



Swami Ramanand Teerth Marathwada University, Nanded.

Dr. Shankarrao Chavan Chair

Programme (Part-time)

Post-Graduate Diploma in Development Studies

Proposed Syllabus

Pedagogical and Assessment Structure (Level-6 Compliance)	
Objectives	To inculcate critical thinking, regional focus, policy skills, and fieldwork—aligned with SRTMU's emphasis on Marathwada's socio-economic issues.
Duration	1 academic year (2 semesters)
Eligibility:	Bachelor's degree in any discipline (minimum 50% marks; relaxation for reserved categories as per UGC norms). Preference for graduates from Social Sciences, Agriculture, Economics, or related fields.
Fees	Fees – Rs. 2,180 (Or as per the decision decided by the competent authorities)
Intake	Intake : 20 students (scalable to 40 with the permission of the Hon. Vice-Chancellor)
Examination	Assessment: External End Semester Examination – ESE) 60% Internal (Continuous Assessment – CA) 40 % [20% (assignments), 20% field reports/presentations/policy briefs.
Credits	40 (NEP-2020 aligned; 20% field/practical)
Medium of Education	Bilingual Delivery: Lectures/readings in English/Marathi
Mode of Teaching	Blended (online lectures + offline fieldwork/practicals) to ensure accessibility for working professionals and rural students.

Credit Framework of a One-Year PG Diploma in Development Studies

Semester	Major Subjects		Field Project	Credits
	Core	Elective		
1	2	3	4	5
	Introduction to Development Studies विकास अभ्यासांचा परिचय	State, Governance, and Public Policy राज्य, शासन आणि सार्वजनिक धोरण		4
	Political Economy of Development विकासाची राजकीय अर्थव्यवस्था	Development and Globalisation विकास आणि जागतिकीकरण		4
	Dr. Shankarrao Chavan's Vision of Development and the Development of Marathwada डॉ. शंकराराव चव्हाणांचा विकासविषयक दृष्टिकोन आणि मराठवाड्याचा विकास	Development Planning, Policy, and Evaluation विकास नियोजन, धोरण आणि मूल्यमापन		4

	मागासलेपणा			
	Field Engagement-1 (Marathwada Field Module)	Development, Underdevelopment and Regional Imbalance		4
	क्षेत्र अभ्यास (मराठवाडा क्षेत्र मोड्यूल)	विकसित, अविकसित आणि प्रादेशिक असमतोल		
				4
	Development Planning, Policy, and Evaluation			4
	विकास नियोजन, धोरण आणि मूल्यमापन			
	Gender, Caste, and Social Justice in Development			4
	लिंग, जात आणि विकासातील सामाजिक न्याय			
	Rural Development, Agrarian Change, and Livelihoods			4
	ग्रामीण विकास, शेती बदल आणि उपजीविका			
II	Capstone Field Project on Marathwada			4

	मराठवाड्यावरील कॅप्स्टोन क्षेत्र प्रकल्प			
Total Credits				40

Program Overview

This program offers a conceptual and critical study of development, interrogating the historical and systemic drivers of underdevelopment and regional inequalities. With a sharp, region-specific focus on Marathwada, the curriculum delves into the intersections of socio-economic, caste-gender, and ecological backwardness that define the area's unique challenges.

By integrating rigorous policy analysis with immersive fieldwork, students are trained in participatory methods designed to bridge the gap between academic theory and grassroots reality. The ultimate aim of the diploma is to foster a new generation of practitioners dedicated to advocacy for marginalized communities, equipping them with the analytical tools to challenge structural disparities and drive inclusive growth within the region and beyond.

Prologue

Marathwada, despite its rich cultural and historical legacy, continues to face multifaceted developmental challenges such as agrarian distress, water scarcity, rural unemployment, migration, and socio-economic disparities. In this context, the introduction of Development Studies as an academic discipline assumes special significance.

The Programme

'Post-Graduate Diploma in Development Studies' aims to address these challenges by equipping students with interdisciplinary knowledge and practical skills related to rural development, public policy, governance, sustainable development, and community engagement, with specific reference to rural Marathwada.

It is pertinent to note that there is currently no such specialized programme in Development Studies available for the students in the Marathwada region. The introduction of this course will therefore fill a critical academic and developmental gap. The blended mode of delivery will ensure wider accessibility, especially for students from rural and remote areas, enabling them to pursue higher education without disrupting their existing responsibilities.

The programme will not only enhance the employability of students in sectors such as government services, development administration, NGOs, CSR initiatives, research organizations, and local self-governance institutions, but will also inculcate a strong developmental vision and constitutional values such as equality, justice, etc. among the youth. It will nurture socially sensitive and professionally competent individuals committed to transforming backward regions through informed policy intervention and grassroots action.

Introduction and Rationale

This proposal seeks approval for launching a **Post-Graduate Diploma in Development Studies (PGDDS)** under the auspices of the Dr. Shankararo Chavan at Swami Ramanand Teerth Marathwada University (SRTMU), Nanded. The program aligns seamlessly with the Chair's mandate to promote research and education in socio-economic development, with a focus on underserved regions like Marathwada.

Marathwada continues to grapple with persistent backwardness, including agrarian distress, low literacy rates (e.g., 66.5% as per Census 2011, with rural gaps), inadequate infrastructure, high unemployment (over 15% youth unemployment), recurrent droughts, and limited industrial growth. These challenges have led to critical issues such as farmer suicides (over 2,000 annually in Maharashtra, disproportionately in Marathwada), gender disparities, and rural-urban migration.

The PGDDS will equip graduates with multidisciplinary skills in policy analysis, rural economics, community mobilization, and sustainable resource management. Drawing on local case studies (e.g., drought mitigation in Latur, women's self-help groups in Nanded), it addresses National Education Policy (NEP) 2020's emphasis on multidisciplinary, skill-oriented, and regionally relevant courses (NEP 4.1, 10.2).

This initiative honors Dr. Shankarrao Chavan's legacy of social justice and positions SRTMU as a catalyst for Marathwada's transformation.

Program Objectives

The PGDDS aims to :

Develop critical understanding of development theories, policies, and practices tailored to semi-arid regions like Marathwada.

Foster skills for inclusive growth, addressing gender, caste, and economic disparities.

Promote research on local challenges, enabling evidence-based interventions.

Prepare professionals for roles in NGOs, government, cooperatives, and rural enterprises.

Align with NEP 2020's goals of holistic, multidisciplinary education and societal impact (NEP 1.3, 11.4).3.

Semester I				
Foundations of Development and Marathwada (20 Credits)				
Paper Code	Title (English / मराठी)	Credits (L-T-P)	Course Objectives	Unit-wise Outline
PDS-601	Introduction to Development Studies विकास अभ्यासांचा परिचय	4 (4-0-0)	1. Introduce core development concepts and debates. 2. Analyze global/Indian trajectories and SDGs. 3. Foster critical thinking on growth vs. equity.	Unit 1: Definitions: development, modernization, growth, human/sustainable development. Unit 2: Debates: top-down vs. participatory; growth vs. equity; neoliberal critiques. Unit 3: Global trajectories (post-WWII to SDGs). Unit 4: Indian context: Five-Year Plans to NITI Aayog. Unit 5: SDGs relevance for India/Marathwada; case studies.
PDS-602	Political Economy of Development विकासाची राजकीय अर्थव्यवस्था	4 (4-0-0)	1. Examine classical/contemporary theories. 2. Analyze state-market-civil society roles. 3. Study Maharashtra / Marathwada disparities.	Unit 1: Classical theories (Rostow, Marx) World Bank classification of countries based on per capita GNI, Indicators of Developing and Developed economies Unit 2: Dependency, structuralism, neoliberalism, post-development. Unit 3: State, market, civil society in development. Unit 4: Agrarian transition, industrialization, informalization. Unit 5: Theories of Growth (Harrod Domer, Solow) and

				Development (Dualism and Development - Lewis, Myrdal etc, Rosenstein Roden - Big Push Theory, Nurkse - Balanced Growth, Albert Hirshman - Unbalanced Growth), Trade and Development - Gains, Losses and distributive effects, Theories of Unequal Exchange
PDS-603	Dr. Shankarrao Chavan's Vision of Development and the Development of Marathwada डॉ. शंकराराव चव्हाणांचा विकासविषयक दृष्टिकोन आणि मराठवाड्याचा विकास	4 (4-0-0)	1. Study the political thoughts of Dr. Shankarrao Chavan. 2. Trace Marathwada's historical formation Identify backwardness indicators. 3. Analyse and evaluate the development and backwardness of Marathi through the prism of Dr. Shankarrao Chavan	Unit 1: Dr. Shankarrao Chavan : Life and Works Unit 2: Political Views of Dr. Shankarrao Chavan on Development Unit 3: Maharashtra model; Marathwada disparities (case); Nizam era, Hyderabad state, Maharashtra integration; Agrarian distress, labor, infrastructure gaps. Unit 4: Education, health indicators; Dalit / Adivasi / OBC concentration and marginalization. Unit 5: Caste-regional inequality dynamics.
PDS-604	Field Engagement-1 (Marathwada Field Module) क्षेत्र अभ्यास (मराठवाडा क्षेत्र मॉड्यूल)	4 (0-0-4)	1. Develop field observation skills. 2. Map local development conditions. 3. Prepare deprivation profiles.	Unit 1: Pre-field prep: indicators, tools. Unit 2: Field visit: rural/peri-urban (economy, education, health, water, credit). Unit 3: Data collection: observation, interviews. Unit 4: Village/block profile drafting. Unit 5: Presentation and gap analysis.
Elective Elective (Any one of the following two courses)				

PDS-605	State, Governance, and Public Policy राज्य, शासन आणि सार्वजनिक धोरण	4 (4-0-0)	1. Understand state, decentralization, governance. 2. Analyze policy processes and gaps. 3. Evaluate Marathwada-relevant policies.	Unit 1: State theories and roles in development. Unit 2: Decentralization: Panchayati Raj, urban governance. Unit 3: Policy cycle: formulation, implementation, bureaucracy. Unit 4: MGNREGA, social security, land rights. Unit 5: Impacts/gaps in Marathwada-type regions.
PDS-606	Development and Globalisation विकास आणि जागतिकीकरण	4 (4-0-0)	1. To understand globalization, imperialism and development hegemony 2. To study impact of globalization on regional imbalance 3. To evaluate the impact of globalization on Marathwada	Unit 1: Globalisation and Imperialism Unit 2: New Economic Policy Unit 3: Agrarian Distress under Globalisation Unit 4: Economy of Maharashtra under Globalisation Unit 5: Economy of Marathwada under Globalisation
Semester II Sectoral Issues and Rural Development (20 Credits)				
Paper Code	Title (English / मराठी)	Credits (L-T-P)	Course Objectives	Unit-wise Outline
PDS-607	Development Planning, Policy, and Evaluation विकास नियोजन, धोरण आणि मूल्यमापन	4 (4-0-0)	1. Trace India's planning evolution. 2. Master project cycle/tools. 3. Evaluate Marathwada schemes.	Unit 1: Five-Year Plans, NITI Aayog, state plans. Unit 2: Project cycle: planning, implementation. Unit 3: Monitoring and evaluation tools. Unit 4: MGNREGA, PMAY-G, PM-KISAN analysis. Unit 5: Marathwada applications and

				reforms.
PDS-608	Gender, Caste, and Social Justice in Development लिंग, जात आणि विकासातील सामाजिक न्याय	4 (4-0-0)	1. Explore gender-development linkages. 2. Analyse caste in Marathwada context. 3. Apply intersectional frameworks.	Unit 1: Gender and development: unpaid work, agrarian roles. Unit 2: Education, health, political participation. Unit 3: Caste and region: Marathwada as Dalit-majority, University renaming movement. Unit 4: Reservations, social justice movements. Unit 5: Intersectionality: caste-gender-region in poverty/violence.
PDS-609	Rural Development, Agrarian Change, and Livelihoods ग्रामीण विकास, शेती बदल आणि उपजीविका	4 (4-0-0)	1. Analyse Marathwada agrarian structures. 2. Examine water/climate distress. 3. Evaluate rural finance/livelihood options.	Unit 1: Agrarian structure: small farmers, tenancy, landlessness. Unit 2: Agrarian labor, distress in Marathwada. Unit 3: Water scarcity, irrigation, climate impacts (drought, migration). Unit 4: Rural finance: cooperatives, SHGs. Unit 5: Livelihood diversification strategies.
PDS-610	Capstone Field Project on Marathwada मराठवाड्यावरील कॅपस्टोन क्षेत्र प्रकल्प	4 (0-0-8)	1. Conduct empirical field research. 2. Analyze data for policy insights. 3. Produce actionable reports.	Unit 1: Theme selection (e.g., agrarian distress, water, gender). Unit 2: 6-week field immersion (block/village/ward). Unit 3: Data collection/analysis. Unit 4: Report drafting (8-12 pages: data, analysis, recommendations). Unit 5: Presentation and policy brief.

Elective (Any one of the following two courses)				
PDS-611	Development Planning, Policy, and Evaluation विकास नियोजन, धोरण आणि मूल्यमापन	4 (4-0-0)	1. Trace India's planning evolution. 2. Master project cycle/tools. 3. Evaluate Marathwada schemes.	Unit 1: Five-Year Plans, NITI Aayog, state plans. Unit 2: Project cycle: planning, implementation. Unit 3: Monitoring and evaluation tools. Unit 4: MGNREGA, PMAY-G, PM-KISAN analysis. Unit 5: Marathwada applications and reforms.
PDS-612	Development, Underdevelopment and Regional Imbalance विकसित, अविकसित आणि प्रादेशिक असमतोल	4 (4-0-0)		Unit 1: Underdevelopment - History, Causes, relationship with Colonialism, Neo-colonialism Unit 2: Welfare State/Dirigisme - Emergence and Retreat, Neo-liberalism - Emergence, Hegemony and Critique; Neoliberal Globalization and Contemporary Imperialism - Globalization of Production and Finance, Global Supply/Value Chains, Global Labour Arbitrage and Superexploitation Unit 3: Inequality - Kuznets Curve, Thomas Piketty - Empirical Studies, Theoretical explanation and its Critique Unit 4: India's development experience during dirigisme - historical roots, successes and failure;

				India's turn to neoliberalism - Success and Failures Unit 5: Underdevelopment and Backwardness: A Case of Maharashtra
--	--	--	--	---

Optional (Non-Credit): Workshops (policy advocacy, NGO engagement); guest lectures (development officers, Marathwada activists).

SRTMU Integration: Marathwada anchor in every paper; NEP-inspired interdisciplinary focus.

Each student submits a research-cum-policy report (8–12 pages) with empirical data, analysis, and recommendations.

Recommended Books

- 1) Jean Drèze and Amartya Sen, India's Development: Social and Economic Disparities
- 2) Kanak Kanti Bagchi, Regional Disparities in India's Socio-economic Development ## Focus on Regional Imbalances and Marathwada
- 3) Regional Imbalance in Maharashtra: A Study of the Marathwada Region ([Regional Imbalance in Maharashtra: A Study of the Marathwada Region - Studocu](#))
- 4) The Drudgery of Choice and related works from Institute for Human Development (IHD): - Economic Survey of India chapters on inequality

Format of Question Paper

Total Marks – 60

Time- 3 Hrs

- 1) Question No. 1 is compulsory.
- 2) Attempt any three of the remaining five questions.

Q. 1 Short notes (All)

- a)
- b)
- c)
- d)

15 marks

Attempt any three question from Q.2 to Q 6

Q. 2

15 marks

Q. 3

15 marks

Q. 4

15 marks

Q. 5

15 marks

Q. 6 Attempt any two of the following

- a)
- b)
- c)
- d)

15 marks

