



Dr. B. R. AMBEDKAR OPEN UNIVERSITY

Prof. G. Ramreddy Marg, Jubilee Hills, Hyderabad - 500 033.
Centre for Internal Quality Assurance (CIQA)



Best Practice

**GRCR&D
SYSTEM-BASED RESEARCH CENTRE**

B R A O U

ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY

The University, initially known as Andhra Pradesh Open University, was set up on 26th August 1982 through an Act of the A.P. State Legislature (APOU Act 1982). Subsequently, the University was renamed as Dr. B.R.Ambedkar Open University on 26 October, 1991 by the Government of Andhra Pradesh. The establishment of this University, the first of its kind in India, heralded an era of affirmative action on the part of the Government of Andhra Pradesh to provide opportunities of higher education to all sections of society to meet the changing individual and social needs. The University offers services to defense personnel, prison inmates and learners from remote and tribal areas who are not having access to education. All the programmes offered by the University are recognised by the University Grants Commission, New Delhi. The motto of the University is "EDUCATION FOR ALL". The university is adapting all the latest ICTs regarding teaching, learning and evaluation to reach the unreached.



- ✦ Enrichment of on-going academic programmes.
- ✦ Competency building through education and training programmes. Interactive individual-based teaching learning processes.
- ✦ Reliable and credible student evaluation systems.
- ✦ Result-oriented, accountable and transparent administrative and logistic support systems. and
- ✦ Research, innovation, training and networking for system development and staff development.



Dr. B. R. Ambedkar's social philosophy of education as a means of creating an egalitarian society is the vision of this University. Access to relevant, quality education and training programmes for diverse sections of society with a focus on hitherto deprived sections at lower costs by using the modern technologies in teaching-learning processes as well as in administrative and support services is the goal of this University. The University programmes aim at making education and training instruments for living and for making a living.

1. Objective of the Practice

G. Ram Reddy Centre for Research and Development (GRCR&D) is established to cater to the needs of distance learning institutions, distance educators, researchers, policymakers, organizations, and institutions with research interests in promoting distance education. Its specific functions are geared up to match the requirements of the target groups.

Objectives of GRCR&D:

1. To create an organizational structure role-based, formulate the research policy of the University, identify thrust areas of research, and form discipline-wise or related cluster groups.
2. To create adequate autonomy for principal investigators concerning financial autonomy and to disseminate research outcomes to stakeholders and the public.
3. To identify collaboration with other industries, research, and academic organizations that can cooperate and form synergetic relationships in research.
4. To liaise between researchers and relevant research funding agencies, extend guidance in the preparation of project proposals, and see that the selected projects adhere to timelines.
5. To coordinate the University-Industry, interlinkage, for incubation, innovation, and entrepreneurship development of intellectual property rights.
6. To develop a good research informational system for preparing the database of in-house research activity.





7. Act as a nodal center for ideation and conceptualization of research topics by organizing workshops and training programs.
8. To utilize the services of superannuated Faculty, if required, for research capacity building.

2. The Context

Research is of paramount significance and an effective management tool of open and distance learning for professional development. The research outcomes help in enhancing the quality of teaching and learning and also in designing suitable and effective delivery systems. It examines the strategies and policies being implemented by various distance educational institutions within the country as well as outside and suggests appropriate academic and institutional measures to meet the needs of distance learners and sets quality parameters.

Dr. BRAOU is the first Open University in the country to establish an exclusive unit to carry out research and promote system-based research in the field of distance education. Thus, the University stands first among all the Open Universities/Distance Education Institutions in the country to undertake systemic evaluation and research studies in the areas of courseware both print and non-print, student support services, students' evaluation, student feedback on contact-cum-counseling classes, delivery of study material, programs offered, etc. The evaluation studies carried out by the University are considered as first-hand information on focal areas of distance education by the sister open universities in the country. Further, the Academy invites scholars and eminent experts from Asian countries in the field of open distance learning to conduct research studies for the enhancement of quality in ODL systems.

Following the new guidelines of UGC for the establishment of Research and Development in Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in 2022, and to play a pivotal role in catalyzing multi-disciplinary /transdisciplinary and translational research culture mandated in NEP



2020, Dr. BRAOU has renamed its earlier established institution of GRADE, as G. Ram Reddy Centre for Research & Development (GRCR&D).

3. The Practice

GRCR & D organizes periodic interactive workshops on various activities of distance education and the preparation of manuals on best practices. Specific attention is given to impact studies, longitudinal studies, and action research projects. It helps in creating an exhaustive database on distance education in the regions/countries and provides access to this data to researchers. GRCR & D undertakes collaborative research projects with other Distance Education Institutions around the world.

4. Evidence of Success

Since its establishment, GRCR & D has grown into a premier institution for research and training. It is one of the finest centers of its kind in India to provide/facilitate:

1. A culture of continuous learning provides a high level of expertise and encourages innovation and tools for higher academic performance in line with its mission :
2. Disseminate innovative research outcomes in ODL :
3. Identify best practices and appropriate strategies for improvement of quality courseware (print and non-print), improved student learning services and to contribute for Technology Enabled Learning.
4. Integration of research and education to promote leadership in the creation of a research environment in the University.
5. A culture of continuous process improvement in the ODL system for the advancement of socially relevant ODL Programmes ;
6. Research in Distance Education in other regions/countries to partner in the advancement and dispersal of knowledge in ODL institutions for mutual tangible benefits; and
7. Act as the voice of the research community and partner in the development and advancement of local, national, and international research and educational technology initiatives.



5. Problems Encountered and Resources Required

The financial sources for the activities are mainly the university funds and grants received from Distance Education Bureau (DEB-UGC) only. Due to the non-availability of funds, visiting fellowships are being shelved temporarily. The establishment of GRCD is to undertake system-based research and evaluation studies. Such an R&D cell brings out the institutional uniqueness of Dr. BRAOU, which is exclusive to our institution and which is not in practice elsewhere. The University has identified GRCD system-based research center as one of the best practices of Dr. BRAOU. The efforts and activities of GRCD assist to formulate and collate all research studies, which would greatly enhance the quality of distance education. The added benefit is in building a research environment conducive to professional development of teachers which would certainly yield rich dividends to the open learning system. GRCD is committed to developing effective strategies for the highest level of quality services in the ODL system. The success of GRCD puts Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Open University on a higher pedestal in comparison to other ODL institutions.

In abeyance to the new UGC guidelines, Dr. BRAOU is streamlining the already established organizational structure, to provide a vibrant research eco-system with an adequate Research Information Management System (RIMS). Research guidance will be provided in due course of time in thrust areas as well as areas that are pertinent to the Distance Education System. Identifying specific areas of interest for research faculty as well as the areas that have relevance and significance to the modern-day world and helping as a facilitator for networking with other national and international organizations would be the priority of GRCD shortly. Capacity building, collaboration, searching for funding authorities, and research monitoring with an eye on integrity and ethics would be the functions of GRCD. This would also help to bring together human resources, intellectual capital, governance, and financial resources on one platform and helps strengthen the research activities of the University.



Dr. B. R. AMBEDKAR OPEN UNIVERSITY

Prof. G. Ram Reddy Marg, Road No. 46, Jubilee Hills, Hyderabad - 500 033,
Website: www.braou.ac.in, www.braouonline.in

Recognised by University Grants Commission, New Delhi.

PROGRAMMES ON OFFER - 2023-24



(A) Bachelor's Degree Programmes			(D) Diploma Programmes		
B.A. - Bachelor of Arts (English, Telugu & Urdu Medium)	Course Duration 3 years	Tuition Fee Rs. 2,700/- 1st Yr 2,500/- 2nd Yr 2,500/- 3rd Yr	Diploma in Marketing Management (English Medium)	Course Duration 1 year	Tuition Fee Rs. 8,000/-
B.Com - Bachelor of Commerce (Telugu & English Medium)	3 years	2,500/- 1st Yr 2,500/- 2nd Yr 2,500/- 3rd Yr	Diploma in Financial Management (English Medium)	1 year	8,000/-
B.Sc - Bachelor of Science (English, Telugu & Urdu Medium) (Lab. Fee Rs. 1600/- for each Science & Psychology Subjects)	3 years	2,500/- 1st Yr 2,500/- 2nd Yr 2,500/- 3rd Yr	Diploma in Human Resource Management (English Medium)	1 year	8,000/-
(B) Master's Programmes			(E) Certificate Programmes		
M.A. English, M.A. Hindi, M.A. Telugu, M.A. Urdu, M.A. Economics History, Political Science, Public Administration, Sociology - (Telugu Medium)	Course Duration 2 years	Tuition Fee Rs. 5,300/- 1 year 5,000/- 2 year	Diploma in Operations Management (English Medium)	Course Duration 6 months	Tuition Fee Rs. 1600/-
M.A. English, M.A. Hindi, M.A. Telugu, M.A. Urdu, M.A. Economics History, Political Science, Public Administration, Sociology - (Telugu Medium)	2 years	5,300/- 1 year 5,000/- 2 year	Diploma in Writing for Mass Media in Telugu	6 months	2100/-
M.A. Journalism and Mass Communication (English Medium)	2 years	7,800/- 1 year 7,500/- 2 year 7,500/- 3 year	Diploma in Environmental Studies (Telugu Medium)	1 year	5,200/-
M.Sc. Mathematics & Applied Mathematics (English Medium)	2 years	7,800/- 1 year 7,500/- 2 year 7,500/- 3 year	Diploma in Human Rights (English Medium)	1 year	5,200/-
M.Sc. Botany, M.Sc. Environmental Science (English Medium)	2 years	15,300/- 1 year 15,000/- 2 year	Diploma in Women's Studies (English Medium)	1 year	4,000/-
M.Sc. Physics, M.Sc. Zoology, M.Sc. Psychology (English Medium)	2 years	15,300/- 1 year 15,000/- 2 year	Diploma in Culture & Heritage Tourism (English Medium)	1 year	4,000/-
M.Sc. Chemistry (English Medium)	2 years	15,300/- 1 year 15,000/- 2 year	Certificate Programme in Food and Nutrition (Telugu Medium)	Course Duration 6 months	Tuition Fee Rs. 5,200/-
M.Com. (English Medium)	2 years	15,300/- 1 year 15,000/- 2 year	Certificate Programme in Literacy & Community Development (Telugu Medium)	6 months	1600/-
(C) Professional Programmes (Post Bachelor's Level)			Certificate Programme in NGO's Management (Telugu Medium)	6 months	2100/-
M.B.A. - Master's Degree in Business Administration (English Medium)	Course Duration 2 years	Tuition Fee Rs. 15,300/- 1 year 15,000/- 2 year	Certificate Programme in Early Childhood Care & Education (English Medium)	1 year	5,400/-
M.B.A. - (Hospital and Health Care Management) with AHERF , KIMS & DET (English Medium)	2 years	1,20,000/-	(F) Research Programmes (Ph.D in)		
Master's Degree in Library & Information Science (MLISc) (English Medium)	1 year	10,300/-	English, Hindi, Education, Economics, History, Political Science, Public Administration, Sociology, Commerce, Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry and Environmental Science (English Medium)	Course Duration 3 years	Tuition Fee Rs. 15,000/- 1 year 15,000/- 2 year 15,000/- 3 year
Bachelor's Degree in Library & Information Science (BLISc) (English & Telugu Medium)	1 year	5,300/-			
Bachelor's of Education (B.Ed - ODL) (Telugu Medium)	2 years	40,000/-			
Bachelor's of Education (B.Ed. Special Education - ODL) (English & Telugu Medium)	2 ½ years	40,000/-			

BRAOU CALL CENTRE NO : 18005990101

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