

Learning objectives/outcomes

Microbiology was introduced in the UG curriculum of the University of Calcutta in the year 1997 as a job oriented course keeping in mind the high demand of microbiologists at that time in a wide arena of industries spanning Biotechnology, dairy products, processed food and beverages, health, diagnostics, pharmaceuticals, animal husbandry as well as other agro-industrial products. However, the trend started to shift as most of the students graduating from this discipline chose higher education as their career profiler and preferred taking competitive examinations like NET, GATE to enrol for Ph.D. programmes in research institutions across the country. The syllabus taught under the UG course has been moulded quite a few number of times accordingly to serve this dual objective of a job centric education as well as to cater the needs of an aspiring academician. It has been constituted with amalgamation from the four basic sciences - chemistry, biology, physics and mathematics and any student enrolling for the course is expected to live up to this interdisciplinary nature of the subject.

We, at Maulana Azad College, strive to empower our students with the dynamism to chose their career path wisely and decide according to their wish and capability since they come from households of diverse socio-economic backgrounds. A student graduating from this department by default gets enrolled at a post graduation course either in Microbiology itself or in a similar or related subject. However, having said that, the student also has to put his/her part to secure a PG seat at a reputed place. Over the last few years, students with above par merit are also getting admitted in integrated Ph.D. programmes being offered by reputed research Institutes like IISC (Bangalore), NCBS/TIFR (Bangalore/Mumbai), IACS (Kolkata), Bose Institute (Kolkata) etc. Thereafter, most of them are qualifying National Entrance examinations and opting for PhD. programmes and taking up professional careers either as academicians or scientists. Students who are not able to meet the standards of higher merit, are also absorbed occasionally in smaller biotech and pharmaceutical factories after their graduation or in more lucrative places such as the Spice Board of India after their post graduation. The recent introduction of the CBCS module has seen quite a few number of alterations being made in the syllabus such as introduction of a few skill based learning courses to make it more job centred. Besides conventional education, the faculty members also put their very best to engage the students time to time in various co-curricular activities like participation in workshops and hands-on programmes, seminars, presentations, objective oriented excursions such as industry and institute visits and short term research projects all of which add to their credentials at higher rungs of their academic hierarchy. The department is one of the beneficiaries of the DBT STAR College status and most of these activities are aided by DBT. Over the years, students of all batches have fostered in the homely ambience of the Department where faculties have taken care of their interpersonal needs and tried to ensure that they reach their fullest academic potential.

Vision

To create a learning environment encompassing students from all socio-economic backgrounds and to empower them with modern state-of-the-art knowledge from the discipline.

Mission

To impart quality education within the confines of the syllabus and to ensure near absolute enrolment into higher education.