

Policy of Curriculum Implementation Nishtar Medical University, Multan

1. Purpose and scope This document establishes the overarching institutional policy for the administration, delivery, and oversight of all academic curricula at Nishtar Medical University, Multan. It provides a framework that supports academic excellence while accommodating the diverse educational models required by various health professions.

This policy applies to all academic programs offered or planned by the University, including, but not limited to:

- MBBS and BDS Undergraduate programs
- Allied Health Sciences programs
- HND programs
- D Pharm
- BS Nursing
- MS Nursing
- BS programs (annual and semester systems)
- Clinical Diploma Programs
- Postgraduate clinical programs (MD, MS, MDS)
- MPhil and PhD programs
- Any future programs approved under statutory authority

This policy remains valid and applicable across annual systems, semester systems, modular and integrated curricula, and transitional curriculum phases.

2. Statutory authority and governance This policy is framed within the legal authority of the Nishtar Medical University Act 2017, operating under the shared governance of the Academic Council as the principal academic body, and the Syndicate as the executive body.

The University aligns its academic programs with the standards of relevant external regulatory bodies, including:

- Pakistan Medical and Dental Council (PMDC)
- Higher Education Commission (HEC)
- Pakistan Nursing Council (PNC)
- Pharmacy Council of Pakistan (PCP)
- Any other relevant statutory council

In instances where regulations differ between the University and the aforementioned bodies, the University shall explicitly defer to the concerned regulatory body governing the specific program.

3. Curriculum planning and approval The Academic Council regulates the courses of study and syllabi. Proposals for new curricula or substantial modifications to existing schemes of studies are initiated by the respective Boards of Studies, scrutinized by the Boards of Faculties, and submitted to the Academic Council. The Academic Council

recommends these schemes to the Syndicate for final approval. All curriculum planning shall be subject to applicable regulations prescribed by the relevant regulatory councils and the HEC.

4. Curriculum implementation and oversight Curriculum implementation is the responsibility of the respective Deans, Chairpersons, and Program Directors. The University promotes an educational environment that avoids over-specification and forced uniformity, allowing instructional strategies to fit the specific needs of diverse health professions. Oversight of curriculum delivery shall be conducted continuously to ensure alignment with approved schemes of studies.

5. Credit hours and teaching hours Academic workload, total contact hours, and credit hour allocations shall be managed as prescribed by the relevant authority. Programs shall adhere to the specific credit and teaching hour requirements defined by PMDC, PCP, PNC, or HEC (such as the Credit Accumulation and Transfer System). Detailed credit numbers and clinical rotation hours are referred to the approved schemes of studies for each program.

6. Annual and semester systems The University recognizes and supports programs operating on both annual and semester systems. The formulation of academic calendars, clinical clerkships, and scheduling shall be tailored to the specific system adopted by each program, subject to applicable regulations and Academic Council approval.

7. Assessment and examination principles Assessment drives learning and must be reliable, valid, and consistent. The University mandates a comprehensive assessment strategy comprising both formative (continuous) and summative (high-stakes) evaluations. Assessment methodologies—such as Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs), Short Essay Questions (SEQs), Objective Structured Clinical Examinations (OSCE), and Objective Structured Practical Examinations (OSPE)—shall be utilized as prescribed by the relevant authority and outlined in the approved schemes of studies.

8. Passing, progression, and grading The criteria for student progression, passing thresholds, and grading rubrics shall be deferred to the specific regulations of each program as prescribed by the relevant authority. Detailed rules regarding promotion and graduation shall be maintained in the approved schemes of studies.

9. Academic integrity and conduct Students and faculty are required to reflect the highest standards of moral and ethical behavior, professionalism, and judgment. Disciplinary actions for academic or professional misconduct shall be governed by University regulations as overseen by the Academic Council and Syndicate.

10. Roles and responsibilities

- **Syndicate:** The executive body responsible for general supervision, financial management, and final approval of statutes and regulations.
- **Academic Council:** The principal academic body responsible for advising the Syndicate on academic matters, laying down standards of instruction, and proposing curricular regulations.
- **Faculties and Deans:** Responsible for coordinating teaching and research work within assigned subjects and presenting comprehensive performance reports to the Academic Council.
- **Boards of Studies:** Responsible for initiating curriculum proposals, prescribing syllabi, and recommending panels of examiners.

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- **Departments:** Responsible for the day-to-day delivery of the curriculum and maintenance of academic discipline.

- **Colleges and University:** Provide the overarching infrastructure, academic support, and administrative resources necessary to facilitate high-quality education.

11. Review, revision, and quality assurance Curricula must remain dynamic and contemporaneous. Institutional quality assurance cells shall evaluate programs continuously, gathering feedback from stakeholders to monitor the effectiveness of the curriculum. Any substantive revisions to a curriculum must undergo the formal approval process through the Boards of Studies, Academic Council, and Syndicate.

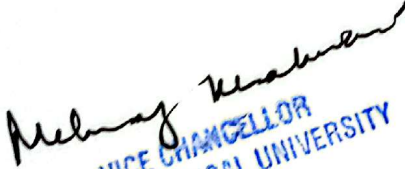
12. Transitional arrangements The University acknowledges the ongoing paradigm shifts in health professions education. Specifically:

- MBBS and BDS programs are transitioning from subject-based annual systems toward system-based or modular formats.
- Certain BS and Allied Health Sciences programs are moving toward semester systems.
- Some programs remain annual by design.

The University supports a managed transition without mandating forced uniformity across all disciplines. During any transitional curriculum phase, the Academic Council shall ensure that learning outcomes continue to meet statutory requirements and that students are not disadvantaged.

13. Documentation and record keeping The Registrar is the custodian of the academic records and is responsible for maintaining a register of students and graduates. The Controller of Examinations shall maintain records of all assessments, internal evaluations, and examinations in the prescribed manner.

14. Review clause This policy is a dynamic document. Curriculum review and policy revision shall occur in accordance with HEC regulations, or as directed by the Academic Council and the Syndicate.


VICE CHANCELLOR
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