



SYMBIOSIS COLLEGE OF ARTS AND COMMERCE

An Empowered Autonomous College | Under Savitribai Phule Pune University
Reaccredited 'A+' with 3.51 CGPA For Third Cycle By NAAC | College with Potential for Excellence

BOARD OF STUDIES IN ECONOMICS

The Board of Studies Meeting in the subject of Economics held on 24th of April, 2025 at 8:30 AM in the Conference Room (SCAC).

AGENDA FOR THE BOS OF ECONOMICS

1. Confirmation of the minutes of the BOS meeting held on 8th April 2024
2. Approval of Courses for T.Y.B.A. and T.Y.B.Com Sem V and Sem VI
3. SYBA 2 Credit Paper Introduction to Research Writing
4. Course Structure for MA Economics
5. Approval of Fintech courses offered in Semester 1 and Semester 2 of M.A. Economics
6. Approval of an Elective Course offered in Semester 2 of M.A. Economics
7. Any other matter with the permission of the Chair

Prof. (Dr.) Sheena Mathews
Chairperson, Board of Studies in Economics



BOARD OF STUDIES IN ECONOMICS

MINUTES OF THE MEETING held on 24th April 2025:

The Board of Studies Meeting in the subject of Economics was held on 24th of April, 2025 at 8:30 AM in the Conference Room (SCAC). This was the first BOS for the Academic Year 2024-25.

Record of Attendees:

S.No.	Name	Designation
1	Prof. (Dr.) Sheena Mathews	Chairperson, Board of Studies
2	Dr. Arundhati Agte	Vice Chancellor's Nominee, SPPU
3	Mr. Abhay Tilak	Subject Expert
4	Mrs. Bhushana Karandikar	Subject Expert
5	Ms. Richa Bhagwat	Industry Representative
6	Ms. Komal Dhiwar	Alumni Representative
7	Prof. (Dr). Neelofar Raina	Head, Dept. of Banking and Finance
8	Mrs. Nalini Sapkal	Assistant Professor
9	Dr. Jini Jacob	Assistant Professor
10	Ms. Angela Thomas	Assistant Professor
11	Ms. Gauri Kapoor	Assistant Professor
12	Mr. Abhishek Bagade	Assistant Professor
13	Ms. Sharmishtha Pande	Teaching Assistant

The following points were discussed:

- I. Confirmation of the minutes of the BOS meeting held on 8th April 2024

RESOLUTION [No.: BOS/ECO/2025/1/1]

Unanimously confirmed the minutes of the BOS held on 8th April 2024.

- II. Approval of Courses for T.Y.B.A. and T.Y.B.Com Sem V and Sem VI

1. Mathematics for Economics: Theory and Applications (Sem 5, Major 11, 4 credits)



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- No changes necessary.
2. International Trade Theory and Policy (Sem 5, Major 12, 3 credits)
 - It was suggested to include Carbaugh's International Economics as a recommended reading.
 - Members suggested incorporating the concept of Global Value Chains (GVCs) and recommended the inclusion of sectoral trade patterns for a more comprehensive understanding of international trade dynamics.
 3. Behavioural Economics (Sem 5, Major 13, 3 credits)
 - The Board encouraged linking the course with practical exposure. It was suggested that the colleges explore the idea of setting up a basic experimental lab and possibly collaborate with organizations like FSSAI.
 - The assignment could involve drafting policy memoranda to companies (e.g., H&M) or suggesting business redesigning ideas, promoting applied learning.
 4. Decoding Dynamics of Stock Market (Sem 5, Major 14, 2 credits)
 - It was suggested to include documentaries to enhance understanding of the stock market's functioning and development.
 5. Contemporary Issues in Social Sector (Sem 5, Minor 5, 3 credits)
 - Experts highlighted that discussions on health and education could benefit from state-specific understanding, and it was recommended to include comparative case studies across states. It was suggested to include the concept of Human Capital Index.
 6. Statistics for Economics: Theory and Applications (Sem 6, Major 15, 4 credits)
 - It was proposed to introduce major Indian data sources such as Census Reports and Economic Surveys early in the course (under sub-unit 1.2).
 7. Evolving Dimensions of Economics (Sem 6, major 17, 3 credits)
 - Under section 3.1, it was suggested to include a discussion on urbanization and development, specifically focusing on how a location acquires an urban identity and the associated economic dynamics.
 - In Unit 3.1.2, it was recommended to replace the discussion on causes with key theories of urban growth.
 - Section 3.4 could be renamed "Urban Labour Market", and the unit may conclude with that.
 - It was suggested to incorporate a discussion on urbanization trends and state-level analysis. It was stressed that Indian-specific urbanization patterns and development issues should be central to the curriculum.
 8. Statistics for Economics: Theory and Applications (Sem 6, Major 15, 4 credits)



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- It was proposed to introduce major Indian data sources such as Census Reports and Economic Surveys early in the course (under sub-unit 1.2).

9. Economics of Taxation (Sem 6, Major 18, 2 credits)

- It was suggested to ensure a clear distinction between direct and indirect taxes, and to explain the differences between taxes, fees, and duties in the first unit.

10. Strategies and Outlook of the Indian Economy (Sem 6, Minor 6, 3 credits)

- No changes necessary.

11. TYBCOM Economics (NEP) Semester 5, International Economics (3 credits) and Semester 6, Indian Economy: Performance and Policies (3 credits) approved without any changes.

RESOLUTION [No.: BOS/ECO/2025/1/2]

Unanimously agreed that the courses for T.Y.B.A. and T.Y.B.Com Semester V and VI have been structured in alignment with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, and the same have been reviewed and approved by the Board of Studies (BOS).

III. SYBA 2 Credit Paper Introduction to Research Writing

- Under the section on literature review, it was recommended to emphasize on the importance of a literature review, focusing on identifying the key themes and research gaps.
- In place of formulating a hypothesis, students could be guided to frame research questions based on these gaps.
- Students also need to be made aware of the audience of the research work (corporations, professionals, etc.) to plan the research accordingly.
- The members were informed that this course will be floated as value added course

RESOLUTION [No.: BOS/ECO/2025/1/3]

Unanimously noted the suggestions made for the SYBA 2-credit course on Introduction to Research Writing for subsequent incorporation into the course structure.

IV. Course Structure for MA Economics

RESOLUTION [No.: BOS/ECO/2025/1/4]

Unanimously agreed that the course structure for MA Economics is in alignment with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.



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V. Approval of Fintech courses offered in Semester 1 and Semester 2 of M.A. Economics

- It was observed that the syllabus for the elective, "Financial System-Foundation of Fintech" was too vast.

RESOLUTION [No.: BOS/ECO/2025/1/5]

The Board of Studies unanimously noted the suggestions made.

VI. Approval of an Elective Course offered in Semester 2 of M.A. Economics

- Security Analysis & Derivative Markets: No changes necessary
- A new elective on 'the Political Economy of Development' was proposed, with recommended readings including works by Abhijit Banerjee and Ashutosh Varshney, to provide students with a critical understanding of development debates and institutional dynamics. In addition, the subject experts suggested incorporating a range of contemporary and accessible readings. These include In Service of the Republic, Understanding Reforms by Suresh D. Tendulkar and T.A. Bhavani, Biography of P.V. Narasimha Rao, writings on economic policy by Jayaram Ramesh, The Accidental Prime Minister, Advice and Dissent by Y.V. Reddy, as well as Fault Lines and The Third Pillar by Raghuram Rajan. These readings aim to expose students to real-world policy narratives and diverse economic perspectives.

RESOLUTION [No.: BOS/ECO/2025/1/6]

The Board of Studies unanimously noted the suggestions made.

VII. Any other matter with the permission of the Chair

- Assignments to be incorporated into the syllabi of all courses where they are currently not specified.
- Arundhati ma'am suggested the inclusion of foundational and engaging texts for FYBA students. The books "*Why I Am Paying More?*" and "*Day to Day Economics*" by Mr. Satish Deodhar (IIM Ahmedabad) were recommended as introductory readings.
- Members also suggested exploring the inclusion of vocational courses focused on interpreting and presenting statistical data, with an emphasis on both Indian and global contexts.
- BEAMS (Budget Estimation, Allocation & Monitoring System) was suggested as a resource for MA Economics students (with reference to contemporary issues in the social sector).
- Suggestions of the Feedback on Curriculum were put forth. The need for having a text book was stated



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RESOLUTION [No.: BOS/ECO/2025/1/7]

The Board of Studies unanimously noted the suggestions and agreed to explore and organize a collaborative workshop for teachers focused on designing a syllabus on Political Economy, as part of academic development initiatives.

The meeting concluded by expressing gratitude to the members of the Committee.

Prof. (Dr.) Sheena Mathews
Chairperson, Board of Studies in Economics