



MAHATMA GANDHI UNIVERSITY



Mahatma Gandhi University
Priyadarsini Hills P. O.
Kottayam, Kerala - 686560

(Re-accredited by NAAC with A Grade)

**ICT and Technology Enabled Learning
(TEL) Policy**

ICT and Technology Enabled Learning (TEL) Policy Mahatma Gandhi University

1. Introduction

1.1 Mahatma Gandhi University's Policy on ICT and Technology Enabled Learning (TEL) focuses on application of technology-enabled approaches to overcome monumental developmental challenges in education, teaching/learning, skill development, governance etc. to greatly enhance efficiency across the entire University. The term 'information and communication technology' (ICT) is used to cover any product or service that is designed to store, retrieve, manipulate, transmit, or receive information electronically in a digital form.

The focus of the policy is on deployment of ICT in all academic and administrative activities of the University and aims at attaining these objectives by harnessing the capabilities and potential of Information Technology and expertise of skilled human resources.

1.2 The Policy envisages covering the crucial aspects such as ICT Infrastructure, Technology Enabled Learning, Training, Applications to enhance the utilization of ICT in learning.

1.3 This policy once evolved and implemented, also presumes a continued monitoring along with periodic review and fine tuning based upon the implementation and operational experience.

2. Objectives and Scope

The major objectives for enacting a useful ICT and TEL Policy in the University are

- To maintain and improve the quality of teaching/learning process by engaging students in a variety of ways (using text, audio, video, virtual and simulated environments etc.) in their learning process, supporting their interactions with their peers and facilitating collaborative work
- To enhance the national and international reach by offering online programmes that can be opted by learners anywhere in the world by means of Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs)
- To offer programmes in collaboration with other institutions
- To update the faculty members in the latest technological developments in teaching, learning and evaluation process and to inculcate the culture of technology enabled learning in the academic scenario
- To ensure smooth operations of ICT infrastructure and high availability of academic e-resources in order to improve accessibility and flexibility for learners residing in remote areas

3. Technology and IT Infrastructure

ICT has become integral to the teaching-learning interactions of Mahatma Gandhi University, leading to improved student learning and better teaching methods. All the schools and centres of the University provide ICT enabled teaching-learning atmosphere equipped with Wi-fi enabled classrooms/projectors, state-of-the art software, virtual labs and simulation tools and smart class rooms for conducting lectures and video conferencing facilities for real time interaction with experts/ scientists from national/international organizations.

For the effective utilization and seamless integration of technological innovations in the current teaching-learning process, the University has set up 14 smart classrooms under the RUSA project, acting as virtual connect centres enhancing the quality of education at all levels. In addition to edu-conferencing, virtual classrooms and dedicated satellite-based education systems, there are also operational examples of self- instructional digital materials organized into learning management systems.

Vidyamrutam – The Learning Management System of Mahatma Gandhi University

The University has implemented an institutionalized platform for online teaching and learning, titled as “Vidyamrutam” which is a customized implementation of Moodle integrated with a web conferencing facility. Using this platform, teachers of statutory schools and centres can enroll students to their courses, engage and collaborate with the students online through chat, audio and video, upload and edit/manage any collection of multimedia e-resources/contents for their courses, create and administer assignments and quizzes to assess the students’ progress and offer live lectures through video conferencing. Students can access the platform, using any device, like a computer, laptop, handheld devices like tabs or mobile phones.

Teaching and Learning through SWAYAM (Study Webs of Active-Learning for Young Aspiring Minds)

Mahatma Gandhi University promotes the creation and use of e-content for teaching, learning and research. The University implemented UGC Regulations, 2016 -Credit Framework for Online Learning Courses through SWAYAM - an indigenous digital platform of Govt.of India, in the various statutory schools and centres, enabling students to join online courses and facilitating credit transfer. Faculty members are also encouraged to develop quality MOOC courses which will provide global visibility to the University system.

Multimedia Research Lab For Teaching And Learning Through SWAYAM-

A sophisticated Multimedia Research lab is set up in the campus facilitating professional level e-content development for faculty members and enabling teaching-learning through online platforms such as SWAYAM.

MGU-ALEMS (Automated Learning And Evaluation Management System)

Directorate for Applied Short-term Programmes (DASP) of Mahatma Gandhi University ventures to develop skilled human resources through short term applied academic

programmes. An Automated Learning and Evaluation Management System (MGU-ALEMS) has been custom developed for DASP to cover the entire student life cycle, including online submission of applications, admission and fees collection through payment gateway, Learning Management System (LMS), Online Examination, Automated Evaluation, Result Management and Issue of Mark Lists at a faster pace.

Center For Online Education (COE) was established in the University to offer completely online Undergraduate and Postgraduate Programmes. The centre utilizes the affluent instructional resources of the University, infrastructural facilities like automated learning and evaluation platform, recording studio, smart class rooms with facilities for live lectures and discussion forum, LMS, remoteetc. To map the entire student life-cycle and to deliver the programmes in a panoptical mode, the Centre also uses the Custom-developed digital platform called MGU-ALEMS (Automated Learning And Evaluation Management System). COE is conducting online examination through remote proctoring using MGU-ALEMS.

4. Organizational Responsibility

- Learners shall be informed about the teaching-learning resources through appropriate means such as brochures, prospectus, website, workshops, orientation programmes, social media etc.
- All course content developed by the schools/faculty members using the four quadrant approach (video, text, e-resources, assessment) shall be shared through Vidyamrutam – The Learning Management System of Mahatma Gandhi University after recommendation by the MOOC Monitoring Committee and approval by the Academic Council.
- Faculty members and staff engaged in teaching learning content development shall be continuously provided with capacity building training opportunities for getting updated with technically feasible and innovative tools and techniques.
- Educational applications and platforms shall be regularly maintained and updated with latest information by the University.
- Access for all the stakeholders to the various hardware/software resources (Network, Servers, Storage Servers, Tools and Software) and platforms shall be maintained by the IT Cell of the University in a proper and secure manner adhering to the IT Policy of Mahatma Gandhi University.
- A governance committee shall regularly monitor and ensure the adequate flow of information to and from users (teachers and students) and evaluate and review the technology enabled learning experience.