

GNLU Academic Support Programme Guidelines
GNLU/ASP/01/2020



Gujarat National Law University

GUJARAT NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY

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Table of Contents

S. No	Topic	Pg No.
1	Introduction to GNLU Academic Support Programme	3
2	Aims and Objectives	4
3	Functions and Methods	5
4	Senior Student Teaching Assistant (SSTA)	6
5	Eligibility Requirements	6
6	Structure	7
7	Duration	8
8	Roles & Responsibilities	8
9	Benefits under the Programme	8
10	Amendments or Modifications to the Guidelines	8
11	Dispute Resolution	8



1. Introduction to GNLU Academic Support Programme

GNLU Academic Support Program (ASP) is a new academic initiative started by the Gujarat National Law University in July 2010 by the students of the university. The Program mainly focuses on helping students who want enjoyment of more academic session other than regular teaching hours. It also helps students who considers themselves as weak in understanding few subjects and hence are in need of special academic attention.

Acknowledging the fact that students who join the University are not on a level playing field and that each and every student has a different capacity, ability, interest in their level of commitment, our GNLU ASP aims to address these important issues. In turn ASP promotes collective-performance, as a whole among the student-community. In simple understanding, many students find it hard and difficult to grasp certain basic things because of a wide variety of problems such as language and communication barriers as a result of social and economic inequality in the society. Thereby sometimes some students may fail to perform well academically and enjoy the learning process in their wonderful life at the GNLU.

The ASP addresses this core issue, which is its prime and noble function and gives students an opportunity to learn and improve themselves in a different teaching environment. The ASP provides a regular platform for interested students to teach, who are called Teaching Assistants to discuss and help student-fraternity in academics in the form of teaching. When students meet and interact with their peer-groups certain psychological blocks can be easily removed which is what the function, purpose and goal of ASP.

The ASP bridges the gap between a performer and non-performer and builds a culture where students as a whole community can express easily without apparent psychological inhibitions. This exercise in turn aims to develop among students a sense of equality, fraternity and oneness of GNLU as a whole by allowing students to help each other by cultivating this habit of sharing. It also promotes social values of mutual cooperation, sharing of knowledge and ignites the flame of academic passion and thirst for knowledge.

The ASP provides an excellent opportunity for students to come forward and become Teaching Assistants for holding regular sessions for students. This also helps students to learn skills such as teaching, communication, presentation and analytical powers which form an integral part of; a



professional lawyer, social engineer, corporate attorney and a fine academician which are GNLU's noble aims in its academic mission.

The ASP also provides opportunity for students who come as Student Volunteers to learn the qualities of leadership and management by allowing them to organize, coordinate and arrange regular ASP sessions. As a whole, ASP helps to promote knowledge, teaching and leadership skills by harnessing the potential in each and every student of GNLU.

2. Aims and Objectives

- 2.1 To make Gujarat National Law University excel in academics and lead GNLU to the league of best law schools in the country as well as a role model world class law university.
- 2.2 To produce collective results in student's performance and to give maximum benefit of academics to students who are weak and in need of special attention in academics.
- 2.3 To help students understand subjects in a better way and in a friendly environment.
- 2.4 To remove language and other barriers if any and thereby remove certain hardships for some of the students.
- 2.5 To help the students overcome psychological pressures such as inferiority-complex and depressing attitude as a result of poor performance in academics.
- 2.6 To provide a regular platform for interested students (meritorious/skillful) to teach, discuss and help students who have difficulty in learning and coping up with academics.
- 2.7 To bridge the gap between a performing and non-performing student.
- 2.8 To build a strong academic-culture where the students as a whole community can express themselves, their concerns and issues without any inhibitions relating to academics.
- 2.9 To develop among students a sense of equality, fraternity and oneness of GNLU as a whole, by allowing them to help each other in cultivating this habit of service and sharing to rejoice mutual cooperation, understanding and academic growth.
- 2.10 To provide an excellent opportunity for students to come forward to take up leadership and organizing skills by conducting and coordinating regular classes.



3. Functions and Methods

3.1 Functions

- 3.1.1 The primary function of the Academic Support Programme is to give academic support to the weaker students and to those who need an additional teaching assistance apart from the class room teachings on the six subjects of a particular semester.
- 3.1.2 ASP is completely an independent body. It is independent in its way i.e. the Classroom teaching and the teaching assistance at ASP are completely independent of each other.
- 3.1.3 ASP doesn't guarantee any result of any particular student attending the teaching sessions of the Academic Support Program.
- 3.1.4 The other main function of ASP is to increase the confidence level among students and boost their performances in the Semester Examinations thereby enabling them to excel in their academic pursuits at the University.
- 3.1.5 ASP shall also be involved in dissemination of knowledge on various legal subjects and creating legal awareness among the student fraternity of not only Gujarat National Law University but other law schools.
- 3.1.6 ASP shall create an amiable environment for the learning process and shall help students facing language and other socio economic problems.

3.2 Methods

- 3.2.1 ASP shall conduct special teaching sessions (classes) around thrice a week for students of all Semesters.
- 3.2.2 Each day one/two classes shall be organized for all semesters covering one/two subjects in a day.
- 3.2.3 Each class shall be of 60 minutes each taught by a particular Teaching Assistant from the student fraternity who has a strong knowledge on that particular subject.
- 3.2.4 Special Modules and Repository Notes shall be given to the students if necessary by the teaching assistants of ASP in order to make teaching knowledge of the subject easier.



3.2.5 In short, in its functions and methods, ASP plans to take law out of the books. Thus teaching sessions might also comprise of various Quiz sessions on the subjects taught. The Teaching Assistants should try to incorporate Multiple Choice Q & A System during their teaching sessions which might make the subject easier for the students. This system will also help to prepare those who are interested in Civil Services Examination and Judiciary Examinations in near future. In a way as mentioned above ASP helps in the development of a professional lawyer, social engineer, corporate attorney and a fine academician which are GNLU's noble aims in its academic mission.

4. Senior Student Teaching Assistant (SSTA)

The Senior Student Teaching Assistant (SSTA) Programme is the programme for all teaching assistantship appointments, and is executed within and by the Academic Support Programme Committee, Gujarat National Law University.

A Teaching Assistant under the SSTA Programme is a position held by a student for one academic session, who is engaged in performing research, teaching and or providing course support services to the University.

The Academic Support Programme Committee (ASPC) shall recommend the names of students to be appointed as SSTA at the beginning of every academic session. The SSTA shall be appointed by the ASPC, on the basis of their application, preference of subject and experience with the subject stated for the purpose of the Teaching Assistantship.

5. Eligibility Requirements

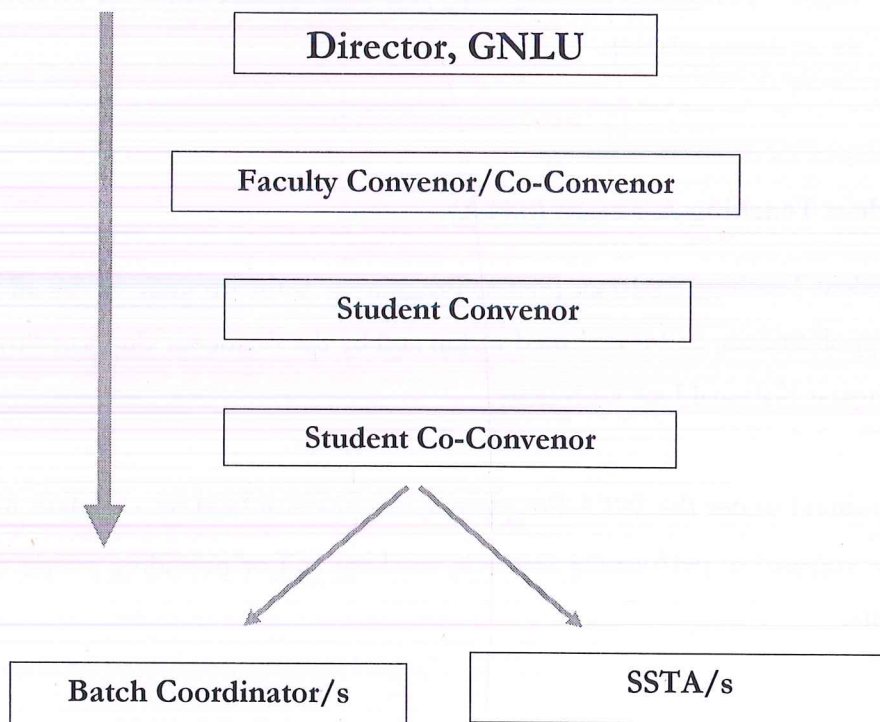
A student who has completed a course will be eligible for the position of Teaching Assistantship for that course.

Only a student who has completed the course in the first attempt in a prior semester is eligible to apply for and hold the position of SSTA, for that subject.



(Note: No student may be appointed to the position of SSTA for a course in which the student is simultaneously enrolled)

6. Structure



7. Duration

Teaching Assistantships are for the duration of an entire semester as provided in the Academic Calendar.

8. Roles & Responsibilities

The SSTA shall work in consultation with the Faculty Member for the particular subject for engaging the ASP Session. The SSTA, at the discretion of the concerned faculty may also assist in the preparation of lecture materials, including but not limited to class presentations, reference material and hand-outs.



These responsibilities primarily refer to teaching a portion of the course, as allotted for that class by the concerned faculty. The concerned faculty may observe the above stated classes at their discretion.

The SSTA may be assigned the responsibility to hold consultation for students to assist them in learning as well as research activities. Each SSTA may be assigned a maximum of 10 teaching/consultation hours (post regular teaching hours) in a semester.

9. Benefits under the Programme

- 9.1 Compensation or honorarium will be paid to the SSTA on an hourly basis. The honorarium will be based on the performance and decided by the University from time to time.
- 9.2 A letter/certificate certifying the Completion of the Teaching Assistantship will be provided upon completion of the Teaching Assistantship. This letter will be signed by the concerned Chairperson/Convenor of the Committee.

10. Amendments or Modifications to the Guidelines

These guidelines shall only be amended or modified by Director, Gujarat National Law University.

11. Dispute Resolution

Any dispute, controversy or claim arising out of these Guidelines, the decision of the Director, Gujarat National Law University shall be final.



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