamble

In order to streamline academic progression and to provide clarity regarding the nature and academic expectations of various courses offered under the Undergraduate and Post Graduate Programmes, this Ordinance categorizes courses into distinct levels. Each level reflects the complexity, depth, and intended learning outcomes in alignment with national higher education standards.

OAC-5.2 Scope

This Ordinance shall apply to all Undergraduate Academic Programmes offered by the College and its affiliated institutions.

OAC 5.3 Levels of Courses

Courses shall be structured and identified according to the following levels:

(a) Courses Numbered 0–99: Pre-requisite Courses

Courses falling within this range shall be designated as **Pre-requisite Courses**. These courses are non-credit bearing and are intended to equip students with essential foundational knowledge and skills necessary for successful engagement in credit-bearing academic work.

Students enrolled in such courses shall be required to successfully complete them as a mandatory condition for progression but shall not earn academic credits towards their Degree or Diploma.

(b) Courses Numbered 100–199: Foundation or Introductory Courses

Courses at this level shall be termed **Foundation or Introductory Courses**. These courses are designed to provide students with basic theoretical understanding and essential knowledge across disciplines, assisting them in making informed choices regarding their future Major or Minor specializations.

They may also serve as pre-requisites for further discipline-specific study. The curriculum at this level shall emphasize critical thinking, foundational theories, concepts, perspectives, methods, and basic academic procedures.

(c) Courses Numbered 200–299: Intermediate-Level Courses

Courses within this range shall be classified as **Intermediate-Level Courses**. These courses shall deepen the students' understanding of their chosen disciplines and fulfill the Credit requirements for the Major or Minor areas of specialization.

They may also function as pre-requisites for Advanced Courses and shall be more specialized and analytical compared to Foundation Courses.

(d) Courses Numbered 300–399: Advanced-Level Courses

Courses categorized within this range shall be designated as **Advanced-Level Courses**. They are intended to foster higher-order skills, disciplinary expertise, and a comprehensive understanding necessary for specialization in a Major discipline or interdisciplinary area. These courses shall significantly contribute toward the attainment of learning outcomes required for the award of an Undergraduate Degree.

(e) Courses Numbered 400–499: Specialized-Level Courses

Courses numbered within this band shall be termed **Specialized Courses**. These are designed to impart specialized and advanced skills in a particular discipline or interdisciplinary area, enabling students to develop professional competence and mastery. Such courses shall be critical in preparing students for advanced studies, research, or employment, and are integral to the completion requirements for the award of an Undergraduate Degree.

OA-5.4 Implementation

The College, through its Boards of Studies, shall ensure that the course numbering reflects the academic rigor and expectations as prescribed in this Ordinance. All new course proposals shall specify the appropriate level, consistent with the learning outcomes outlined herein.