



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



GUIDELINES FOR THE FOURTH YEAR OF 4-YEAR UGHONOURS PROGRAMME



ACADEMIC YEAR
2026-2027

About the Fourth Year UG Honours Programme under NEP

Symbiosis College of Arts and Commerce, renowned for its academic rigor, global perspective, and inclusive ethos, envisions education as a means to nurture well-rounded individuals who are intellectually capable, socially sensitive, and globally competent. Upholding the Symbiosis philosophy of *“Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam”*—the world is one family—the college remains steadfast in its commitment to fostering a holistic learning ecosystem that integrates academic depth, ethical values, creativity, and social responsibility.

In alignment with this vision and in keeping with the transformative framework of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, Symbiosis College takes a progressive step forward by introducing the Four-Year Undergraduate Honours Programme (FYUP) from the Academic Year 2026–2027. This structural reform marks a paradigm shift from traditional degree frameworks to a holistic, flexible, and multidisciplinary model that prioritizes both academic excellence and personal growth.

The Four-Year Honours Programme is designed to empower students with the knowledge, skills, and attitudes required to navigate the complexities of a dynamic global environment. It bridges the gap between academic learning and real-world application by integrating research, innovation, critical thinking, and experiential learning into the undergraduate curriculum.

Under the NEP 2020 framework, students will benefit from a Choice-Based Credit System (CBCS) and Multiple Entry and Exit options, offering academic flexibility and the opportunity to learn at their own pace. The fourth year of the programme—an optional but highly encouraged addition—focuses on advanced disciplinary study, research aptitude, and practical exposure, preparing learners for higher education, professional excellence, and entrepreneurial ventures.

Objectives of the Fourth Year UG Honours Programme

❖ Foster Research and Inquiry-Based Learning

- Encourage students to develop critical thinking, analytical skills, and a spirit of inquiry through guided research projects, dissertations, and field-based studies.
- Integrate research methodology courses across semesters to build research competencies from early stages of the undergraduate journey.
- Provide opportunities to present and publish undergraduate research, aligning with national and international academic standards.

❖ Advance Specialization and Academic Rigor

- Deepen subject-specific knowledge through advanced discipline-centric courses offered in the fourth year.
- Enable students to pursue Honours or Honours with Research, which enhances eligibility for Master's and Doctoral programmes in India and abroad.
- Introduce interdisciplinary and cross-functional electives to broaden academic understanding and encourage innovation across domains.

❖ Enhance Career Readiness and Employability

- Embed industry-integrated learning, case studies, simulations, and project-based assignments to bridge theory and practice.
- Strengthen employability skills such as communication, problem-solving, teamwork, leadership, and digital literacy.
- Establish career mapping and mentorship systems to guide students toward career paths aligned with their strengths and interests.

❖ On-the-Job Training (OJT) and Experiential Exposure

- Include Internship and On-the-Job Training components as part of credit-bearing courses to provide real-world exposure and hands-on experience.

- Collaborate with corporate partners, NGOs, start-ups, and research institutions to facilitate internships, live projects, and community engagement.
- Encourage students to undertake capstone projects and fieldwork in their area of specialization to gain applied insights and workplace readiness.
- ❖ **Promote Holistic and Value-Based Learning**
 - Inculcate values of ethics, inclusivity, environmental consciousness, and social responsibility through curricular and co-curricular engagements.
 - Integrate life skills, mental well-being, and entrepreneurial mindsets into the learning framework.
 - Foster a culture of empathy, integrity, and global citizenship that prepares learners to contribute meaningfully to society and the world.
- ❖ **Encourage Lifelong Learning and Global Competence**
 - Equip students with the ability to adapt, innovate, and lead in rapidly changing professional landscapes.
 - Offer flexible learning pathways that enable re-entry and continuous upskilling opportunities.
 - Foster a global outlook through collaborations, international exposure programmes, and academic exchange initiatives.

SOP of the Fourth Year UG Honours Programme

Students applying for the Fourth Year Honours Programme must meet the following requirements:

- ❖ No backlogs in any subject from the previous years.
- ❖ Minimum 75% attendance must be maintained in the Honours Programme.
- ❖ Students who are placed through campus recruitment in the 3rd year are not eligible for the Honours Programme.
- ❖ Honours classes will be conducted after 12:30 PM

Programme Structure and Credit Distribution

The college offers **two options for the students** after the successful completion of three years of the undergraduate degree programme (B.A. / B.Com.) comprising **132 credits**.

1. **Fourth Year B.A. / B.Com. Honours**
2. **Fourth Year B.A. / B.Com. Honours with Research**

1. Fourth Year B.A. / B.Com. Honours

The Fourth Year Honours Programme is designed for students who wish to gain advanced disciplinary knowledge, professional exposure, and applied learning experience in their chosen area of study.

It emphasizes academic enrichment through discipline-specific courses, skill-based learning, and On-the-Job Training (OJT). The OJT component enables students to apply theoretical knowledge to real-world settings, thereby enhancing their employability and professional competence.

This pathway is ideal for students seeking industry-oriented learning, entrepreneurial readiness, or preparation for professional roles immediately after graduation.

Upon completion, students will be awarded the B.A. / B.Com Honours Degree, having completed a total of 172 credits (132 + 40).

2. Fourth Year B.A. / B.Com. Honours with Research

The Honours with Research Programme is designed for students who aspire to develop strong research and analytical capabilities and to pursue higher studies, such as postgraduate or doctoral programmes.

This stream integrates advanced theory, research methodology, and a major research project or dissertation under faculty supervision. The research component allows students to undertake independent inquiry, data analysis, and report writing — equipping them with essential skills for academic and policy-based research.

Students opting for this pathway will engage in intensive research work in Semester VIII, replacing the OJT component with a Research Project / Dissertation.

Upon completion, students will be awarded the B.A. / B.Com. Honours with Research Degree, having completed a total of 172 credits (132 + 40).

Programme Structure

Fourth Year BA/B.Com Honours (Sem -7)					Fourth Year BA/B.Com Honours with Research (Sem -7)				
Level	Semester	Major	Type	Total no. of Credits	Level	Semester	Major	Type	Total no. of Credits
6	VII	Major 1 (DS)	Compulsory	4	6	VII	Major 1 (DS)	Compulsory	4
		Major 2 (DS)	Compulsory	4			Major 2 (DS)	Compulsory	4
		Major 3 (DS)	Compulsory	4			Elective 1	Choose any one	4
		Elective 1	Choose any one	4			Elective 2		4
		Elective 2		4			Research Methodology	Compulsory	4
		Research Methodology	4	Research Project			Compulsory	4	
Total				20 credits	Total				20 credits
Fourth Year BA/B.Com Honours (Sem -8)					Fourth Year BA/B.Com Honours with Research (Sem -8)				
Level	Semester	Major	Type	Total no. of Credits	Level	Semester	Major	Type	Total no. of Credits
6	VIII	Major 1 (DS)	Compulsory	4	6	VIII	Major 1 (DS)	Compulsory	4
		Major 2 (DS)	Compulsory	4			Major 2 (DS)	Compulsory	4
		Major 3 (DS)	Compulsory	4			Elective 1	Choose any one	4
		Elective 1	Choose any one	4			Elective 2		4
		Elective 2		4			Research Project (Dissertation)	Compulsory	8
		OJT	Compulsory	4					
Total				20 credits	Total				20 credits

* **DS: Discipline Specific**

* **OJT: On-the-Job Training**

✦ Eligibility Criteria

Sr. no	Fourth Year BA/B.Com Honours	Fourth Year BA/B.Com Honours with Research
1.	<p>Minimum Academic Performance:</p> <p>Credit Completion through first three years: Students must have successfully earned the required credits (typically around 120–132 credits) by the end of the third year.</p>	<p>Minimum Academic Performance:</p> <p>Credit Completion with specific CGPA: Students must typically obtain a specific CGPA of 7.5 while successfully earning the required credits (typically around 120–132 credits) by the end of the third year.</p>
2.	<p>No Backlogs:</p> <p>The candidate must have no active or pending backlogs in any subject at the time of application.</p>	<p>No Backlogs:</p> <p>The candidate must have no active or pending backlogs in any subject at the time of application.</p>
3.	<p>Subject Continuity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students are eligible to pursue the Fourth Year Honours programme only in the same major specialization that they have studied during the first three years of their undergraduate program. • This ensures academic continuity and deeper disciplinary focus. 	<p>Subject Continuity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students are eligible to pursue the Fourth Year Honours with Research programme only in the same major specialization that they have studied during the first three years of their undergraduate program. • This ensures academic continuity and deeper disciplinary focus.
4.	<p>Campus Placement Opportunity:</p> <p>Students enrolled in the Fourth Year Honours programme are eligible to participate in the campus placement process, provided they meet the academic, corporate and training requirements set by the college Placement Cell.</p>	<p>Campus Placement Opportunity:</p> <p>Students enrolled in the Fourth Year Honours programme are eligible to participate in the campus placement process, provided they meet the academic, corporate and training requirements set by the college Placement Cell.</p>
5.	<p>Students who are placed through campus recruitment at the end of the third year will not be eligible to continue with the fourth year Honours programme.</p>	<p>Students who are placed through campus recruitment at the end of the third year will not be eligible to continue with the fourth year Honours with Research programme.</p>

For further inquiries, connect with us at:
honours@symbiosiscollege.edu.in