



GUIDELINES AND REGULATIONS ON BRIDGING COURSES

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1. Introduction

These guidelines and regulations present the background, the rationale and the aim of having and offering bridging courses at the University of Rwanda. They also propose definitions of what is a bridging course and, disclose the rules and regulations applicable to these courses.

2. Background

It has been observed that numbers of applicants holding a General Secondary Education Certificate, a Technical Secondary Education Certificate or equivalent seek admissions to programmes offered by the University of Rwanda without meeting the minimum programme academic entry requirements especially in Mathematics and Physics.

3. Rationale and aim

The University of Rwanda is strongly committed to provide subject knowledge, skills and competences in various disciplines to young generation expected to transform the destiny of Rwanda in particular, East Africa, Africa and the world at large.

Therefore, pre-admitted students at the University of Rwanda without evidence of having achieved the recommended knowledge in a particular area as attested by the programme academic minimum entry requirements shall attend identified bridging course (s) before final admission.

4. Definition

A bridging course is a short intensive remedial course designed for admitted students at UR who don't fulfill the minimum academic entry requirements to enter in a particular programme. However, any student who is not confident to be equipped with the expected knowledge entry requirements can request and be allowed to this course as an auditing student under specific determined conditions.

5. Academic entry requirements

5.1. Students wishing or recommended to take a bridging course must have an Advanced Level Certificate of Secondary Education, a TSS Certificate, a TTC Certificate or equivalent, with at least the required number of principal passes permitting entry to Higher Education. Applicants must also demonstrate sufficient competence in English to study at a Higher Education level.

5.2. On the first day of the enrollment in the bridging course, pre-admitted students should sit for an entrance test in order to assess their knowledge and skills and be grouped into categories accordingly.

6. Financial requirements

Students wishing to attend a bridging course must pay both registration and tuition fees fixed by the University.

7. Curriculum

7.1. Colleges and Schools wishing to offer a bridging course should first have a curriculum which responds to the needs of the pre-admitted students at UR in terms of the foundation course.

7.2. Taking into account the General Secondary Education, the Technical Secondary Education (TSS) or the Teacher Training Colleges (TTC) curricula and the UR Programme curricula, a bridging course curriculum should prepare learners to gain key transferable skills to support their study at Higher Education.

7.3. The learners might be grouped into different categories and have a contextualized curriculum per category.

7.4. The curriculum should be approved by the Department, School up to the College Academic Council. UR Senate would only take note of its existing.

8. Modes of delivery

8.1. Depending on the nature of the course, the curriculum could be delivered by a variety of methods ranging from classroom based, laboratory based or a combination of different teaching and learning modes.

8.2. The course shall not take more three (3) months.

9. Assessment

9.1 The course shall be assessed by continuous tests and a final examination. More emphasis should be on formative assessment where a regular feedback is given to learners.

9.2. The bridging course is passed if its specified learning outcomes have been achieved. The assessment shall generate a single mark between 0 and 100% expressing the extent to which the learning outcomes have been achieved.

9.3. All assessment marks shall be presented as percentage scores. Continuous assessments shall make up 50% of the course score while the final examination shall make up 50% of the course score.

9.4. The pass mark shall be 50%.

10. Admission to UR Year 1 Programmes

10.1. Only pre-admitted students who will have passed the bridging course will be admitted to UR Year 1 programmes.

10.2. For those admitted, procedures for registration and documents required as stipulated in the General Academic Regulations for Undergraduate programmes must apply.


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