



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

(Re-accredited by NAAC with A Grade)

Extension and Outreach Policy

Extension and Outreach Policy of Mahatma Gandhi University

The extension and outreach policy of MGU outlines the University's commitment to engage with the Community beyond its traditional academic and research functions. The MGU extension and outreach policy typically defines the university's goals, strategies, and principles for conducting outreach and extension activities.

The Vision and Mission of MGU's Extension and Outreach Policy

MGU is committed to fostering positive relationships with the communities and stakeholders that would benefit from the University Resources. Our Extension and Outreach Policy is bound by our dedication to advancing knowledge, supporting community development, and addressing societal challenges through education, research, and collaboration.

Vision

Our Extension and Outreach Policy is based on the vision that contributes to the overall social development of the community and acts to inculcate principles and practices to engage with people, communities, organizations, activists, and policymakers to build and sustain more resilient communities.

Mission

The Mission of the MGU Extension and Outreach Policy is

1. To focus on Extension services and programs that meet real-world needs and involve all the stakeholders in the areas of education, and community building.
2. To involve the faculty, experts, and students of different Academic Schools in the University to have a collaborative role in the various development initiatives that would help to bring all partners to serve the public, generate positive change, and directly improve lives. To provide the knowledge and skills through various extension services and programs that meet real-world needs.

Goals and Objectives:

1. **Our Commitment to Community Engagement:**MGU aims to actively engage with our surrounding communities to create mutually beneficial partnerships that enhance the well-being of all stakeholders.
2. **Our Commitment to Lifelong Learning:**MGU will strive to provide accessible and inclusive educational opportunities to the Community that promote lifelong learning and skill development for diverse audiences.
3. **Our Research Impact:**MGU seeks to leverage the expertise of our faculty and students to address community needs in their research initiatives that would help to tackle various pressing issues, and contribute to the advancement of knowledge.

Principles and Values of Our Extension and

Outreach Policy:

- **Inclusivity:** At MGU we value diversity and are committed to providing equitable access to education and resources to the diverse community.
- **Sustainability:**MGU is dedicated to sustainable practices in all outreach and extension activities so as to inculcate and spread the value of Sustainability.

- **Social Responsibility:** MGU believes in our responsibility to contribute positively to society and address pressing societal challenges including providing geriatric care.
- **Collaboration:** MGU would prioritize collaboration with external partners and community members to co-create meaningful solutions that would help in preparing a resilient community.

Our Target Audiences: Our Target audiences for our outreach and extension efforts are directed towards:

- The Local Residents and Communities.
- Self-Help Groups such as Kudumbasree
- Local Self Governments /Panchayat
- Various Businesses and Industries
- Different Government agencies like the State Poverty Eradication Mission (SPEM) and policymakers
- Non-profit organizations
- Schools and educational institutions
- Other relevant stakeholders

Programs and Services: MG University offers a range of programs and services, including but not limited to:

- Continuing Education Courses and Workshops
- Community service and volunteering opportunities
- Research collaborations and knowledge transfer initiatives
- Consultation services and technical assistance

- Public lectures, seminars, and cultural events
- Resources for entrepreneurs and startups including Business Incubation Centres.

Partnerships:

MGU Extension and Outreach actively seek and maintain partnerships with external organizations and community groups such as Senior Citizen groups to enhance the impact and relevance of our outreach and extension initiatives. These partnerships are built on principles of trust, reciprocity, and shared objectives.

Resources Allocation:

The Resource allocations are based on the financial, human, and physical resources to support outreach and extension activities. The Budgets, staffing, and facilities are allocated in a manner that reflects the strategic importance of these activities.

Assessment and Evaluation:

MGU continuously assess and evaluate the effectiveness and impact of our outreach and extension programs using appropriate metrics and feedback mechanisms. This information guides program improvement and decision-making.

Community Engagement Framework:

MGU actively seek input and feedback from our communities to ensure that our programs and services are responsive to their needs and preferences. Community input is integrated into program development and decision-making processes.

Sustainability and Ethics:

MGU is committed to ethical conduct in all outreach and extension activities and prioritize sustainable practices in program design, implementation, and evaluation.

Reporting and Accountability:

MGU communicates its outreach and extension efforts to both internal and external stakeholders through regular reports and updates. We hold ourselves accountable for achieving the goals and objectives outlined in this policy.

Continuous Improvement:

For continuous improvement MGU recognises that community needs and challenges evolve over time. Therefore, at MGU we are committed to regularly reviewing and improving our Extension and Outreach Policy and practices to remain relevant and effective.

Compliance and Regulations:

This policy complies with all applicable laws and regulations governing outreach and extension activities and aligns with MGU's broader institutional policies.

Communication and Promotion:

MGU actively promotes our outreach and extension programs to our communities, encouraging participation, and engagement. We use a variety of communication channels to reach our diverse audiences.

Leadership and Responsibility:

The responsibility for implementing this policy rests with all members of the Mahatma Gandhi University community, including faculty, staff, students, and administrators. Departments and units are expected to align their efforts with this policy's goals and principles.

Operational Guidelines

1. The Information regarding Outreach and Extension programs are to be disseminated through the PRO and also through information in the website, separate notices and to be involved with the Heads of different Schools of the University.
2. The University appreciates the services provided by students and faculty by considering their working for such activities as on duty and also to network with various student bodies, clubs, NSS activities, different cells, faculty expertise, MOUs and the social initiatives.
3. The faculty in charge of the above units will be given appropriate training and also Training is given to the students before starting their work in communities. The students will be provided with facilities to participate in community extension activities with appropriate monitoring by the faculty.
4. MGU ensures that the students who are engaged in the community outreach activities are required to observe appropriate standards of behaviour in the campus, community interactions.
5. Students are to fulfil requirements such as Indemnity and also to obtain consent from parents/guardians, informing the faculty, HoDs of their respective Schools and maintaining the records of their activities.

The students who are engaged with Outreach and Extension programs are expected to maintain a record of the community extension activities in a prescribed format.