

Gauhati University offers BA (Hons) in Economics. Moreover, Economics can be taken up as one of the Disciplines in BA (Regular) and BSc (Regular) Programmes.

The programme templates of both the BA (Regular) with Economics and BSc (Regular) with Economics are given below -

BA Regular with Economics

<i>Semester</i>	<i>CORE COURSE</i>	<i>Ability Enhancement Compulsory Course (AECC)</i>	<i>Skill Enhancement Course (SEC)</i>	<i>Discipline Specific Elective (DSE)</i>	<i>Generic Elective (GE)*</i>
<i>I</i>	<i>English-1</i>	<i>English/MIL Communication</i>			
	<i>ECO RC 1016</i>				
	<i>DSC- 2 A</i>				
<i>II</i>	<i>English-2</i>	<i>Environmental Science</i>			
	<i>ECO RC 2016</i>				
	<i>DSC- 2 B</i>				
<i>III</i>	<i>MIL-1/Alt English-1</i>		<i>ECO SE 3014</i>		
	<i>ECO RC 3016</i>				
	<i>DSC- 2 C</i>				
<i>IV</i>	<i>MIL-2/Alt English-2</i>		<i>ECO SE 4014</i>		
	<i>ECO RC 4016</i>				
	<i>DSC- 2 D</i>				
<i>V</i>			<i>ECO SE 5014</i>	<i># ECO RE 5016 / ECO RE 5026 / ECO RE 5036</i>	<i>ECO RG 5016</i>
				<i>DSE-2 A</i>	
<i>VI</i>			<i>ECO SE 6014</i>	<i># ECO RE 6016 / ECO RE 6026 / ECO RE 6036</i>	<i>ECO RG 6016</i>
				<i>DSE-2 B</i>	

*for students of other disciplines

#Any one of the three

Note: The second discipline of choice can be taken up from any Arts discipline. However, Statistics and Mathematics are recommended as the ideal complements for Economics.

BSc Regular with Economics

<i>Semester</i>	<i>CORE COURSE (14)</i>	<i>Ability Enhancement Compulsory Course (AECC) (2)</i>	<i>Skill Enhancement Course (SEC) (2)</i>	<i>Discipline Specific Elective (DSE) (6)</i>
<i>I</i>	ECO RC 1016	<i>English Communication</i>		
	<i>DSC- 2 A</i>			
	<i>DSC- 3 A</i>			
<i>II</i>	ECO RC 2016	<i>Environmental Science</i>		
	<i>DSC- 2 B</i>			
	<i>DSC- 3 B</i>			
<i>III</i>	ECO RC 3016		ECO SE 3014	
	<i>DSC- 2 C</i>			
	<i>DSC- 3 C</i>			
<i>IV</i>	ECO RC 4016		ECO SE 4014	
	<i>DSC- 2 D</i>			
	<i>DSC- 3 D</i>			
<i>V</i>			ECO SE 5014	#ECO RE 5016 / ECO RE 5026 / ECO RE 5036
				<i>DSE-2 A</i>
				<i>DSE-3 A</i>
<i>VI</i>			ECO SE 6014	#ECO RE 6016 / ECO RE 6026 / ECO RE 6036
				<i>DSE-2 B</i>
				<i>DSE-3 B</i>

#Any one of the three

Note: The other two disciplines of choice have to be from a Science discipline. However, Statistics and Mathematics are recommended as the ideal complements for Economics.

FIRST SEMESTER CORE

ECO-RC-1016: Principles of Microeconomics–I

Course Description

This course intends to expose the student to the basic principles in Microeconomic Theory and illustrate with applications.

Course Outline

1. Introduction

Problem of scarcity and choice: scarcity, choice and opportunity cost; production possibility frontier; economic systems.

Demand and supply: law of demand, determinants of demand, shifts of demand versus movements along a demand curve, market demand, law of supply, determinants of supply, shifts of supply versus movements along a supply curve, market supply, market equilibrium.

Applications of demand and supply: price rationing, price floors, consumer surplus, producers surplus.

Elasticity: price elasticity of demand, calculating elasticity, determinants of price elasticity, other elasticities.

2. Consumer Theory

Budget constraint, concept of utility, diminishing marginal utility, Diamond-water paradox, income and substitution effects; consumer choice: indifference curves, derivation of demand curve from indifference curve and budget constraint.

3. Production and Costs

Production: behavior of profit maximizing firms, production process, production functions, law of variable proportions, choice of technology, isoquant and isocost lines, cost minimizing equilibrium condition.

Costs: costs in the short run, costs in the long run, revenue and profit maximizations, minimizing losses, short run industry supply curve, economies and diseconomies of scale, long run adjustments.

4. Perfect Competition

Assumptions: theory of a firm under perfect competition, demand and revenue; equilibrium of the firm in the short run and long run; long run industry supply curve: increasing, decreasing and constant cost industries.

Welfare: allocative efficiency under perfect competition.

Readings:

Case, Karl E. & Ray C. Fair, *Principles of Economics*, Pearson Education, Inc., 8th

SECOND SEMESTER CORE

ECO-RC-2016: Principles of Microeconomics–II

Course Description

This is a sequel to Fundamentals of Microeconomics covered in the first semester.

Course Outline

1. Market Structures

Theory of a Monopoly Firm

Concept of imperfect competition; short run and long run price and output decisions of a monopoly firm; concept of a supply curve under monopoly; comparison of perfect competition and monopoly, social cost of monopoly, price discrimination; remedies for monopoly: Antitrust laws, natural monopoly.

Imperfect Competition

Monopolistic competition: Assumptions, short run and long run price and output determinations under monopolistic competition,

Oligopoly: assumptions, overview of different oligopoly models, contestable markets.

2. Factor pricing

Demand for a factor input in a competitive factor market, supply of inputs to a firm, market supply of inputs, equilibrium in a competitive factor market. Factor markets with monopsony power.

3. Market Failure

Efficiency of perfect competition, Sources of market failure.

Externalities and market failure, public goods and market failure, markets with asymmetric information (Ideas only)

Readings:

Case, Karl E. & Ray C. Fair, *Principles of Economics*, Pearson Education, Inc., 8th edition, 2007.

Pindyck, R.S, Rubinfeld, B.L and Mehta, P.L, *Microeconomics*, Pearson, 7th edition

THIRD SEMESTER CORE

ECO-RC-3016: Principles of Macroeconomics–I

Course Description

This course introduces students to the basic concepts in Macroeconomics. Macroeconomics deals with the aggregate economy. In this course the students are introduced to the definition, measurement of the macroeconomic variables like GDP, consumption, savings, investment and balance of payments. The course also discusses various theories of determining GDP in the short run.

Course Outline

1. Introduction

What is macroeconomics? Macroeconomic issues in an economy.

2. National Income Accounting

Concepts of Income, Domestic Income and National Income; GDP and NDP at Market Price and Factor Cost, measurement of national income and related aggregates; nominal and real income;

3. Determination of GDP

Actual and potential GDP; aggregate expenditure; consumption function; investment function; equilibrium GDP; concepts of MPS, APS, MPC, APC; autonomous expenditure; Concept of multiplier.

4. National Income Determination with Government Intervention and Foreign Trade

Fiscal Policy: impact of changes in government expenditure and taxes; net exports function; net exports and equilibrium national income.

5. Money in a Modern Economy

Concept of money in a modern economy; monetary aggregates; demand for money; quantity theory of money; liquidity preference and rate of interest; money supply and credit creation; monetary policy.

Readings:

1. Case, Karl E. & Ray C. Fair, *Principles of Economics*, Pearson Education, Inc., 8th edition, 2007.
2. Sikdar, Shoumyen, *Principles of Macroeconomics*, 2nd Edition, Oxford University Press, India

FOURTH SEMESTER CORE

ECO-RC-4016: Principles of Macroeconomics–II

Course Description

This is a sequel to Principles of Macroeconomics–I. It analyses various theories of determination of National Income in greater detail. It also introduces students to concept of inflation, its relationship with unemployment and some basic concepts in an open economy.

Course Outline

1. IS-LM Analysis

Derivations of the IS and LM functions; IS-LM and aggregate demand; shifts in the AD curve.

2. GDP and Price Level in Short Run and LongRun

Aggregate demand and aggregate supply; multiplier Analysis with AD curve and changes in price levels; aggregate supply in the SR and LR.

3. Inflation and Unemployment

Concept of inflation; determinants of inflation; relationship between inflation and unemployment: Phillips Curve in short run and long run.

4. Balance of Payments and Exchange Rate

Balance of payments: current account and capital account; market for foreign exchange; determination of exchange rate.

Readings:

1. Case, Karl E. & Ray C. Fair, *Principles of Economics*, Pearson Education, Inc., 8th edition, 2007.
2. Sikdar, Shoumyen, *Principles of Macroeconomics*, 2nd Edition, Oxford University Press, India

FIFTH SEMESTER DSE

ECO-RE-5016: Economic Development and Policy in India–I

Course Description

This course reviews major trends in aggregate economic indicators in India and places these against the backdrop of major policy debates in India in the post- Independence period.

Course Outline

1. Issues in Growth, Development and Sustainability
2. Factors in Development: Capital formation (Physical and Human); technology; institutions.
3. Population and Economic Development Demographic trends; urbanisation.
4. Employment: Occupational structure in the organised and the unorganised sectors; open-, under- and disguised unemployment (rural and urban); employment schemes and their impact.
5. Indian Development Experience: Critical evaluation of growth, inequality, poverty and competitiveness, pre and post reforms era; savings and investment; mobilisation of internal and external finance; monetary and fiscal policies; centre-state financial relations.

Readings:

1. Michael P Todaro and Stephen Smith. Economic Development, Pearson, 11th edition (2011).
2. Uma Kapila, Indian Economy since Independence, Academic Foundation, 19th edition (2009).
3. United Nations Development Programme, Human Development Report 2010, Palgrave Macmillan (2010).
4. Government of India, Economic Survey (latest)
5. Government of India, Finance Commission Report (latest)

ECO-RE-5026: Money and Banking

Course Description

This course exposes students to the theory and functioning of the monetary and financial sectors of the economy. It highlights the organization, structure and role of financial markets and institutions. It also discusses interest rates, monetary management and instruments of monetary control. Financial and banking sector reforms and monetary policy with special reference to India are also covered.

Course Outline

1. Money

Concept, functions, measurement; theories of money supply determination.

2. Financial Institutions, Markets, Instruments and Financial Innovations

a. Role of financial markets and institutions; problem of asymmetric information – adverse selection and moral hazard; financial crises.

b. Money and capital markets: organization, structure and reforms in India; role of financial derivatives and other innovations.

3. Interest Rates

Determination; sources of interest rate differentials; theories of term structure of interest rates; interest rates in India.

4. Banking System

a. Balance sheet and portfolio management.

b. Indian banking system: Changing role and structure; banking sector reforms.

5. Central Banking and Monetary Policy

Functions, balance sheet; goals, targets, indicators and instruments of monetary control; monetary management in an open economy; current monetary policy of India

Readings

1. F. S. Mishkin and S. G. Eakins, *Financial Markets and Institutions*, Pearson Education, 6th edition, 2009.
2. F. J. Fabozzi, F. Modigliani, F. J. Jones, M. G. Ferri, *Foundations of Financial Markets and Institutions*, Pearson Education, 3rd edition, 2009.
3. L. M. Bhole and J. Mahukud, *Financial Institutions and Markets*, Tata McGraw Hill, 5th edition, 2011.
4. M. Y. Khan, *Indian Financial System*, Tata McGraw Hill, 7th edition, 2011.
5. Various latest issues of R.B.I. Bulletins, Annual Reports, Reports on Currency and Finance and Reports of the Working Group, IMF Staff Papers.

ECO-RE-5036: Environmental Economics

Course Description

This course introduces students to concepts, methods and policy options in managing the environment using tools of economic analysis. This course should be accessible to anyone with an analytical mind and familiarity with basic concepts of economics. Environmental problems and issues from the Indian and international context (especially global warming) are used to illustrate the concepts and methods presented in the course. The course will be useful for students aiming towards careers in the government sector, policy analysis, business, journalism and international organisations.

Course Outline

1. Introduction

Key environmental issues and problems, economic way of thinking about these problems, basic concepts from economics; Pareto optimality and market failure in the presence of externalities; property rights and other approaches.

2. The Design and Implementation of Environmental Policy

Overview, Pigouvian taxes and effluent fees, tradable permits, implementation of environmental policies in India and international experience; transboundary environmental problems; economics of climate change.

3. Environmental Valuation Methods and Applications

Valuation of non-market goods and services--theory and practice; measurement methods; cost-benefit analysis of environmental policies and regulations.

4. Sustainable Development

Concepts; measurement; perspectives from Indian experience

Readings

1. Roger Perman, Yue Ma, Michael Common, David Maddison and James McGilvray, "*Natural Resource and Environmental Economics*", Pearson Education/Addison Wesley, 4th edition, 2011.
2. Charles Kolstad, "*Intermediate Environmental Economics*", Oxford University Press, 2nd edition, 2010.
3. Robert N. Stavins (ed.), "*Economics of the Environment: Selected Readings*", W.W. Norton, 6th edition, 2012.
4. Robert Solow, "An Almost Practical Step toward Sustainability," Resources for the Future 40th anniversary lecture, 1992.
5. Kenneth Arrow et al., "Are We Consuming Too Much?" *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 18(3): 147-172, 2004.
6. IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change), Fifth Assessment Report (forthcoming 2014).

SIXTH SEMESTER DSE

ECO-RE-6016: Economic Development and Policy in India–II

Course Description

Building on the more aggregative analysis of trends in the Indian Economy offered in Economic Development and Policy–I, this course examines sector-specific trends in key indicators and their implications in the post-Independence period.

Course Outline

1. Agriculture: Policies and Performance

Production and productivity; credit; labour; markets and pricing; land reforms; regional variations.

2. Industry: Policies and Performance

Production trends; small scale industries; public sector; foreign investment.

3. Foreign Trade: Trends and Policies

Balance of trade and balance of payments; India and the World Trade Organisation.

Readings:

1. Uma Kapila, *Indian Economy since Independence*, Academic Foundation, 19th edition (2009).
2. Government of India, *Economic Survey*(latest)

ECO-RE-6026: Economic History of India 1857-1947

Course Description

This course analyses key aspects of Indian economic development during the second half of British colonial rule. In doing so, it investigates the place of the Indian economy in the wider colonial context, and the mechanisms that linked economic development in India to the compulsions of colonial rule. This course links directly to the course on India's economic development after independence in 1947.

Course Outline

1. Introduction: Colonial India: Background and Introduction Overview of colonial economy.
2. Macro Trends: National Income; population; occupational structure.
3. Agriculture: Agrarian structure and land relations; agricultural markets and institutions – credit, commerce and technology; trends in performance and productivity; famines.
4. Railways and Industry: Railways; the de-industrialisation debate; evolution of entrepreneurial and industrial structure; nature of industrialisation in the interwar period; constraints to industrial breakthrough; labor relations.
5. Economy and State in the Imperial Context: The imperial priorities and the Indian economy; drain of wealth; international trade, capital flows and the colonial economy – changes and continuities; government and fiscal policy.

Readings:

1. Lakshmi Subramanian, "History of India 1707-1857", Orient Blackswan, 2010, Chapter 4.
2. Sumit Guha, 1991, 'Mortality decline in early 20th century India', Indian Economic and Social History Review (IESHR), pp 371-74 and 385-87.
3. Tirthankar Roy, The Economic History of India 1857-1947, Oxford University Press, 3rd edition, 2011.
4. J. Krishnamurty, Occupational Structure, Dharma Kumar (editor), The Cambridge Economic History of India, Vol. II, (henceforth referred to as CEHI), 2005, Chapter 6.
5. Irfan Habib, Indian Economy 1858-1914, A People's History of India, Vol. 28, Tulika, 2006.
6. Ira Klein, 1984, 'When Rains Fail: Famine relief and mortality in British India', IESHR 21.
7. Jean Dreze, Famine Prevention in India in Dreze and Sen (eds.) Political Economy of Hunger, WIDER Studies in Development Economics, 1990, pp. 13-35.
8. John Hurd, Railways, CEHI, Chapter 8, pp. 737-761.
9. Rajat Ray (ed.), Entrepreneurship and Industry in India, 1994.
10. A. K. Bagchi, 'Deindustrialization in India in the nineteenth century: Some theoretical implications', Journal of Development Studies, 1976.
11. M. D. Morris, Emergence of an Industrial Labour Force in India, OUP 1965, Chapter 11, Summary and Conclusions.
12. K. N. Chaudhuri, Foreign Trade and Balance of Payments, CEHI, Chapter 10.

ECO-RE-6036: Public Finance

Course Description

This course is a non-technical overview of government finances with special reference to India. The course does not require any prior knowledge of economics. It will look into the efficiency and equity aspects of taxation of the centre, states and the local governments and the issues of fiscal federalism and decentralisation in India. The course will be useful for students aiming towards careers in the government sector, policy analysis, business and journalism.

Course

Outline Part

1: Theory

1. Overview of Fiscal Functions, Tools of Normative Analysis, Pareto Efficiency, Equity and the Social Welfare.
2. Market Failure, Public Good and Externalities.
3. Elementary Theories of Product and Factor Taxation (Excess Burden and Incidence).

Part 2: Issues from Indian Public Finance

4. Working of Monetary and Fiscal Policies.
5. Current Issues of India's Tax System.
6. Analysis of Budget and Deficits
7. Fiscal Federalism in India
8. State and Local Finances

Readings

1. Musgrave, R.A. and P.B. Musgrave, *Public Finance in Theory and Practice*, Mc-Graw Hill, 1989.
2. Mahesh Purohit, "*Value Added Tax: Experience of India and Other Countries*", Gayatri Publications, 2007.
3. Kaushik Basu, and A. Maertens (ed.), *The Oxford Companion to Economics in India*, Oxford University Press, 2007.
4. M.M. Suri, *Government Budgeting in India*, Commonwealth Publishers, 1990.
5. Shankar Acharya, "Thirty years of tax reform" in India, *Economic and Political Weekly*, May 2005.
6. Government of India, *Report of the 14th Finance Commission*.
7. *Economic Survey*, Government of India (latest).
8. State Finances: A Study of Budgets, *Reserve Bank of India* (latest).

FIFTH SEMESTER GE

ECO-RG-5016: Economic Development and Policy in India–I

Course Description

This course reviews major trends in aggregate economic indicators in India and places these against the backdrop of major policy debates in India in the post- Independence period.

Course Outline

1. Issues in Growth, Development and Sustainability
2. Factors in Development: Capital formation (Physical and Human); technology; institutions.
3. Population and Economic Development Demographic trends; urbanisation.
4. Employment: Occupational structure in the organised and the unorganised sectors; open-, under- and disguised unemployment (rural and urban); employment schemes and their impact.
5. Indian Development Experience: Critical evaluation of growth, inequality, poverty and competitiveness, pre and post reforms era; savings and investment; mobilisation of internal and external finance; monetary and fiscal policies; centre-state financial relations.

Readings:

1. Michael P Todaro and Stephen Smith. Economic Development, Pearson, 11th edition (2011).
2. Uma Kapila, Indian Economy since Independence, Academic Foundation, 19th edition (2009).
3. United Nations Development Programme, Human Development Report 2010, Palgrave Macmillan (2010).
4. Government of India, Economic Survey (latest)
5. Government of India, Finance Commission Report (latest)

SIXTH SEMESTER GE

ECO-RG-6016: Economic Development and Policy in India–II

Course Description

Building on the more aggregative analysis of trends in the Indian Economy offered in Economic Development and Policy–I, this course examines sector-specific trends in key indicators and their implications in the post-Independence period.

Course Outline

1. Agriculture: Policies and Performance

Production and productivity; credit; labour; markets and pricing; land reforms; regional variations.

2. Industry: Policies and Performance

Production trends; small scale industries; public sector; foreign investment.

3. Foreign Trade: Trends and Policies

Balance of trade and balance of payments; India and the World Trade Organisation.

Readings:

3. Uma Kapila, *Indian Economy since Independence*, Academic Foundation, 19th edition (2009).
4. Government of India, *Economic Survey* (latest)