INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE EDUCATION AND RESEARCH THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

An autonomous institution under the

Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India



GUIDE BOOK OF REGULATIONS FOR THE BS-MS DUAL DEGREE PROGRAMME

2020-21 www.iisertvm.ac.in

The Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) is an Institution conceived and established by the Ministry of Human Resources Development (MHRD) of the Government of India. The mission of the Institute is to offer postgraduate level teaching of the highest international standards to school leaving (+2) students and also to conduct frontline research leading to Ph.D. Degree, in basic sciences like Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics and other Interdisciplinary Science subjects.

The seven IISERs established by MHRD are at Berhampur, Bhopal, Kolkata, Mohali, Pune, Thiruvananthapuram and Tirupati.

IISER THIRUVANANTHAPURAM CAMPUS

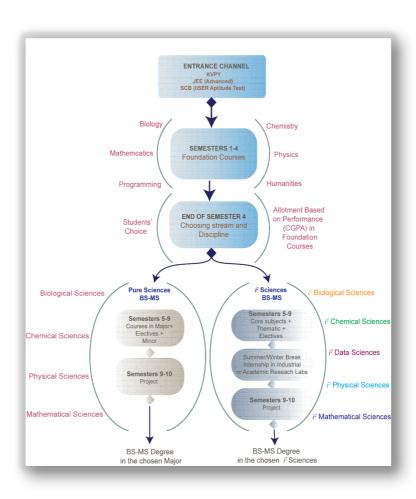
IISER TVM started functioning in August 2008. Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Thiruvananthapuram is a residential campus. The permanent campus of 200 acres is at Vithura, at the foothills of the Ponmudi Hills, about 40 km from Thiruvananthapuram. The campus is fully functional since 2017. The site for the campus is blessed with rich greenery, three streams, a river running through it and a spectacular mountain backdrop.

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Overall Structure



The BS-MS Programme

IISER-TVM is set up to provide education and perform research in diverse disciplines of basic sciences. The IISER-TVM BS-MS dual degree curriculum is designed to reflect the point of view that the sciences are a seamless whole with no barriers between disciplines.

- The BS-MS programme is of 10 semesters duration.
- Each academic year has 2 semesters of roughly 17 weeks each.
 - (a) Varsha Semester : August November.
 - (b) Vasanth Semester : January April.
- The first two years (i.e. the first 4 semesters) consist of FOUNDATION courses common to all students.
- 3rd and 4th year courses are specialized in one *major* (Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics or Physics). A student may choose to take courses that lead to a *minor(s)* in another subject(s).
- The 5th year is devoted to a thesis by research.
- The medium of instruction, examination and project report will be in English.
- The syllabi and curricula of the BS-MS programme is subject to revision from time to time.
- In order to inculcate scientific values and develop scientific temper, students are required to enrol in a Research Project every year. The students are expected to do project work under a Research Supervisor (Mentor) during summer vacation period, in any recognized Universities or Institutes or Research Laboratories/Centres of their choice (preferably outside of the parent institution) either in India or abroad as per the norms of the funding agency.
- Applicability of scholarship and its continuation as provisions stipulated in the Guidelines as communicated by DST, GoI time to time.

BS-MS i^2Sc Programme

Integrated and Interdisciplinary Sciences (i^2 Sc) is a newly-conceptualised 5-Year BS-MS programme, launched by IISER TVM to impart unique education and training to a younger generation of students. It aims to equip tomorrow's workforce with skills that meet the evolving needs, demands

Registration 3

and challenges of the modern world. The major challenges that the world faces today, namely, climate change, food security, healthcare, sustenance, etc., are too complex to be solved by biologists, chemists and physicists independently. Efforts to tackle them require integrated expertise and interdisciplinary knowledge in areas that span physics, chemistry, biology and mathematics.

The i^2 Sc programme includes 5 different streams, each based on a core discipline and associated thematic areas, as outlined below. At the end of the common Foundation Courses taught over the first two years, students may opt for any ONE of these five streams to study advanced courses in the core discipline and specialise in the associated thematic areas, culminating in a year-long research project in the year five.

i ² Biological Sciences	Systems & Synthetic Biology and Precision		
	Imaging & Medicine		
i^2 Chemical Sciences	Chemical Biology and Biomaterials		
i ² Data Sciences	Data Science as applied to Natural Sciences		
i^2 Mathematical Sciences	Mathematical Modelling and Scientific		
	Computing		
i ² Physical Sciences	Materials & Devices, Energy and Modelling		

Each of the five streams offers a unique, yet integrated paradigm to gain analytic and cognitive skills based on an interdisciplinary curriculum and training in research. The new frontier, i² Data Sciences, also fits in harmoniously with other streams as well as with regular science programmes of the Institute in its applicability, in addressing both frontier research as well as real-world problems.

Registration

- Every student must register for the courses on the first day (registration day) of the each semester in person.
- To register for a course ALL prerequisites must be successfully completed ¹.
- Registration involves payment of the prescribed fees for the semester.

¹ refer page 6, clause 2 of Essentials for Completing Courses

 Late semester registration fee of Rs. 250/- per day to a maximum of Rs. 1750/- for a week will be levied from the first day of commencement of the class.

Late registration after the first week of the semester can only be done
with the permission of the Dean (Academics) or the Director of the
institute.

Faculty Adviser

Every student is assigned a Faculty Adviser who will guide the student in all academic matters.

Assessment and Grading

CONTINUOUS ASSESSMENT

Continuous assessment will be adopted for all courses. Written examination for mid semester and end semester will be conducted as per the academic curriculum for all core and elective courses. The distribution of marks out of total marks 100 will be as follows:

Theory Course

SL. No.	TYPE OF EXAM	MARKS
1	Assignments/Quiz	10 - 20
2	One Mid-Semester Examination	≥ 30
3	End-Semester Examination	≥ 50
	Total	100

Practical Course:

80% weightage will be given for experiments through a continuous evaluation (contribution from experiments as well as viva during the practical hours). Experiments will be given equal weightage. Marks will be given

on completion of each experiment which will also be recorded in the lab note books of students. 20% weightage will be given for written/viva examinations at the end of the semester.

GRADING

Relative grading will be adopted.

(a) The letter Grade and Grade Points are as follows:

A+	10
A	9
B+	8
В	7
C+	6
C	5
D	4
F	0

In addition, there shall be two other grading symbols which can be used to indicate the special position of a student in a subject:

(b) Semester Grade Point Average (SGPA) is calculated as:

$$SGPA = \sum_{i} C_{i}G_{i} / \sum_{i} C_{i}$$

Where, $C_i = \text{Credit for } i^{\text{th}} \text{ course; } G_i = \text{Grade point secured by the student in the } i^{\text{th}} \text{ course. Summation is over } all \text{ the courses credited by the student in the particular } semester.$

(c) Annual Grade Point Average (AGPA) is calculated as:

$$AGPA = \sum_{j} C_{j}G_{j} / \sum_{i} C_{j}$$

Where, C_j = Credit for j^{th} course; G_j = Grade point secured by the student in the j^{th} course. Summation is over *all the courses credited* by the student in the particular *academic year*.

(d) Cumulative Grade Point Average is calculated as

$$CGPA = \sum_{k} C_k G_k / \sum_{k} C_k$$

Where, C_k = credit for the $k^{\rm th}$ course; G_k = Grade point secured by the student in the $k^{\rm th}$ course. Summation is over all the courses *credited* by the student in *all the completed semesters, no course counting twice*. CGPA in the final transcript will be calculated based on all course credits completed with a Pass Grade.

Class Committee

Constitution of class committee will be as follows:

- One faculty/Co-ordinator nominated by Dean(AA) to serve as a Chairman of the class committee, preferably the BS-MS coordinator for first two years and Head of the school for Major courses from third year onwards.
- Faculty members of each of the Theory/Coordinator of Lab based courses of respective class/batch.
- Two students from the respective class preferably a male and a female of higher CGPA; and
- Faculty advisors of the respective class/batch.

Responsibilities of the Class committee

- To review periodically the progress of the classes.
- To discuss problems concerning the students and make suitable recommendations to improve the academic performances of the students.
- The method of assessment of the course will be executed by the concerned faculty as per the academic rule and may consult with the class committee for any advise if needed. This should be announced to the students at the beginning of the semester.
- The class committee excluding the students members is responsible for the finalization of the semester results.

- The class committees shall meet at least thrice in a semester after each test/exam. The class committee meeting at the end of the semester would finalize the grades. Each class committee will communicate its recommendations to the Dean(AA).
- Based on the recommendation of the class committee, the academic performance of the student shall be communicated to their parents, if necessary.

Degree Requirements

- Each student should acquire a minimum of 187 for BS-MS programme (190 for BS-MS i^2 programme) credits with a CGPA of 5.0 or greater for being eligible for the BS-MS dual degree.
- ALL FOUNDATION courses of the first two years must be successfully completed.
- All 3rd and 4th year courses designated as CORE by the school of the students' major have to be successfully completed.
- Successful completion of the major project is mandatory for the award of the BS-MS dual degree.
- No disciplinary action should be pending against the student.

Essentials for Completing Courses

- 1. Students are expected to attend all the classes. Students with overall 80% attendance or above will only be permitted to write the end semester examination. Attendance will be recorded in every class.
- 2. To register for any course a student must have completed ALL prerequisite courses (if any) with a D grade or better.
- 3. A student with an F grade in a course may be given a repeat final examination. An F grade may be improved at best to a D grade as a result of the repeat final exam.
 - Under-performing students from semesters 1-4 may be given remedial classes during semester break before the repeat final examination.

4. Repeat of a course is not permitted if the student has obtained a grade D or above in the same course.

5. The incomplete grade I is a *transitional* grade which will be given to the students who miss the end semester examinations under exceptional circumstances (e.g. serious medical reasons) as determined by the course instructor and the BS-MS coordinator in consultation with the School coordinator (if applicable) and approved by the Dean (Academics).

Make-up examination will be given to these students provided they meet 80% attendance and other academic requirements as per the rules and regulations of the institute.

The actual grade obtained after the make-up examination will be taken and will reflect in the transcript replacing the I grade. In case a student obtains an F grade in the make-up final examination, he/she will be eligible to write the repeat final examination.

Absence in the make-up examination will automatically lead to zero marks in that examination and the final grade in that course will be determined based on the other examinations taken in that course.

If the absence of a student in an examination is not approved by the Dean (Academics) (e.g. a deliberate attempt to skip the examination), he/she will be awarded zero marks in that particular course examination. The final grade in that course will be determined based on the other examinations of that course taken by the student.

- 6. Withdrawal of a registered course in a semester is usually permitted/enforced under very special cases, e.g. due to prolonged illness. W grade is given in these circumstances and the student is asked to repeat the concerned course with same course number taking all examinations when offered next. The new grade obtained by the student will be taken into consideration and appear in the transcript. However, the previous W grade will also appear in the transcript.
- 7. W grade will not have any effect in the calculation of SGPA, AGPA and CGPA. If a student has W grade in a registered course in a particular semester, SGPA will be calculated based on the grades obtained in other registered courses of that semester. Similar rule applies to the

calculation of AGPA and CGPA.

- 8. If a student does not clear a FOUNDATION/CORE course even after writing (or skipping) the repeat final examination, he/she is required to repeat the course with the same course number when offered next taking all examinations. Until the course is repeated and passed by the student, it is treated as a *backlog* in the student's records. Both the grades, the new grade and the previous F grade, will appear in the grade transcripts.
- 9. An F grade obtained in a course will contribute to the CGPA until
 - (a) a course with the same course number is completed with a D grade or better (applicable for foundation and core courses) or
 - (b)substituted with an alternative/same course of the respective school and completed with a D grade or better (applicable *only* for minor/elective/additional courses)
- 10. A maximum of two backlog courses from the first two years MAY BE allowed, at the discretion of the Dean (Academics) and the Director, before a student can choose a major and proceed to the third year. However, the student will not be allowed to choose the subject(s) in which he/she has a backlog course(s) as his/her major.
- 11. A student who has more than two F and/or W grades in a particular semester of the *first four semesters* will have to repeat ALL the courses of that semester. Only the new grades obtained in ALL the courses will be taken into consideration and the previous grades will be converted to W grades.
- 12. The student gets elevated gradually to each semester(s) by completing/attempting all the courses of previous semester(s) by registering and writing the end semester examinations as per rule and meeting other academic requirements as per guide book.

Ceiling of Credits in Semesters 5 - 8

A student of semesters 5-7 can register for a maximum of 21 credits in each semester. A student opting for a minor project (6 credits) in semester 8 can register for a maximum of 18 credits (including the minor project

credits). However, students who are not opting for minor project can register up to 21 credits in semester 8.

Students should discuss with their faculty adviser and school coordinator (in which they are majoring) regarding registration of suitable courses at the beginning of each semester. This will help the students to avoid unwanted complications at the end, e.g., fulfilling major/minor credit requirements and graduation requirements.

Removal from the Rolls

Any one of the following circumstances will lead to removal from the rolls:

- Failure to maintain the minimum SGPA of 4.0 in any two consecutive semesters will lead to automatic removal of the student from the rolls.
- Failure to clear any FOUNDATION/CORE course after repeating the same course once will lead to the removal of the student from the rolls.
- ALL FOUNDATION courses of the first two years must be completed in a maximum of six semesters. Failure to do so will lead to the removal of the student from the rolls.
- All requirements for the BS-MS degree must be completed in a maximum of FOURTEEN SEMESTERS. Students will be automatically removed from the rolls at the end of fourteen semesters.
- A student may also be removed from the rolls as a result of disciplinary action for serious misconduct and/or violation(s) of the code of conduct of the institute.

Course Feedback

Online course feedback by students is compulsory for every course and will be taken with full confidentiality.

Re-evaluation of End Semester Examination Answer Sheets

Request for re-evaluation of answer sheets should be given by the student within 7 days of the announcement of end semester results as a written request to the Academic Office and by paying a prescribed re-evaluation fee.

Project Evaluation

- The major project work is carried out in two stages (Phase-I and Phase-II), each spread over a semester. At the end of ninth semester, the student is required to submit a preliminary brief report of his/her work by a prescribed date to the Project Coordinator and present it to an Internal Project Evaluation Committee as a seminar. Project evaluation carries 30% of weightage comes from Project guide and the remaining 70% is awarded by the Project Evaluation Committee (PEC)² in each stage. The second stage (Phase-II) of the work is continued in the following semester and a final report has to be submitted at the end of tenth semester.
- PEC is constituted by School and the project co-ordinator will submit to the academic section the names of the project examiners at least two weeks before the submission of the second stage project. The project report, prepared according to the prescribed format available in the academic section, will be submitted to the School at least one week before the probable date of oral examination. The oral examination will be held before semester vacation starts. The whole evaluation process should be completed by a deadline stipulated by the Academic Section.
- The School will record the date of submission of the project and arrange to send the project reports to the examiners. The project coordinator will inform the date of the oral examination to the examiners and send a copy to the academic section. The project will be evaluated by the Project Evaluation Committee and the result will be submitted to the Project Coordinator, who in turn will forward it to the Academic

² However, in the case of SoM, project phase-I consists of major project of 9 credits and an associate research elective for 3 credits.

Section.

• On successful completion of the oral examination, each student will be required to submit one corrected bound copy and a soft copy of the project report to the School/ supervisor(s).

- Extension of time usually not exceeding 3 months from the announced last date for submission of the project report may be granted by the School with permission of Dean/Director in the case of students with insufficient progress in the project work. In such a case the concerned students will be temporarily awarded 'I' grade. Further, if the reports are not submitted within the allowed time period, the 'I' grade will be automatically converted to 'F' grade.
- Those who fail in the first stage assessment will be required to reregister for the first stage in the following semester. Likewise, those who obtain an 'F' grade in the final (second stage) assessment will be required to re-register for it in the subsequent semester.
- The one semester six credit minor project evaluation will also be carried out in a similar manner as mentioned above and the evaluation process has to be completed by the end of the semester as stipulated by the academic section. The evaluation has the following weightage: Project Guide:- 30% and PEC 70%. The rules for submitting the final minor project report remain same like final major project report.

In exceptional cases the Director may at his discretion override any of the above provisions.

Sample Grade Card

OFFICIAL GRADE CARD

Name of Student: XXX Roll Number: IMSXX00X Date of Issue: XX-XXX-20XX Graduating class: 20XX - Dual degree BS-MS programme PAGE 1 of 1

XXX has attended 2 semesters of classes at IISER Thiruvananthapuram

Varsha 202	(X	Credits	Grade
BIO 11	1 Introductory Biology	3	В
BIO 11	2 Introductory Biology Lab	1	B+
CHY 11	1 Atomic Structure and Chemical Bonding	3	В
CHY 11	2 Chemistry Lab I	1	B+
HUM 11	1 Functional English	1	В
IDC 11	1 Mathematical Tools	3	В
MAT 11	1 Introduction to Algebra	3	В
PHY 11	1 Mechanics I	3	C
PHY 11	2 Physics Lab I	1	A
		SGPA:	6.89
Vasanth 20	DXX		
BIO 12	1 Introductory Physiology	3	C+
BIO 12	2 Introductory Physiology Lab	1	B+
CHY 12	1 Chemistry of Elements	3	C
CHY 12	2 Chemistry Lab II	1	B+
HUM 12	1 Humanities	1	В
IDC 12	1 Mathematical Tools II	3	A
MAT 12	1 Introductory Analysis I	3	C
PHY 12	1 Electrodynamics I	3	C
PHY 12	2 Physics Lab II	1	B+
		SGPA:	6.37

Total credits completed: 38 CGPA: 6.63

AR(Academics) Grade Card No: XXXXXXXXX

Credit Requirement

The first two years of the BS-MS programme consists of FOUNDATION courses common to all students. Third and fourth year courses are specialized in one major (Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics or Physics) and one or more minors. The fifth year is devoted to a thesis by research. The general structure of the BS-MS programme is given below.

BS-MS Course Structure

SI. No	Course Description	Minimum Credits	Period
1	Foundation Courses	76	Semester I to IV
2	Major Courses	63	Semester V to X
3	Major Project	30	Semester IX to X
4	Minor Courses	9	Semester V to VIII
5	Minor Project	6	Semester VIII
6	Humanities	3	Semester V to X
Total		187	

Remark: Minor project is optional in certain schools. However, students may adjust this credit by taking additional courses.

BS-MS Course Codes

The FOUNDATION and CORE courses are numbered in the format,

XYZ LSC (LTPC)

The ELECTIVE courses are numbered in the format,

XYZ LSCD (LTPC)

The numbering may be understood as

XYZ : Subject Code

L : Level of the course (1, 2, 3, 4

or 5)

S : Semester (1 = Varsha, 2 = Vas-

anth)

C (CD) : Course number (in a particu-

lar subject) in that year and

semester

L : Lecture hours per week

T : Tutorial hours per week

P : Practical hours per week

C : Credits

Subject codes

BIO : Biological Sciences CHY : Chemical Sciences MAT : Mathematical Sciences PHY : Physical Sciences

IDC: Interdisciplinary Studies HUM: Humanities

BS-MS Course Structure

SEMESTERS 1 TO 4

FOUNDATION COURSES

The foundation courses are compulsory for all the students and a sample structure of the foundation courses is given below:

First Year:

Semester 1

SL. No.	Course	CREDITS	TOTAL
1	BIO 111	3	This Semester
2	CHY 111	3	19
3	MAT 111	3	
4	PHY 111	3	
5	IDC 111	3	
6	HUM 111	1	
7	BIO 112	1	
8	CHY 112	1	Cumulative
9	PHY 112	1	19

Semester 2

SL. No.	Course	CREDITS	Total
1	BIO 121	3	This Semester
2	CHY 121	3	19
3	MAT 121	3	
4	PHY 121	3	
5	IDC 121	3	
6	HUM 121	1	
7	BIO 122	1	
8	CHY 122	1	Cumulative
9	PHY 122	1	38

Second Year:

Semester 3

SL. No.	Course	CREDITS	TOTAL
1	BIO 211	3	This Semester
2	CHY 211	3	19
3	MAT 211	3	
4	PHY 211	3	
5	IDC 211	3	
6	HUM 211	1	
7	BIO 212	1	
8	CHY 212	1	Cumulative
9	PHY 212	1	57

Semester 4

SL. No.	Course	CREDITS	TOTAL
1	BIO 221	3	This Semester
2	CHY 221	3	19
3	MAT 221	3	
4	PHY 221	3	
5	IDC 221	3	
6	HUM 221	1	
7	BIO 222	1	
8	CHY 222	1	Cumulative
9	PHY 222	1	76

Semesters 5 to 10

Semesters 5 to 10

Major and Minor Courses

Every student is allowed to choose a major subject. The available majors are in Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics and Physics for BS-MS programme. Number of seats in each major subject is limited. The top 30%, in the order of merit, among the students who have chosen a particular major subject will be given preference. Each student has an option to choose one minor as well. Both choices will be reflected in the BS-MS degree certificate that will be awarded by IISER TVM on successful completion of the programme.

The minimum number of credits required to obtain a BS-MS degree from IISER TVM is 187. Out of this, 76 credits are carried by the FOUN-DATION courses taken by all students over the first two years.

A minimum of 93 credits from courses in the major subject and 15 credits from courses from non-major subjects taken during the $3^{\rm rd}$, $4^{\rm th}$ and $5^{\rm th}$ years are needed for graduation. Individual schools are free to place additional requirements for obtaining a major or minor in their respective disciplines. Schools will also specify how the credits are split between theory and laboratory courses.

The student may alternatively opt to have no minor, but takes the 15 course credits from more than one school excluding the school of his/her major.

In addition to the courses, each student will undertake a one year research project in his/her major subject worth 30 credits during the $5^{\rm th}$ year. The 6 credit minor project undertaken by the student during the $8^{\rm th}$ semester should be done in a school other than the school of his/her major. Minor project is optional in certain schools. In that case, students are required to take additional courses from non-major subjects to compensate the lost credit. If a student do not wish to opt any minor (9+6 credits), then the corresponding 15 credits can be compensated by crediting courses from other schools excluding their respective major.

A course in humanities of the student's choice from among the available courses worth three credits will also have to be successfully completed for awarding the BS-MS degree.

A table outlining the course requirements (sample structure only) for the $3^{\rm rd},\,4^{\rm th}$ and $5^{\rm th}$ years is given below. The total earned credits shown

are minimum values. Individual schools may choose to offer more courses or courses that carry less/more credits than what is shown in the table.

Credits earned from the first two years: 76

Third Year

SEMESTER 5

SL. No.	Course	CREDITS	Major Credits	Minor Credits	TOTAL
1	Major 1	3	This Semester	This Semester	This Semester
2	Major 2	3	15	3	18
3	Major 3	3			
4	Major 4	3			
5	Major 5(Lab/Theory)	3	Cumulative	Cumulative	Cumulative
6	Minor 1	3	15	3	94

SEMESTER 6

SL. No.	Course	CREDITS	Major Credits	Minor Credits	TOTAL
1	Major 1	3	This Semester	This Semester	This Semester
2	Major 2	3	15	3	18
3	Major 3	3			
4	Major 4 (Elective)	3			
5	Major 5 (Lab/Theory)	3	Cumulative	Cumulative	Cumulative
6	Minor 1	3	30	6	112

Semesters 5 to 10 21

Fourth Year

SEMESTER 7

SL. No.	Course	CREDITS	Major Credits	MINOR CREDITS	TOTAL
1	Major 1	3	This Semester	This Semester	This Semester
2	Major 2	3	15	3	21
3	Major 3	3			
4	Major 4 (Elective)	3			
5	Major 5 (Lab/Theory)	3			
6	Minor	3	Cumulative	Cumulative	Cumulative
7	Humanities	3	45	9	133

SEMESTER 8

SL. No.	Course	CREDITS	Major Credits	Minor Credits	TOTAL
1	Major 1	3	This Semester	This Semester	This Semester
2	Major 2	3	12	6	18
3	Major 3 (Elective)	3			
4	Major 4 (Elective/Lab)	3	Cumulative	Cumulative	Cumulative
5	Project (Minor)	6	57	15	151

Fifth year

SEMESTER 9

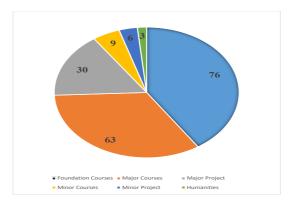
SL. No.	Course	CREDITS	Major Credits	MINOR CREDITS	TOTAL
1	Major 1 (Elective)	3	This Semester 18	This Semester 0	This Semester 18
2	Major 2 (Elective)	3			
2	Major Project Phase-I and Seminar-I	12	Cumulative 75	Cumulative 15	Cumulative 169

Semester 10

SL. N	O. COURSE	CREDITS	Major Credits	MINOR CREDITS	TOTAL
1	Major Project Phase-II and	18	This Semester 18	This Semester 0	This Semester 18
	Seminar-II(Final Project Report)		Cumulative 93	Cumulative 15	Cumulative 187

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Distribution of Credits



BS-MS i² Sc Course Codes

The FOUNDATION, CORE and THEMATIC courses are numbered in the format,

XYZ LSC (LTPC)

The ELECTIVE courses are numbered in the format.

XYZ LSCD (LTPC)

The numbering may be understood as

XYZ : Subject /Programme Code

L : Level of the course (1, 2, 3, 4

or 5)

S : Semester (1 = Varsha, 2 = Vas-

anth)

C (CD) : Course number in that

semester

L : Lecture hours per week

T : Tutorial hours per week

P : Practical hours per week

C : Credits

Subject codes

BIO : Biological Sciences

MAT : Mathematical Sciences

IDC : Interdisciplinary Studies

CHY : Chemical Sciences

PHY : Physical Sciences

HUM : Humanities

DSC: Data Sciences I2B: i^2 Biological Sciences

 $\begin{array}{lll} {\rm I2C} &: i^2 \ {\rm Chemical \ Sciences} & {\rm I2D} &: i^2 \ {\rm Data \ Sciences} \\ {\rm I2M} &: i^2 \ {\rm Mathematical \ Studies} & {\rm I2P} &: i^2 \ {\rm Physical \ Sciences} \\ \end{array}$

BS-MS i² Sc Course Structure

At IISER TVM, one starts with an open mind. The curriculum provides training in the fundamentals of natural sciences, mathematics and computation, and then lets one choose the area that one would like to pursue and specialise in. Information regarding the structure of the programme spanning five years (10 semesters), their salient features, courses offered and further details are provided below.

Years 1 & 2:

ematics, Physics, Programming + courses in Comm-

unication Skills and Languages

The Foundation Courses provide a broad and robust

base for all the BS-MS programmes.

After successful completion of the foundation courses, students may opt for ONE of the five i^2 Sciences programmes.

Years 3 & 4:

Core Courses Advanced Courses in the core discipline of the

selected i^2 Sciences stream.

The Foundation and Core courses together prepare students for Competitive Examinations and various National Eligibility Tests for doctoral studies in India

and worldwide.

Thematic Courses
Interdisciplinary courses on topics in the associated

thematic areas of the selected i^2 Sciences stream.

The thematic courses are uniquely designed to impart advanced level education with interdisciplinary content

and practical training.

Year 5:

Research Independent year-long research in industry and/or acade-

mic institutions.

Additional Content:

Elective Courses Courses allied to the core disciplines and thematic areas

are offered as electives in years 3, 4 and 5.

General Courses in diverse areas such as Scientific Writing, Scien-

ce Society and Ethics, Intellectual Property Rights, Entrepreneurship, Management Principles, Psychology, Anthropology, Music, Health, Economics, and Languages are

offered in years 3, 4 and 5.

Internship Training in national and international R &D laboratories

(industry or academia).

Each academic year at IISER TVM is divided into 2 semesters (Varsha and Vasanth) interspersed by the summer and winter breaks. The courses in the first four semesters (years 1 and 2) comprise the Foundation Courses, common to all BS-MS programmes offered by the Institute. The curriculum covers fundamentals of natural sciences, mathematics and computation along with courses that enrich language and scientific communication skills. Typically, each course consists of 3 hours of lectures per week, supplemented by a 1-hour tutorial held in small groups under the supervision of lecturers and dedicated teaching assistants. The laboratory-based courses are held in staggered batches to ensure adequate opportunities for all individuals to access instruments and other facilities.

At the end of the fourth semester (year 2), one can opt for any one of the five i^2 Sciences streams. Years 3 and 4 comprise Core Courses in the chosen core discipline, that is, biology, chemistry, mathematics, physics and data sciences, and Thematic Courses in the respective thematic areas. Ample opportunities are offered in 3rd, 4th and 5th years to personalise one's own unique learning experience by way of elective courses, which provide further expertise in niche areas.

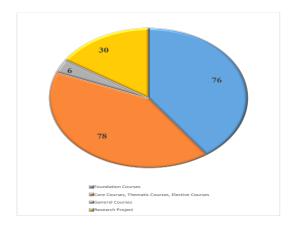
The independent research project in semesters 9 and 10 (year 5) allows one to apply one's training to tackle real problems of science, industry and society. Beyond the academic and technical expertise, opportunities exist to gain essential experience in project management, communication and presentation skills, and teamwork. There is no minor options for BS-MS i^2 programme. See BS-MS i^2 programme brochure using the link http://www.iisertvm.ac.in/files/read/brochure-i2programme and curriculum using the link http://www.iisertvm.ac.in/files/read/i2sciences_curriculum_syllabus_final for further details/updates.

General Credit Structure

	YEAR.	SEMESTER	CREDITS	Courses/Project
	1-2	1-4	76	Foundation courses
1	3-5	5-9	78	Core Courses , Thematic Courses, Elective Courses
1	3-5	5-8	6	General Courses
1	5	9-10	30	Research Project
		Total	190	

Note: Minimum credit requirement and semester-wise division of courses between Core-Thematic-Electives vary between the five i^2 Sciences streams.

Distribution of Credits



Choice Form 29

Choice Form

At the end of the fourth semester, the students make their choice regarding the major and minor subjects. The following choice form is to be filled up and submitted to the Academic Office. The major subject will usually be allotted based on the student's CGPA and performance in that subject in the first four semesters. The Academic Office will arrange counselling session involving students and concerned members of the faculty before finalizing the allotment of major.



INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE EDUCATION AND RESEARCH THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Academic Section

Applicat	ion form for o	hoosing	Major			D	eadline: 2	XX/X	x/xxxx		
Name:											
Roll No:	-										
3 Whether all courses up to 3 rd sem are cleared in the first attempt. If No, list those courses.											
Choice of Major:	Choice in	Major	Sen		Sem-		Sem-III		Subject	CGPA	Index
Subject GPA and	order of	Subject	Gra		Grad		Grade		GPA	up to	Point
CGPA up to 3rd Sem. For eg., Subject GPA is			Theory	Lab	Theory	Lab	Theory	Lab		3rd Sem	
calculated as follows. If											
MAT 111 - A+ MAT 121 -B+; MAT 211 - B+;	Choice									4	
Maths GPA= (3*10+	Second										
3*8+3*8)/(3+3+3) =	Choice									1	
8.67(corrected up to 2	Third										
dec.)	Choice										
Index Point = 0.5*(Fourth										
Subject GPA + CGPA)	Choice										
5 Choice of Minor, if any, in order of preference(Optional)	2										
Declaration:											
I hereby declare the preferences and acc				ation are	true.I agr	ree to t	he allotmer (Signatur		•		
For Office U			Sam-	IV	-	ubiact	CCPA up	In	day		
For Office U Choice in order of Preference	Se: Major Subject	L	Sem- Grad	le		ubject GPA	CGPA up to 4th Sem		dex		
Choice in order of Preference		Т									
Choice in order of Preference First Choice		Т	Grad	le							
Choice in order of Preference		TI	Grad	le							
Choice in order of Preference First Choice		TI	Grad	le							

Selection into one of the 5 i^2 Sciences streams

The i^2 Sciences programme is available only to BS-MS students at IISER TVM. At the end of the first two years, student may opt for joining any ONE of the five streams of the i^2 Sciences pro-gramme,

- i^2 Biological Sciences
- i² Chemical Sciences
- i² Data Sciences
- i^2 Mathematical Sciences
- i² Physical Sciences

Final selection to the above streams will be based on competition between all candidates who opt for each of the streams. Selection will be based on the performance of the candidates in the Foundation Courses with weightage given to performance in the courses relevant to the core discipline of the stream opted for. Currently, the maximum number of students that can be admitted is restricted to 15 each for i^2 Biological Sciences, i^2 Chemical Sciences, i^2 Mathematical Sciences and i^2 Physical Sciences, and 20 for i^2 Data Sciences.

Conduct and Discipline

CODE OF CONDUCT

Disciplinary policies of Indian Institute of Science Education and Research Thiruvananthapuram (IISER-TVM) are put in place to ensure a secure academically enriching environment for all members of the community and to promote civility on campus. Students of IISER-TVM are expected to show personal integrity, respect for Institute resources, and respect for others rights, for the values of scholarship and teaching. Students are expected to adhere to the institute rules and regulations. Any violation will be handled according to the rules set forth by the Senate and Board of Governors of IISER-TVM. The administrators of the institute will notify parents/guardians if a student violates the Code of Conduct. Any of the following shall constitute violation of the Code of Conduct for students and makes the student liable to disciplinary action by the Institute.

- Lack of courtesy and disorderly conduct or disruptive acts (within or outside Institute premises).
- Any act that compromises the safety/security of individuals or Institutional facilities.
- Wilful damage or unauthorized removal of Institute property.
- Unauthorized access to institutional facilities/records.
- Tampering of data/records (reading, copying or destroying).
- Any act of fraud/misrepresentation/dishonesty.
- Misappropriation of any belongings of fellow students/staff/faculty.
- Adoption of unfair means during examinations or misconduct in research.
- Infringement of personal privacy.
- · Ragging in any form.
- Caste/religion/ethnicity/gender/physical disability based discriminatory behaviour/remarks.
- Sexual harassment/assault.
- Possession of banned substances or dangerous items (illegal drugs, weapons, firearms etc.) that endangers safety of student himself/herself or others.
- Any act that affects the reputation/orderly conduct of the institute.

THE DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE

- 1. The Student's Disciplinary Committee (SDC) of the Institute is constituted under the chairmanship of a faculty member by the Director. Depending on the issues of allegations involved, the Chairman of the SDC may invite additional members, for example the Coordinator of BS-MS/PhD Programme, student's faculty adviser/research supervisor, Assistant/Deputy Registrar (Academics), to facilitate with the investigation.
- 2. SDC will investigate the allegations of misdemeanours or violation of the Code of Conduct, without bias. The SDC will subsequently submit a fact-finding report and recommend disciplinary action(s), if any, to the Dean, Student Affairs.
 - Complaints related to caste/religion/ethnicity/gender-specific discrimination and sexual harassment will be investigated by an appropriate committee of the Institute and will report directly to the Director.

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3. While hearing the disposition of the accused student(s) and witnesses, the Chairman, SDC may invite two senior student observers (with one woman and/or SC-ST observer if the accused student(s) belong to the same community), from the BS-MS (5th Yr) and PhD/IPhD programmes respectively, to be present with the SDC.

- 4. The student observers are to be invited by the Chairman, SDC in consultation with the Dean, Student Affairs, from a list of nominees forwarded by the Schools. The list of nominees is valid for a year.
- 5. The student observers shall withdraw at the conclusion of the above and may submit their remarks (if any) in writing to the Chairman, SDC for consideration.
- 6. The Chairman, SDC, shall keep records of the entire proceedings of the meetings.
- 7. All disciplinary actions shall be notified in writing to the concerned students and their parents/guardians by the Office of the Assistant/Deputy Registrar (Academics).
- 8. A student who feels aggrieved with the disciplinary action may appeal to the Director. The appeal has to be filed within a period of one month from the date of intimation of disciplinary action stating clearly the case and explaining his/her position and reason(s) for reconsideration of the decision.

DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

Violation of the Code of Conduct shall invite disciplinary action, which may include penalties such as, reprimand, fine, suspension/expulsion from the hostel, debarring from examinations, withdrawing/withholding of scholarship/fellowship/benefits or access to institute facilities, withholding of grades and/or degrees, revoking of awarded degrees, suspension for a certain period or even permanent expulsion from the Institute.

The Senate may withhold recommendation of a student, who is found guilty of a major offence, to the Board of Governors for the award of a degree, even if the student has satisfactorily completed all the academic requirements.

Lack of knowledge of the rules and regulations is not admissible an excuse or defence for misconduct/dishonesty, and shall not be a basis for leniency.

Disciplinary Action for Malpractices in Research:

Students involved in conducting research at IISER TVM are expected to maintain highest standards of integrity. Any form of unscrupulous conduct will be investigated by competent authorities and could warrant a variety of disciplinary actions, in severe cases cancellation of BS-MS registration or even cancellation of an awarded Degree at any time.

Research misconduct can take place in many forms, including deliberate interference with the integrity of the work of others, plagiarism, falsification of data, and fabrication of data. In particular, students are expected to observe the practice of acknowledging source(s) of information reproduced in his/her thesis, reports, publications, or seminars.

Plagiarism includes, without citation, the appropriation of another individual(s)s text, results, or ideas.

Falsification includes actions such as not accurately representing research records or results, manipulating reagents or equipment settings, to produce a preconceived outcome.

Fabrication includes making up data and recording them.

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HONOUR PLEDGE

1. The student must sign and submit to the Institute the following Honour Pledge at the time of registration in the Varsha semester. The pledge must be counter-signed by the parent/guardian.

IISER TVM STUDENT HONOUR PLEDGE

- a. I promise, on my honour, that I will conduct myself in the Institute and outside, with decorum and decency befitting the high moral and ethical standards expected of the members of the National Institute, IISER TVM and follow its Code of Conduct, Rules and Regulations.
- b. I will not engage in ragging. I understand that ragging is unlawful and liable to prosecution by law enforcement authorities of the State besides any disciplinary action the Institute may take which may include dismissal from the Institute.
- c. I will not engage in overt/covert sexual harassment.
- d. I will not resort to any dishonest practice in examinations/assignments.
- e. I will not engage in plagiarism in my writings and will acknowledge the work of other authors according to international practices.
- f. I will follow the Library and Hostel regulations of the Institute.
- g. I understand that violation of this pledge makes me liable to disciplinary action by the Institute.

Sd/- Student Sd/- Parent/Guardian

2. The student and his/her parent/guardian should also sign, at the time of admission, the prescribed anti-ragging forms (visit http://iisertvm.ac.in/anti-ragging-initiatives) as per the stipulation of the MoE, Govt. of India.

LIBRARY REGULATIONS

1. Library Hours:

- a. Monday to Friday: 9 AM to 10.00 PM (Break 7.30 PM 8 PM) Weekends and Holidays: 9 AM to 5.30 PM (Break 1 PM - 1.30 PM)
- b. Library remains open on all holidays except during January 26, August 15 & October 2.
- 2. Membership: All registered students are eligible for membership in the institute library.
- 3. BS-MS students can borrow maximum 4 books at a time for 2 weeks, provided they do not have any overdue book. (Some books may have a shorter loan period depending on the demand). Users can borrow/return the books using the self-service kiosk installed in the library.
- 4. Users must leave their bags and other belongings outside the Library. Only notebooks and papers are allowed inside the library. Borrowed books are allowed to be taken to the library for return/renewal only.
- 5. Students must carry their identity cards, and it must be produced whenever asked for. Institute identity card, which serves as the library card, is mandatory for borrowing books from the library either through the self-service-kiosk or otherwise.
- 6. Strict silence to be maintained in the library.
- 7. Use of mobile phones, consumption of food and drinks are strictly prohibited inside the library.
- 8. Users are encouraged to use the computers kept inside the library for accessing the library catalogue, e-journals, e-books, and academic databases. Laptop can only be used in the designated place in the library.
- 9. Return of the borrowed book is mandatory before the due date. A fine of Rs. 1/- per day per book for the first week of delayed return and Rs. 10/- per day per book thereafter will be levied. Books can be renewed once, before the due date, if there is no pending reservation against it. A book may be recalled any time before the due date if it is urgently

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required by another user. A late fee of Rs. 10/- per day per book will be imposed for the noncompliance with the requirement.

- 10. Reference textbook and borrowable books can be borrowed for overnight reference, half an hour before the closing time of the library and to be returned at 9 AM on the next working day. Only one book can be borrowed for overnight reference. A late fee of Rs. 50/- per day per book for the delayed return of such item will be charged. All library payment will be accepted online only, at periodic intervals.
- 11. Mutilation of books in any form (e.g., underlining, writing on pages, tearing off pages, damaging the binding, etc.) will lead to a hefty fine or even replacement of the book. Before borrowing a book, users should ensure the condition of the book and bring to the notice of the library staff, if any mutilation is found.
- 12. Users who lose/mutilate library books are liable to replace it with its latest edition along with a penalty of 20% of the total cost of the book. If the book is part of a set or series, they may be called upon to replace the whole set or series. In case the lost book is untraceable in the market or out of print, Institute reserves the right to decide appropriate penalty.
- Users must return all the books they borrowed before they go on vacation.
- 14. Users should create an user ID and password in the library portal (https://librarycatalog.iisertvm.ac.in/), to reserve, renew, and to check details of books borrowed by them. Up to three books can be reserved (hold) at a time. Once the reserved book is available in the library, users will be notified by an auto-generated email. Users must follow the unspam instructions available at http://librarycatalog.iisertvm.ac.in/unspam/alert.htm to ensure that auto-generated emails are promptly delivered in their mailbox.
- 15. Users should obey copyright regulations while accessing online resources (e-books, e-journals, databases, etc.). Details of the e-resources subscribed by the institute are available at http://www.iisertvm.ac.in/p-ages/iiser_tvm_library, which can be accessed from any computer, laptop, smartphone, etc., connected to the IISER TVM network.

- 16. Users must obtain the no dues clearance certificate from the library before they leave the institute due to the course completion, discontinuation, resignation, migration, etc. Users should submit their no dues clearance form well in advance to avoid unexpected delay in obtaining the clearance. Final year students should send a PDF copy of their thesis to library@iisertvm.ac.in, before obtaining no due clearance from the library.
- 17. Users should obey the library rules and regulations. Violation of rules and any act of misbehaviour will be brought to the notice of the institute authority and will lead to intense disciplinary action.

Violation of any of the above rules shall make the student liable to disciplinary action by the Institute.

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