



GU/Acad –PG/BoS - GU-ART /2025-26/583

Date: 26.11.2025

CIRCULAR

The syllabus for the Goa University–Admission Ranking Test (GU-ART) of **Master of Arts in Geography** and **B.Ed. in Geography** Programmes, approved by the Academic Council in its meeting held on 7th November 2025 is attached.

The Dean/Vice-Dean (Academic) of the D.D. Kosambi School of Social Sciences and Behavioural Studies and the Principals of all the affiliated Colleges are requested to take note of the above and bring the contents of this Circular to the notice of all concerned, including students aspiring to pursue the Master's and B.Ed. Programmes.

(Ashwin V. Lawande)
Deputy Registrar – Academic

To,

1. The Dean, D.D. Kosambi School of Social Sciences and Behavioural Studies, Goa University.
2. The Vice-Dean (Academic), D.D. Kosambi School of Social Sciences and Behavioural Studies, Goa University.
3. Principals of all the affiliated Colleges.

Copy to:

1. Controller of Examinations, Goa University.
2. Assistant Registrar (Admissions), Goa University.
3. Assistant Registrar Examinations (UG/PG), Goa University.
4. Director, Directorate of Internal Quality Assurance, Goa University for uploading the Syllabus on the University website.



GOA UNIVERSITY

SYLLABUS FOR GOA UNIVERSITY-ADMISSIONS RANKING TEST (GU-ART) FOR MASTER'S & B.Ed. IN GEOGRAPHY PROGRAMMES

Effective from AY: 2026-2027

Modules	Content
Module 1:	Title - Foundations in Geography (FYBA MAJOR I&II)
	Content – Definitions, Divisions and Branches of Geography; Geography as Inter-disciplinary, Intra-disciplinary and Multi-disciplinary Science; Contemporary Approaches in Geography: Area, Spatial, Locational & Geographic Systems Analysis; Five Themes of Geography Universe, solar system; Origin of the Earth; Shape, size, rotation and revolution of Earth; Lunar and Solar eclipses; Geographical co-ordinates; Local and standard time Maps – Characteristics and types, Methods of mapping
Module 2:	Title – Geography of Sustainable Development (MINOR I)
	Content – Definition, Key principles and concepts of sustainable development; Geographical perspectives on sustainable development; Sustainable economic models and strategies; Environmental dimension of sustainable development; Health, education, and human development; Participatory democracy and citizen engagement; International cooperation and sustainable development
Module 3:	Title - Geography of Climate Change (MINOR I)
	Content - Definition and scope of climate change; Causes and consequences of climate change; Greenhouse effect; Role of human activities in climate change; Mitigation strategies and adaptation approaches of climate change, Economic and political considerations; International Frameworks and Agreements – UNFCCC, IPCC, Kyoto Protocol, Paris Agreement
Module 4:	Title - Application of Disaster Risk Reduction and Mitigation (MINOR II)
	Content - Fundamentals of Application of Disaster Risk Reduction and Mitigation - Understanding the threat, Mental preparedness, Logistics, Coordination, Warning signals, Communication

	National Action Plan on Climate Change; Role of local institutions (Urban Local Bodies, Panchayats); Assessment of local disasters, Preparation of Disaster Management Plan
Module 5:	Title - Fundamentals of Tourism Geography (MINOR II)
	Content - Definition and significance of Tourism Geography; Geography of types of tourism – Ecotourism, Cultural tourism, Community-based tourism, Medical Tourism; Impacts of Tourism on Destination – Economic, Social and Environmental Tourism planning process; Stakeholder analysis; Ecotourism Certification
Module 6:	Title - Development of Geographic Thought (MAJOR III)
	Content -Nature of geographic knowledge during ancient (Greek, Roman and Indians) and medieval (Arab) periods, Foundation of modern geography - contributions of Varenus, Kant, Humboldt and Ritter, Dichotomy and dualism in Geography: Physical vs Human Geography and Systematic vs Regional Geography, Social relevance in geography - Welfare, Radical and Feminist Perspectives. Postmodernism and Geography
Module 7:	Title - Geography of Resources (MAJOR III)
	Content - Metallic: Ferrous - Iron Ore, Non-Ferrous–Bauxite Fuel Resources: Coal & Petroleum Renewable Resources- fish, forest, livestock, Non-Conventional Energy Resources Agriculture Resources -Rice & Wheat, Tea & Coffee, Cotton & Sugarcane Human Resources-Distribution, Density, Age-sex structure, Literacy, Rural- Urban composition, Migration
Module 8:	Title - Economic Geography (MINOR III)
	Content - Locational Theories-Least Cost Theory, Profit Maximization Theory, Behavioural Location Theory, Break Point Theory, Industrial location - Weber. Types of Agriculture Agricultural Regions Manufacturing Industry: Iron and Steel, Sugar, Shipbuilding, Telecommunication and Software industries. Major Roads & Railway, Air, Ocean & Canal Routes (North Atlantic & Indian Ocean) (Suez & Panama Canals) and Ports Trade Blocks: WTO, EU, G-20, BRICS, & SAARC Regional Disparities: Causes and Consequences
Module 9:	Title - Geography of Environment and Development (MINOR III)
	Content - Sustainable Development, Circular Economy, Ecosystem-Based Approaches Green Growth

	Technology for Sustainable Development Environmental Justice Positive and Negative impacts on the Environment –dams, Deforestation, Transportation (Hill Cutting, Tunnel Disasters), Agriculture (Air Pollution due to stubble burning), Wars (Recent Wars of Syria, Ukraine, Israel) Environment Management and Role of Global and National Policies and Laws: Stockholm 1972, Montreal Protocol, Rio 1992, 2012, IPCC Kyoto Protocol, Conference of Parties (COPs), Paris Agreement Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Role of GIS in Land Use Management, Urban Management
Module 10:	Title - Principles of Population Geography (MAJOR IV) Content- Definition, Nature and Scope, Recent trends in Population Geography, Population size, Population distribution pattern with reference to World, India and Goa, density zones, population growth – determinants and patterns, Demographic Transition Model (DTM) Fertility, Mortality and Migration Population composition and change - age sex composition, rural- urban composition, religious composition, literacy levels, occupational structure, income inequality, Contemporary Issues- Ageing Population (Japan), Declining Sex ratio, One Child Policy (China) - Implications and consequences, Gender inequality.
Module 11:	Title - Geopolitical Geography (MAJOR IV) Content- Basic Conceptual Issues: Territoriality, Sovereignty, State. Geopolitical Theories: Classical geopolitical theories (Mackinder, Spykman, Mahan, and Haushofer) Resource geopolitics (oil, gas, minerals) Economic integration and trade blocs, Ethnic and religious conflicts Globalization and Geopolitics Boundary Issues Geopolitics of climate change and sustainable development Emerging powers and new geopolitical dynamics
Module 12:	Title - Physical Landscape of India (MAJOR IV) Content- Physical divisions of India-The Himalayas, the Great North Indian Plains, Peninsular Plateau, Indian Desert, Coastal plains and islands Drainage System of India- Himalayan, Peninsular, hydropower projects Climatic Regions of India, Factors influencing the climate of India, Monsoon and its mechanism

	Natural Vegetation of India: Forest Cover in India, Types of Forest in India, Biosphere reserves, national parks of India, Forest Conservation, Forest and Indigenous Communities and their problems in India.
Module 13:	Title - Physical Geography of Goa (MAJOR IV) Content- Geographic location, size, and administrative divisions Physical Divisions of Goa, Geological history of Goa, Landforms and their formation processes, Climate of Goa, Soils of Goa Natural Resources of Goa-minerals and mining activities, Forest resources and biodiversity, Rivers, water bodies and irrigation projects of Goa, Water management and challenges
Module 14:	Title - Spatial Planning for Tourism Operations (MINOR VET III) Content- Travel and tourism industry Role of Geography in shaping travel experiences Basic customer service skills in tourism Identification of popular tourist destinations Sustainable tourism Implementing eco-friendly practices in travel operations Travel planning software
References/ Readings:	For Semester I and II 1. Blij, H. J. de, & Muller, P. O. (2010). Geography: Realms, Regions, and Concepts. John Wiley & Sons. 2. Clifford, N., Cope, M., & Gillespie, T. W. (2016). Key Concepts in Geography. Sage. 3. Gupta Das & Kapoor .(2004). Principles of Physical Geography; S. Chand, New Delhi 4. Getis, A., Bjelland, M., Getis, V. A., & Fellmann, J. D. (2015). Introduction to Geography. McGraw-Hill Education. 5. Goh Cheng Leong: Certificate Physical and Human Geography, Oxford University Press, New Delhi. 6. Mishra, R.P. (1973): Fundamentals of Cartography, Prasaranga, University of Mysore. 7. Monkhouse, F.J.R. & Wilkinson H.R.(2000):Maps and Diagrams, Methuen &Co. London. 8. Ayers, Jessica and David Dodman (2010) "Climate change adaptation and development I: the state of the debate". Progress in Development Studies 10 (2): 161-168. 9. Sachs, J. (2015). The age of sustainable development. Columbia University Press. 10. United Nations Development Programme. (2019). Human Development Report 2019: Beyond income, beyond averages, beyond today: Inequalities in human development in the 21st century. UNDP 11. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. (2014). Climate Change 2014: Impacts, Adaptation, and Vulnerability. Cambridge University Press. 12. IPCC. (2018). Global Warming of 1.5°C: Summary for Policymakers. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

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18. Singh, R. B. (ed.), (2006) Natural Hazards and Disaster Management: Vulnerability and Mitigation, Rawat Publications, New Delhi.
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24. Savindra Singh (2015). Environmental Geography, Pravalika Publication, Allahabad
25. Strahler, A., & Strahler, A. H. (2016). Introduction to Physical Geography. John Wiley & Sons.

For Semester III and IV

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5. Chandra, R. C (2002), Environmental Geography, Kalyani Ludhiana.
6. Claude Alvares, (2002) Fish Curry and Rice, An Eco-Farm Publication,
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