

## R.T.M. Nagpur University, Nagpur

### Guidelines for HONORS (MAJOR) & MINOR

#### For B.Tech. Programs of all the ~~Non-Autonomous~~ Engineering Colleges

#### 1.0 PREAMBLE

Apart from the minimum credit requirements as per the scheme of exam for the award of the undergraduate engineering degree, these Honors (Major), Minor Programs offered by RTMNU provide opportunities for supplementing the learning experience. These programs offered are in parent as well as in diverse areas. These credits when are in a focused branch would earn the students' credentials like Honors (Major)/Minor. Honors (Major) scheme aims for vertical knowledge growth in his/her own branch which may have research orientation while Minor scheme aims for additional knowledge in any other branch for enhancing the employability.

On successful completion of the requirements of Honors (Major), the UG student will receive B. Tech. (Honors) degree with the mention of Honors' specialisation. Similarly on successful completion of the requirements of minors the UG student will receive B. Tech. degree with the mention of minors' specialisation. Additionally, the concerned college shall also issue the certificate of completion of Honors (Major) or Minors.

Participation of students in these programs shall not be mandatory. Aspiring students will register for courses mentioned in the program and acquire 18 (minimum) to 20 credits. A student opting for 'Honors' will not be entitled to register for 'Minor' and vice-versa. It is expected that the students with good academic standing, utilize their surplus time for enhancing their academic learning experience and gain a wide exposure.

These schemes are implemented progressively from the batch of UG students admitted in 2020-21 onwards. No additional fee would be charged for Honors/Minor courses by the college or University. However, SWAYAM-NPTEL will charge the fees for proctored examination and certification.

#### 2.0 CREDITS to be earned by students for Honors (Major) / Minor degree

Total credits to be earned for Honors (Major) or Minor will be 18 to 20 along with all the prescribed credits of the regular B.Tech. program in which he/she is admitted.

Examples:

- a) Student who has completed regular B.Tech. in stipulated time schedule and also earned all prescribed Honor (Major) or Minor credits at the time of declaration of final year result, is eligible to get regular + Honor (Major) or Minor degree.
- b) Student who has completed regular B.Tech. in stipulated time schedule but fail to earn all prescribed Honor (Major) or Minor credits at the time of declaration of final year result, is eligible to get only regular degree.

#### 3.0 DEGREE WITH HONORS, MAJOR & MINOR:

Technically there is no difference between the Title, Scheme of Examination and Syllabus between Honors and Major programs as far as number of credits and syllabus is concerned. A student will be conferred with:

- a) Honors Degree (e.g., "**BE in Mechanical Engineering with Honors in Advanced Dynamics**") only if he/she is having a final CGPA of more than or equal to 7 in regular Program with no backlog in any semester, during the span of his/her degree (including Honors program).
- b) Degree with Major (e.g., "**BE in Mechanical Engineering with Majors in Advanced Dynamics**") if he/she is not having a final CGPA of more than or equal to 7 in regular Program and /or had backlog subjects, in any semester, during the span of his/her degree (including Major program).
- c) Degree with Minor (e.g., "**BE in Mechanical Engineering with Minor in Electrical Engineering**") if he/she is having a final CGPA of more than or equal to 7 in regular Program with no backlog in any semester, during the span of his/her degree (including Minor program).

**Note:** 1. It is expected that every department of the college/institution offering Major/Minor should appoint one Honors (Major)/Minor coordinator to help students sort out academic as well as administrative issues. Also, one Single Point of Contact (SPoC) be appointed at college/institute level.

2. The scheme shall ideally begin from the fourth semester of UG for the students admitted in the session 2020-21 onwards. However, it is flexible to the extent that student interested may start it from first semester also.

#### 4.0 SWAYAM-NPTEL:

1. This platform is indigenously developed by seven IITs and IISc together under the umbrella of Ministry of Education, Govt. of India. Website address of NPTEL is [www.nptel.ac.in](http://www.nptel.ac.in) and SWAYAM has its website address as [swayam.gov.in](http://swayam.gov.in).
2. SWAYAM-NPTEL platform has its own assessment system consisting of CIE (25 marks) and SEE (75 marks). For successful completion, 40 marks are required (min. 10 marks in CIE and 30 in SEE). SEE is a proctored exam which is conducted at designated centres at national level. Nagpur is one of such centres for SWAYAM-NPTEL exam.
3. SWAYAM-NPTEL follows the CBCS system. Every course is allotted credits based on the number of hours of the course duration. Students are given the choice to select the courses from core and elective courses under a particular Major/Minor which a student opts.
4. SWAYAM-NPTEL charges fee of Rs. 1000/- (500/- for SC/ST) for conducting proctored examination and certification.

*CIE: Continuous Internal Evaluation SEE: Semester End Examination (Proctored Exam)*

#### 5.0 CERTIFICATE OF HONORS (MAJOR)

Each Board of Studies is offering minimum three Honors (Major) Programs. All these Honors (Major) Programs are offered through SWAYAM - NPTEL platform

##### a) Eligibility of student:

Students having CGPA more than or equal to 6 (for regular students CGPA of third semester and for lateral entry students SGPA of third semester will be considered) and no backlogs shall be eligible to register for Honors courses of their parent discipline from the list prescribed by the University.

##### b) Implementation:

1. RTM Nagpur University has prescribed "branch wise – specialisation wise" list of courses (core & elective) for Honors (Major), with all details including course name, course code, name of subject matter expert (SME) with affiliation, credits, teaching & evaluation scheme, course outcomes, detail syllabus and list of references.
2. While giving the scheme of all such specialisations which course is to be completed in which semester is given, but it is only suggestive not compulsory. Semester wise course list is given with the logic of i) lower semester – lower level of difficulty and ii) lower semester courses are sometimes prerequisite to the higher semester courses.
3. University will check whether a student has i) earned 18-20 credits & ii) the credits earned are by clearing the courses mentioned in the list of same specialisation pertaining to the parent branch of B.Tech.
4. The HoD of the parent department will identify and appoint one faculty member as "Honors/Minor Coordinator" who shall be responsible for all coordination, record keeping and guidance to the students.
5. All applications of concerned students shall be verified and forwarded to the SPoC with remarks by the Honors/Minor Coordinator and HoD of the parent department.

##### c) Students' Attendance:

Completing the assignments, giving the proctored examination and earning the certificate of requisite credits with prescribed percentage via SWAYAM – NPTEL platform is considered as satisfactory attendance for students.

##### d) Examination:

The complete assessment and evaluation scheme is prescribed by SWAYAM-NPTEL platform, which students need to follow and abide by. If a student is not able to pass the course, can go for another attempt as and when the course is made available for exam by SWAYAM-NPTEL.

Certificates worth 18-20 credits of Honors courses must be produced on or before the last date/paper of 8<sup>th</sup> semester examination. Credits mentioned on such certificates will be final and binding.

##### e) Duration of Program with Honors:

All requirements of the regular program and Honors have to be completed within the stipulated period of the regular program i.e., 04 years for UG students who were admitted in the First Year of the program and 03 years for those

who got lateral entry in second year of the program. No additional period will be permitted. If a student is unable to earn additional 18-20 credits along with all the prescribed credits of the parent program within the stipulated allowed duration, he/she will not be awarded Honors. The partial completion of Honors courses, if any, shall not be adjusted or converted into program credits anywhere in the credits structure of the curriculum of the regular program in which they were admitted and such additional credits will remain extra.

**f) Certificate:**

1. For an Honors course completed successfully by the student, he/she shall be issued a certificate of completion of that course by SWAYAM-NPTEL. The passing of individual Honors courses shall not be mentioned on the Grade Cards.
2. After earning 18-20 credits of Honors, a separate certificate of “Honors in \_\_\_\_\_ (name of specialisation/domain of Honors)” shall be awarded to the student by the college on completion of final semester. University will provide B.Tech. degree in parent branch with “Honors in \_\_\_\_\_ (name of specialisation/domain of Honors)”.
3. After earning 18-20 credits of Major, a separate certificate of “Major in \_\_\_\_\_ (name of specialisation/domain of Major)” shall be awarded to the student by the college on completion of final semester. University will provide B.Tech. degree in parent branch with “Major in \_\_\_\_\_ (name of specialisation/domain of Major)”.

**g) Dropping/Withdrawal/Termination from Honors:**

If a student drops or withdraws from the Honors scheme at any stage, the additional credits earned through Honors courses shall not be converted into program credits (core/electives/lab/project etc) and they will remain extra.

**h) Class & Medal:**

Successful completion of the Honors scheme will not indicate any Class or Division. For the award of a Medal to meritorious students, in case of a tie, student who has earned the Honors will be preferred.

## 6.0 CERTIFICATE OF MINOR

Each Board of Studies is offering minimum one MINOR program which is made available through SWAYAM – NPTEL platform. The program for MINOR offered by a department (for example CSE), shall be offered to all other departments except for the students of the parent department (CSE).

**a) Eligibility of student:**

Students having CGPA more than or equal to 6 (for regular students CGPA of third semester and for lateral entry students SGPA of third semester will be considered) and no backlogs shall be eligible to register for Minor courses of other than their parent discipline from the list prescribed by the University.

**b) Implementation:**

1. RTM Nagpur University has prescribed “branch wise” list of Minor courses (core & elective), with all details including course name, course code, name of subject matter expert with affiliation, credits, teaching & evaluation scheme, course outcomes, detail syllabus and list of references.
2. While giving the scheme of branch wise Minor courses, which course is to be completed in which semester is given, but it is only suggestive not compulsory. Semester wise course list is given with the logic of i) lower semester – lower level of difficulty and ii) lower semester courses are sometimes prerequisite to the higher semester courses.
3. University while deciding to give Minor degree will check whether B.Tech. student has i) earned 18-20 credits & ii) the credits earned are from the list of courses of the same Minor prescribed by the University. List of the courses leading to Minor is prescribed by the University for every department/program.

**c) Student Attendance:**

Completing the assignments, giving the proctored examination and earning the certificate of requisite credits with prescribed percentage via SWAYAM-NPTEL platform is considered as satisfactory attendance for students.

**d) Examination:**

The complete assessment and evaluation scheme is prescribed by SWAYAM-NPTEL platform, which students need to follow and abide by. If a student is not able to pass the course, can go for another attempt as and when the course is made available for exam by SWAYAM-NPTEL platform.

Certificates worth 18-20 credits of Honors courses must be produced on or before the last date/paper of 8<sup>th</sup> semester examination. Credits mentioned on such certificates will be final and binding.

**e) Duration of Program with Minor:**

All requirements of the Minor program have to be completed within the stipulated period of the original program i.e., 04 years for UG students who were admitted in the First Year of the program and 03 years for those who got lateral entry in second year of the program. No additional period will be permitted. If a student is unable to earn 18-20 credits along with all the prescribed credits of a program in which he/she is admitted within the stipulated allowed duration of the original program he/she will not be awarded degree with Minor. The Minor courses completed partially, shall not be adjusted or converted into program credits anywhere in the credits structure of the regular curriculum of the parent program and they will remain extra.

**f) Certificate:**

1. For Minor courses completed successfully by the student, he/she shall be issued a certificate of completion of that course by SWAYAM-NPTEL. The passing of individual Minor courses shall not be mentioned on the Grade Cards.
2. After earning 18-20 credits of Minor, a separate certificate of “**Minor Specialization in \_\_\_\_\_ Engineering**” shall be awarded to the student by the college on completion of final semester. University will provide B.Tech. degree in parent branch with “**Minor Specialization in \_\_\_\_\_ Engineering**”.
3. After earning 18-20 credits of Minor in interdisciplinary courses a separate certificate of “**Minor in Multidisciplinary Courses**” shall be awarded to the student by the college on completion of final semester. University will provide B.Tech. degree in parent branch with “**Minor in Multidisciplinary Courses**”.

**g) Dropping/Withdrawal/Termination from Minors:**

If a student drops or withdraws from the Minor scheme at any stage, the additional credits earned through Minor courses shall not be converted into program credits (core/electives/lab/project etc) and they will remain extra.

**h) Class & Medal:**

Successful completion of Minor scheme will not indicate any Class or Division. For the award of a Medal to meritorious students, in case of a tie, students who have completed the Minor scheme will be preferred.

**7.0 CREDIT TRANSFER**

On the basis of proctored examination conducted by NPTEL / SWAYAM, full credits shall be transferred only after submission of successful course completion certificates along with admit cards of examination.

**8.0 GRADE CONVERSION**

The grade conversion and credit transfer of proctored examination conducted by NPTEL-SWAYAM shall be considered as below,

**Table 1**

<b>Score</b>	<b>Equivalent Grade</b>	<b>Equivalent Term</b>	<b>Grade Point</b>
91 to 100	O	Outstanding	10
81 to 90.99	A+	Excellent	9
71 to 80.99	A	Very Good	8
61 to 70.99	B+	Good	7
51 to 60.99	B	Above Average	6
41 to 50.99	C	Average	5
40 to 40.99	P	Pass	4
<40	F	Fail	0

Ab	Ab	Absent	0
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#### 9.0 GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR AWARENESS OF HONORS (MAJOR)/MINOR PROGRAMS:

1. Under each BoS, a steering committee shall be formed for smooth conduct of the Honors / Minor Program being offered by the department. The proposed composition shall be,  
HoD (Chairman) + three senior teachers
2. The steering Committee will conduct a meeting with all Fourth Semester students to explain the Honors (Major)/Minor programs including their contents, advantages, employability, specialization and any other related future aspects.
3. The committee shall be responsible for proper publicity of Honors (Major)/Minor programs, allocation of facilitators, smooth implementation of the mentoring scheme of NPTEL and liaising with students who have opted for the program.
4. Each department shall prepare an Honors (Major)/Minor brochure containing Scheme of Examination and Syllabus as prescribed by the University. Honors (Major)/Minor brochure so prepared shall be uploaded on the website of the college.
5. The Honors (Major)/Minor Brochure shall also be mailed to each 4th Semester student and their parents by the department.
6. A video clip explaining the features of all Honors (Major)/Minor programs shall also be made available on the college website by each department.
7. The feedback and response related to Honors (Major)/Minor programs offered by each department shall be conducted immediately after the presentation of the steering committee and any action if required shall be taken immediately.

#### 10.0 GRIEVANCE REDRESSAL MECHANISM

A committee constituted under the Chairmanship of the Dean will be responsible to address the grievances of students, teachers, institution and other concerned stake holders.

**Dean (Science & Technology)**

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