

Vivekanand Education Society's College of Arts, Science & Commerce (Autonomous)

Minutes of the Second BOS meeting (Online) in the subject of Microbiology

Mode: Online

Date : 25th August 2022

Time : 3.00 p.m to 5.00 p.m

Google Meeting Link and ID: meet.google.com/gpf-dubt-som

Agenda for the Meeting:

1. Welcome and Introduction of all the BOS members
2. Discussion of the S.Y.B.Sc. Semester 3 Microbiology syllabus and M.Sc. (Part - II) Semester 3 Microbiology syllabus.
3. Any other matter with the permission of the chair.

Following members of the BOS attended the meeting

1. Dr. (Mrs.) Santhini S. Nair (**Chairperson & HOD**)
2. Dr. Dona J. Joseph, Dr. Malay Shah, Dr. (Mrs.) Shweta A. Patil, Mr. Suman P. Ganger, Dr. Pradnya Gogte (**Members, Faculty at the Department of Microbiology, VESASC**)
3. Dr. Debjani Dasgupta (**External Subject Expert Member**)
4. Dr. Purvi Bhatt (**External Subject Expert Member**)
5. Dr. Lolly Jain (**University Nominee**)
6. Dr. Subhojit Sen (**PG Alumnus**)

Leave of absence was granted to Dr. Girish Mahajan (External Subject Expert Member- Industry Representative)

Agenda 1: Welcome and Introduction of all the BOS members

Dr. (Mrs.) Santhini S.Nair welcomed all the members to the second meeting of the BOS meeting in Microbiology. She introduced Dr. Pradnya Gogte as a newly appointed PG teacher to the external members. She also informed the members that the third meeting of the BOS would be conducted in December 2022 in the offline mode.

Agenda 2: Discussion of the S.Y.B.Sc. Semester 3 Microbiology syllabus and M.Sc. (Part - II) Semester 3 Microbiology syllabus.

S.Y.B.Sc. Semester 3 Microbiology Syllabus

The draft syllabus was presented by Dr. Dona Joseph, Dr. Malay Shah and Dr. Shweta Patil. The paper and unit titles of both Semester 3 and 4 were presented. However only the Semester 3 syllabus contents were discussed in detail. The following points/suggestions were put forward by the external members.

1. Dr. Debjani Dasgupta and Dr. Sen enquired about the number of credits and contact hours for each paper. Mr. Suman explained that the total number of credits per semester is 9 (6 theory and 3 for practicals). The number of contact hours is 45.
2. Dr. Sen enquired whether the syllabus was prepared keeping in mind the implementation of the National Education Policy, especially with regard to core subjects and electives. It was decided that this would need deeper thought and would be considered in the upcoming syllabus revisions.
3. For Paper 1 Unit 3, Dr. Purvi Bhatt suggested that the title be changed from “Research in Microbiology” to “Research Methodology” as the contents were not specific for Microbiology. The suggestion has been accepted by all.
4. Dr. Sen suggested that the Biochemistry pathways should be taught with the help of structures, even if the students are not expected to memorize the structures. The suggestion was accepted by all.
5. Regarding the practicals, Dr. Bhatt suggested the use of research poster presentations for teaching research methodology. Dr Jain added that IISER uses several Research based pedagogical tools for students, which could be integrated in the practicals.
6. Dr. Sen suggested that the Ames test could be added to the practical syllabus in order to teach Biostatistics. Dr. Dona Joseph explained that since the Ames test would be taught only in Sem 5, it would be better to include it in the TYBSc practicals. Other members suggested that the results of chemical assays already incorporated in the Sem 3 syllabus could be analyzed using Biostatistics tools.
7. Dr. Sen also suggested that we include experiments based on denaturation of DNA in the practicals. It was later decided not to include these experiments at the Sem 3 level since the topic of DNA denaturation is not covered in the theory syllabus.

MSc. Part II Sem 3 Microbiology Syllabus

The draft syllabus was presented to the BOS members by Dr. Pradnya Gogte. Dr. Santhini Nair explained that the department plans to continue using the current syllabus prescribed by the University of Mumbai, as it had recently been updated with inputs from faculty members of many colleges, including our own. The following queries/suggestions were raised by the BOS members:

1. Dr. Sen enquired about the references used for the cell biology paper. The books to be used as references were mentioned in response to the query.
2. The internal evaluation modalities for the course were discussed. It was explained that students would be offered the choice to take up a dissertation project, in which case they would have to submit a research proposal instead of performing the practicals of Paper 1.

No other major queries were raised and the syllabus was approved by all the members. Dr. Santhini informed the members about the sanctioning of 5 additional seats for FYBSc (Microbiology) and 2 for M.Sc (Microbiology). The meeting ended on a positive note with the chairperson thanking all the members for their valuable inputs and suggestions.