

IV Semester BA – Rural Development.
Skill Enhancement Course(SEC)
RD403: Problem Based Learning (PBL)- I
2 Hours per week with 2 credits

Problem Based Learning (PBL) is an innovative, student-centred approach to learning that emphasizes the development of critical thinking, problem-solving and self-directed learning skills. In this course, students learn by actively engaging with real-world, open-ended problems relevant to their discipline, rather than through passive absorption of content. This course encourages inquiry-based learning and experiential understanding, preparing students to address complex challenges in academic, professional, and societal contexts. The role of the instructor is that of a facilitator and mentor, guiding students through the learning process while fostering independence and lifelong learning skills.

Objective of the course

The course aims to:

- a) Develop analytical, problem-solving skills
- b) Provide practical exposure to applying theoretical concepts
- c) Encourage independent learning, creativity and innovation
- d) Introduce basic idea of inquiry and documentation

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the course, students will be able to:

- a) Identify and analyse the real-world problems
- b) Interpret the results and draw meaningful conclusions
- c) Prepare structured reports
- d) Present and defend their work confidently

Guidelines for the course

1. The course report has to be prepared by individual student after deciding on the topic in consultation with the supervisor
2. It may be theoretical, empirical, analytical, case-based, or application-oriented, depending on the topic chosen
3. Topics should be from the list provided or related area and approved by the supervisor
4. **Components of the report**

The report will be of minimum 10 pages (excluding cover page, certificate, declaration & annexures) and shall include:

- a) Title page
- b) Certificate and declaration
- c) Table of contents
- d) Introduction – minimum one page
- e) Content of the study -Data/ information collection and analysis (if applicable)
- f) Conclusion – minimum one page
- g) Annexures and References (if applicable)

The report shall be prepared in printed and/or soft copy as prescribed. Minimum 10 pages (excluding cover page, certificate, declaration & annexures)

Workload:

- a) The workload is 2 hours per week per teacher for the entire semester
- b) One teacher will supervise maximum up to 40 students per semester

Topics recommended for the study

1. Education and skill development schemes in rural areas.
2. Analysis of rural problems.
3. Possible ways to improve rural areas.
4. The problems encountered by rural youth and farmers.
5. Content analysis of rural development programmes initiated by state and union governments.
6. Public Private Participation (PPP) in rural development.
7. Impact of use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in rural sector.
8. Digital transformation in rural India and its impact on rural community.
9. Co-operatives and rural development.
10. Contribution of rural organisations for economic development.

Guidelines for the conduct of practical knowledge/skill course

(Mangalore University circular No.: MU/ACC/CR37/2023-24/A2 dated 17.01.2026)

1. The compulsory course prescribed in the fourth, fifth, sixth semester will be related to core courses in a Programme and shall be offered one each in a semester. Principals of the Colleges will facilitate for the said course as prescribed in a Programme.
2. The compulsory (practical knowledge/skill) course **shall not** have regular class room teaching and written examination.
3. The work load is 2hrs/week.
4. Report submitted by the candidate shall be assessed/ evaluated by two examiners of the concerned subject. In case internal examiners are not available the external examiners may be preferred.
5. Out of 50 marks allotted for the compulsory (practical knowledge/skill) course, 10 Marks (to be considered as C1) and 40 marks (to be considered as C2).
6. The scheme of valuation is as follows;

	For Internship/Project/ Field study	Practical
a) Internal Assessment:	10 Marks Basis for Internal Assessment Continuous Evaluation: 10 Marks	10 Marks Basis for Internal Assessment Continuous Evaluation: 10 Marks
b) Evaluation of Report:	40 Marks i) Work carried out: 20 Marks ii) Preparation of Report: 10 Marks iii) Presentation and Viva-Voce: 10 Marks	40 Marks i) Preparation and presentation: 30 Marks ii) Viva-Voce: 10 Marks

