Support system for MA students: Remedial Classes

The Concept

The remedial classes for the MA students are meant to provide additional and need-based and subject specific support to students who can be identified by the course-instructors as 'slow' in terms of average pace of learning. The pace of learning could be slow due to social/cultural/physiological factors and is not necessarily representative of individual capability of the student. The intended beneficiaries of these classes include fresh students (students in their 1st semester) who are new to the University system and its academic style of functioning due to a difference in teaching style and/or medium of instruction followed in their previous institution. These classes are also needed for the continuing students (students in their 2nd, 3rd, 4th semester) who cannot perform satisfactorily in the absence of additional support from their instructors which is otherwise not possible in a classroom lecture.

Arranging the classes

Since conventional modes of teaching do not necessarily prepare the students from diverse social backgrounds to articulate their queries on the subject equally, it becomes necessary to create a system which is sensitive to the needs of the student, irrespective of their level of confidence and ease of articulation. In a need-based system, the teacher is required to play a more active role in identifying students who are in need of the remedial classes and arranging for the same in a manner best suited for it. The course instructor remains the best judge of the existence of such needs once inputs are received from the students. One may use the attached proforma to identify the students by broad topics already identified in the syllabus/lesson plan shared with the class.

The Schedule

The MA time-table has to incorporate space for remedial classes. Since such needs are more intense in the first semester, a minimum of two slots may be kept reserved for such classes on a weekly basis for them. If only few students are keen for such classes a course instructor can arrange for the class in his/her own cabin in the given slot.

These slots may be shared by course instructors of a particular batch in rotation to avoid conflict. As there are eight slots available for the four core-courses in a month, course instructor may arrange for atleast two common sessions with students in a given month with prior notice.

For higher levels, because a number of elective courses are offered, the fixed slots can be fewer in number and in case of conflicts slots will have to be arranged as per an agreed time-slot convenient to both the student and the teacher.

A faculty coordinator may be assigned the task of allocation of slots to individual faculty members.

Course				
Instructor				
Students in need of remedial class for Topic 1	Topic 2	Topic 3	Topic 4	Topic 5
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Need for the Remedial Classes for the Month of ...

Course Code