Transactions on Engineering and Computing Sciences - Vol. 11, No. 4
Publication Date: August 25, 2023
DOI:10.14738/tecs.114.15318.

Reddy, P. B., Reddy, R. P., & Reddy, A. V. S. (2023). National Education Policy NEP-2020 - To Change the Objectives, Challenges and Benefits to Higher Education Transformation in India - Private/Govt Engineering Institutions and Private/Govt Universities. Transactions on Engineering and Computing Sciences, 11(4). 143-157.

SERVICES FOR SCIENCE AND EDUCATION

National Education Policy NEP-2020 - To Change the Objectives, Challengesand Benefits to Higher Education Transformation in India - Private/Govt Engineering Institutions and Private/Govt Universities

P. Bhaskara Reddy
Department of Electronics & Communication Engineering
Holy Mary Institute of Tech., & Science Bogaram, Hyderabad, Telangana

R. Praveen Reddy
Department of Master of Business Administration
Holy Mary Institute of Tech., & Science Bogaram, Hyderabad, Telangana

A. Vijaya Sarada Reddy
AP School Education Regulatory and Monitoring
Commission, Govt. of A.P Vijayawada, A.P

ABSTRACT

The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, which is a document that aims to transform the Indian education system by 2030. It also discusses the implications, challenges, and benefits of the NEP 2020 forprivate engineering institutions and private universities in India covers the following topics: The objectives of the NEP 2020 for higher education, such as increasing the gross enrolment ratio, promoting multidisciplinary and holistic education, establishing a National Research Foundation, enabling the entry of foreign universities, creating a single regulator, ensuringequity and inclusion, empowering faculty and institutional leaders, and revamping the assessment system. The challenges faced by private engineering institutions in implementing the NEP 2020, such as revising their curricula and pedagogy, facing increased competition from foreign universities, complying with the regulations and standards set by the HECI, and increasing their investment in research and innovation. The benefits enjoyed by private engineering institutions in implementing the NEP 2020, such as benefiting from the increased demand for higher education, benefiting from the opportunities for collaboration and partnership with foreign universities, benefiting from the autonomy and accountability granted by the HECI, and benefiting from the focus on research and innovation in the NEP 2020. The examples of multidisciplinary courses under NEP 2020 that are offered by various IITs in India, such as Bachelor of Science in Physics with specialisation in Artificial Intelligence,Bachelor of Technology in Engineering and Liberal Arts, Bachelor of Technology in Computer Science and Engineering with specialisation in Computational Linguistics, and Bachelor ofTechnology in Artificial Intelligence. The benefits of multidisciplinary courses for students, such as developing a holistic understanding of the world, gaining different perspectives on various topics and issues, adopting a real-world approach to learning, improving collaboration skills, developing transferable skills, enhancing creativity and

innovation, and increasing flexibility and choice. The skills required for interdisciplinary careers that involve working across two or more disciplines or fields of study, such as critical thinking, problem solving, communication, teamwork, time management, research, organization, technology, creativity and innovation, and flexibility and choice. The ways to improve critical thinking skills in the workplace, such as evaluating information objectively, asking questions to verify facts and assumptions, being open-minded to different opinions and perspectives, generating alternative solutions for problems or situations, choosing the best option based on evidence and logic, implementing and monitoring solutions effectively, and keeping learning new things constantly. The examples of critical thinking in the workplace that can benefit employees and organizationsin various aspects, such as contributing to company goals, decision making, personal growth and development, time management, promoting good teamwork, being open to trying something new, determining the right course of action, and controlling emotional response.

OBJECTIVES

The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 is a landmark document that aims to transform theIndian education system by 2030. It has several objectives for higher education, such as:

- To increase the gross enrolment ratio (GER) to 50% by 2035 and ensure universal access to quality education for all.
- To promote multidisciplinary and holistic education across all fields, with flexible curricula, creative combinations of subjects, and multiple entry and exit points.
- To establish a National Research Foundation (NRF) to foster a culture of research and innovation and support interdisciplinary and collaborative research.
- To enable the entry of top-ranked foreign universities to set up campuses in India and facilitate the internationalization of Indian higher education institutions.
- To create a single regulator for higher education, called the Higher Education Commission of India (HECI), which will have four independent verticals for regulation, accreditation, funding, and academic standards.
- To ensure equity and inclusion in higher education by providing scholarships and other support to students from socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds, especially women, SC/ST/OBC, and differently-abled students.
- To empower faculty and institutional leaders with autonomy and accountability, and enhance their professional development and career progression.
- To revamp the assessment system to focus on formative and competency-based evaluation, rather than rote learning and high-stakes exams.

The NEP 2020 also has some implications for private engineering institutions and private universities in India. Some of the challenges and benefits are:

CHALLENGES

Private engineering institutions may have to revise their curricula and pedagogy to align with themultidisciplinary and flexible approach of the NEP 2020. They may also have to diversify their offerings to cater to the diverse interests and aspirations of students.

Private engineering institutions may face increased competition from foreign universities that may set up campuses in India or offer online courses. They may also have to collaborate with other institutions, both domestic and international, to enhance their quality and reputation.

Private engineering institutions may have to comply with the regulations and standards set by the HECI, which may affect their autonomy and flexibility. They may also have to seek accreditation from the National Accreditation Council (NAC), which will be based on transparent and objective criteria.

Private engineering institutions may have to increase their investment in research and innovation,as well as in faculty development and infrastructure. They may also have to seek funding from various sources, such as government, industry, philanthropy, or alumni.

BENEFITS

Private engineering institutions may benefit from the increased demand for higher education in India, especially in engineering and technology fields. They may also benefit from the increased mobility and choice of students, who can transfer credits across institutions or exit with appropriate qualifications.

Private engineering institutions may benefit from the opportunities for collaboration and partnership with foreign universities, which may enhance their global exposure and recognition. They may also benefit from the access to the NRF, which may provide them with research grantsand incentives.

Private engineering institutions may benefit from the autonomy and accountability granted by theHECI, which may enable them to innovate and excel in their areas of strength. They may also benefit from the accreditation by the NAC, which may enhance their credibility and quality assurance.

Private engineering institutions may benefit from the focus on research and innovation in the NEP 2020, which may enable them to contribute to the national development goals and global challenges. They may also benefit from the focus on faculty development in the NEP 2020, which may enable them to attract and retain talented and qualified teachers.

The NEP 2020 is a visionary document that has the potential to transform the higher education landscape in India. It will require a lot of coordination and cooperation among various stakeholders, such as government, regulators, institutions, faculty, students, industry, civil society, etc. It will also require a lot of implementation support and monitoring mechanisms to ensure its effective execution. If implemented well, it can create a vibrant knowledge society thatcan foster excellence, innovation, inclusion, and social justice in India.

EXAMPLES OF MULTIDISCIPLINARY COURSES UNDER NEP 2020

Bachelor of Science (BS) in Physics with specialisation in Artificial Intelligence, Data Science, Quantum Computing, etc. This course is offered by IIT Jodhpur and aims to integrate physics with emerging technologies and applications (1).

Bachelor of Science (BS) in Chemistry with specialisation in Biotechnology, Nanotechnology, Green Chemistry, etc. This course is also offered by IIT Jodhpur and aims to integrate chemistry with interdisciplinary fields and innovations (1).

Bachelor of Technology (BTech) in Engineering and Liberal Arts. This course is offered by IIT Madras and aims to provide a holistic education that combines engineering skills with humanities and social sciences (2).

Bachelor of Technology (BTech) in Engineering Design with specialisation in Biomedical Design, Automotive Design, or Naval Architecture. This course is also offered by IIT Madras and aims to provide a multidisciplinary approach to engineering design and problem-solving (2).

Bachelor of Technology (BTech) in Computer Science and Engineering with specialisation in Computational Linguistics. This course is offered by IIT Hyderabad and aims to combine computer science and engineering with linguistics and natural language processing (3).

Bachelor of Technology (BTech) in Artificial Intelligence. This course is also offered by IIT Hyderabad and aims to provide a comprehensive education in artificial intelligence and its applications (3).

BENEFITS OF MULTIDISCIPLINARY COURSES

These are some of the examples of multidisciplinary courses under NEP 2020 that are offered by various IITs in India. These courses are designed to cater to the diverse interests and aspirations of students, as well as to foster creativity, innovation, and research.

- They can help you develop a **holistic understanding** of the world, as you learn to integrate different perspectives and disciplines into your studies (1).
- They can help you gain **different perspectives** on various topics and issues, as you encounter diverse viewpoints and approaches from different fields (1).
- They can help you adopt a **real world approach** to learning, as you see how different disciplines are interconnected and relevant to the current and future challenges (1).
- They can help you improve your **collaboration skills**, as you work with others who have different backgrounds and expertise, and learn to communicate effectively across disciplines (1).
- They can help you develop important **transferable skills**, such as critical thinking, self-management, adaptability, analysis, problem-solving, communication, and literacy, which are useful for any career path (2).
- They can help you enhance your **creativity and innovation**, as you learn to combine theories, methodologies, and insights from different disciplines and generate new ideas and solutions (3).
- They can help you increase your **flexibility and choice**, as you can tailor your curriculum according to your interests and aspirations, and explore multiple options for your future (4).

Multidisciplinary courses are a great way to enrich your education and prepare yourself for the complex and dynamic world. They can also make your learning more enjoyable and meaningful, as you discover new connections and possibilities across different fields. If you are interested in pursuing a multidisciplinary degree abroad, you can check out some of the programs offered by various universities [here] (1).

EXAMPLES OF INTERDISCIPLINARY CAREERS

Interdisciplinary careers are those that involve working across two or more disciplines or fields of study. They can be very rewarding and challenging, as they require you to integrate different perspectives, methods, and skills to address complex problems or create innovative solutions.

Art Director

An art director is responsible for the visual style and design of various media products, such as magazines, websites, films, or video games. They work with a team of artists, designers, writers, and editors to create a cohesive and appealing aestheticthat matches the content and purpose of the project. An art director needs to have a strongbackground in art and design, as well as knowledge of different media formats and platforms (6).

Interior Designer

An interior designer is someone who plans and designs the interior spaces of buildings, such as homes, offices, hotels, or restaurants. They consider the function, style, and mood of the space, as well as the needs and preferences of the clients. They also coordinate with architects, engineers, contractors, and suppliers to ensure the quality and safety of the project. An interior designer needs to have a good sense of color,texture, lighting, and space, as well as knowledge of different materials, furniture, and accessories (6).

Technical Writer

A technical writer is someone who creates clear and concise documents that explain complex technical information or processes to a specific audience. They may write manuals, guides, reports, proposals, or online help for various products, services, or systems. They also collaborate with subject matter experts, developers, testers, and users to ensure the accuracy and usability of the documents. A technical writer needs to have excellent writing and communication skills, as well as knowledge of different technical fields and tools (6).

Set and Exhibit Designer

A set and exhibit designer are someone who designs and constructs sets for theater, film, television, or live events. They also design and create exhibits for museums, galleries, or trade shows. They work with directors, producers, curators, or clients to understand the vision and purpose of the project. They also researchthe historical, cultural, or artistic aspects of the project. A set and exhibit designer needs to have a creative flair and a keen eye for detail, as well as knowledge of different materials, techniques, and technologies (6).

Media Programming Director

A media programming director is someone who oversees the content and scheduling of various media platforms, such as radio stations, television networks, or streaming services. They decide

what programs to air or stream based on the target audience, ratings, trends, or feedback. They also negotiate contracts with producers, distributors, or advertisers. A media programming director needs to have a good understanding of the media industry and market trends (6).

Special Effects Artist and Animator

A special effects artist and animator is someone who creates realistic or fantastical images or animations using computer software or othertechniques. They may work on films, video games, commercials, or other media products that require visual effects or animation. They also collaborate with directors, producers, editors, or other artists to ensure the quality and consistency of the project. A special effects artist and animator needs to have a strong artistic talent and a passion for technology (6).

These are some examples of interdisciplinary careers that you can pursue with an interdisciplinary studies degree. However, there are many more possibilities depending on your interests and skills. You can also create your own interdisciplinary career by combining differentfields that you are passionate about. The key is to be curious, flexible, and open-minded

Interdisciplinary careers are those that involve working across two or more disciplines or fields of study. They can be very rewarding and challenging, as they require you to integrate different perspectives, methods, and skills to address complex problems or create innovative solutions. Some skills required for interdisciplinary careers are:

- ****Critical thinking**:** the ability to think about information, ideas or arguments in a way that is objective, rational and open to debate (11).
- ****Problem solving**:** the ability to apply knowledge from different fields to solve a problem (11).
- ****Communication**:** the ability to communicate effectively with people from different fields (11). This includes oral and written communication, as well as foreign and technical languages.
- ****Teamwork**:** the ability to work effectively with people from different fields (11).
- This involves collaboration, networking, and coordination skills.
- ****Time management**:** the ability to manage your time effectively (11). This includes prioritizing, planning, and organizing your tasks and projects.
- ****Research**:** the ability to conduct research across different fields (11). This involves finding, evaluating, and synthesizing relevant information from various sources.
- ****Organization**:** the ability to organize information across different fields (11). This involves sorting, categorizing, and presenting data and information in a clear and coherent way.
- ****Technology**:** the ability to use technology across different fields (11). This involves learning and adapting to new tools and platforms that can enhance your work and productivity.
- ****Creativity and innovation**:** the ability to combine theories, methodologies, and insights from different disciplines and generate new ideas and solutions (12). This involves curiosity, imagination, and originality.
- ****Flexibility and choice**:** the ability to tailor your curriculum according to your interests and aspirations, and explore multiple options for your future (13). This

involves openness, adaptability, and self-awareness.

CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS

These are some of the skills required for interdisciplinary careers that you can develop and showcase in your resume or CV. Interdisciplinary studies can help you enrich your education andprepare yourself for the complex and dynamic world. They can also make your learning more enjoyable and meaningful, as you discover new connections and possibilities across different fields. If you are interested in pursuing a multidisciplinary degree abroad, you can check out some of the programs offered by various universities [here] 15).

Critical thinking is a valuable skill that can help you in many aspects of life, such as education, work, and personal development. Critical thinking involves collecting and analyzing information, evaluating different perspectives, and making informed decisions based on evidenceand logic. To improve your critical thinking skills, you can try some of the following tips:

- **Ask basic questions:** Don't take anything for granted or assume that something is true without verifying it. Ask yourself questions like "What do I know?", "How do I know it?", "What are the sources of information?", "What are the assumptions behind this argument?", and "What are the implications of this conclusion?" (17)
- **Comprehend your mental process:** Be aware of how you think and what influences your thinking. Identify your biases, emotions, motivations, and beliefs that may affect your reasoning. Try to be objective and rational, and avoid jumping to conclusions or relying on intuition (17).
- **Adjust your personal perspective:** Try to see things from different angles and viewpoints. Consider the opinions and arguments of others, even if they contradict your own. Seek feedback and constructive criticism from others, and be willing to change yourmind if you encounter new evidence or logic (17).
- **Think in reverse:** Challenge yourself to think of alternative explanations or solutions fora problem or situation. Ask yourself "What if?" questions and imagine different scenariosor outcomes. This can help you expand your creativity and innovation, as well as test your assumptions and logic (18).
- **Develop your foresight:** Anticipate the possible consequences and implications of your decisions or actions. Think about the short-term and long-term effects, as well as the potential risks and benefits. This can help you make better choices and avoid unwanted outcomes (18).
- **Question conventional assumptions regularly:** Don't accept the status quo or the common wisdom without examining it critically. Ask yourself "Why?" questions and look for evidence or logic to support or challenge the existing beliefs or practices. This can help you discover new insights and opportunities for improvement (18).
- **Expand your industry-specific or technical skills:** Learn more about your field of interest or expertise, and keep yourself updated with the latest trends and developments. This can help you gain more knowledge and skills that can enhance your critical thinking abilities (19).
- **Take additional courses in your industry that require critical thinking and analysis:** Enroll in online or offline courses that can help you develop your critical

thinking skills in a specific domain or context. For example, you can take courses on data analysis,logic, ethics, philosophy, psychology, or sociology (19).

CRITICAL THINKING IN THE WORKPLACE

These are some of the ways you can improve your critical thinking skills. By practicing these tips regularly, you can become a more effective and confident thinker who can make better decisions and solve problems more efficiently.

Critical thinking is the ability to objectively analyze information and draw a rational conclusion. It is a valuable skill that can help you in many aspects of life, such as education, work, and personal development. Critical thinking involves collecting and analyzing information, evaluating different perspectives, and making informed decisions based on evidence and logic.

Contributing to Company Goals

Critical thinking can help you align your actions with the company's vision and mission. You can use critical thinking to understand the company's objectives, identify the best strategies to achieve them, and evaluate the resultsof your actions. For example, if you work in marketing, you can use critical thinking to research your target market, design effective campaigns, and measure their impact (22).

Decision Making

Critical thinking can help you make better decisions in various situations. You can use critical thinking to gather relevant information, weigh the prosand cons of different options, and choose the most optimal solution. For example, if you work in finance, you can use critical thinking to analyze financial data, assess risks and opportunities, and make sound investments (23).

Personal Growth and Development

Critical thinking can help you improve your skills and knowledge. You can use critical thinking to identify your strengths and weaknesses, set realistic goals, and seek feedback and learning opportunities. For example, if you work in human resources, you can use critical thinking to evaluate your performance, plan your career path, and enroll in training courses (22).

Time Management

Critical thinking can help you manage your time effectively. You can use critical thinking to prioritize your tasks, plan your schedule, and allocate your resources. For example, if you work in project management, you can use critical thinking to define the scope, budget, and timeline of your projects, and monitor their progress (23).

Promoting Good Teamwork

Critical thinking can help you collaborate with others. You can use critical thinking to communicate clearly, listen actively, and respect different opinions. For example, if you work in sales, you can use critical thinking to share information with your team members, understand your customers' needs, and negotiate win-win deals (22).

Being Open to Trying Something New

Critical thinking can help you embrace change and innovation. You can use critical thinking to challenge your assumptions, explore newpossibilities, and experiment with new solutions. For example, if you work in engineering, you can use critical thinking to test new ideas, design prototypes, andimprove existing products (23).

Determining the Right Course of Action

Critical thinking can help you solve problems effectively. You can use critical thinking to define the problem, generate possible solutions, and implement the best one. For example, if you work in customer service, youcan use critical thinking to understand the customer's issue, offer suitable options, and resolve the complaint (22).

Controlling Emotional Response

Critical thinking can help you cope with stress and emotions. You can use critical thinking to calm yourself down, analyze the situation objectively, and act rationally. For example, if you work in healthcare, you can use critical thinking to deal with emergencies, handle difficult patients, and provide quality care (23).

These are some of the examples of how critical thinking can benefit you in the workplace. By developing your critical thinking skills, you can become a more effective and confident employee who can make a positive impact on your organization

Critical thinking skills are essential in every industry and every career level. They can help you analyze information, solve problems, make decisions, and communicate effectively. Developing your critical thinking skills in the workplace can benefit you and your organization in many ways.

POINTS TO DEVELOP CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS IN THE WORKPLACE

Evaluate

Look at the problem and name the situation. Focus on the situation andevaluate all the available data given. Critical thinking involves being able to look at allthe angles of an issue and evaluate properly (31).

Ask Questions

Don't take anything for granted or assume that something is true without verifying it. Ask yourself questions like "What do I know?", "How do I know it?", "What are the sources of information?", "What are the assumptions behind this argument?", and "What are the implications of this conclusion?" (28). You can also ask questions to others, such as your colleagues, managers, or customers, to gather more information and perspectives

Be Open-Minded

Try to see things from different angles and viewpoints. Consider the opinions and arguments of others, even if they contradict your own. Seek feedback and constructive criticism from others, and be willing to change your mind if you encounter new evidence or logic (28). Avoid biases, emotions, or personal preferences that may affect your reasoning.

Generate Solutions

Challenge yourself to think of alternative explanations or solutions for a problem or situation. Ask yourself "What if?" questions and imagine different scenarios or outcomes. This can help you expand your creativity and innovation, as well as test your assumptions and logic (29). You can also collaborate with others to generate more ideas and solutions.

Choose the Best Option

Weigh the pros and cons of different options, and choose the most optimal solution based on the evidence and logic. Consider the short-term and long- term consequences of implementing each solution, as well as the potential risks and benefits (28). You can also use tools or methods to help you make better decisions, such as data analysis, logic models, decision trees, or SWOT analysis.

Implement and Monitor

Once you have chosen a solution, put it into action andmonitor its progress and results. Evaluate the effectiveness and efficiency of your solution, and identify any problems or challenges that arise. Learn from your mistakesand successes, and make adjustments or improvements as needed (29).

Keep Learning

Critical thinking is a lifelong skill that requires constant practice and improvement. Keep yourself updated with the latest trends and developments in your field, and learn new skills and knowledge that can enhance your critical thinking abilities[3](30). You can also take online or offline courses that can help you develop your critical thinking skills in a specific domain or context (28).

These are some of the ways you can improve your critical thinking skills in the workplace. By practicing these steps regularly, you can become a more effective and confident employee who can make a positive impact on your organization.

Critical thinking is the ability to objectively analyze information and draw a rational conclusion. It is a valuable skill that can help you in many aspects of life, such as education, work, and personal development. Critical thinking involves collecting and analyzing information, evaluating different perspectives, and making informed decisions based on evidence and logic.

EXAMPLES OF CRITICAL THINKING IN THE WORKPLACE

Contributing to Company Goals

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Critical thinking can help you cope with stress and emotions. You can use critical thinking to calm yourself down, analyze the situation objectively, and act rationally. For example, if you work in healthcare, you can use critical thinking to deal with emergencies, handle difficult patients, and provide quality care. These are some of the examples of how critical thinking can benefit you in the workplace. By developing your critical thinking skills, you can become a more effective and confident employee who can make a positive impact on your organization

ONLINE COURSES FOR DEVELOPING CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS AT WORK

There are many online courses for developing critical thinking skills at work. Critical thinking skills are essential for any profession, as they help you analyze information, solve problems, make decisions, and communicate effectively. Online courses can help you learn and practice these skills in a flexible and convenient way.

Critical Thinker Academy: Learn to Think Like a Philosopher (33)
This course fromUdemy teaches you the basics of critical thinking, such as logic, argumentation, fallacies,and biases. You will learn how to evaluate arguments, construct your own arguments, andavoid common mistakes in reasoning (33).

Mindware: Critical Thinking for the Information Age (34)
This course from the University of Michigan helps you develop critical thinking skills for the digital era. You will learn how to use data and statistics to make informed decisions, how to avoid cognitive traps and errors, and how to apply critical thinking to real-world problems (34).

Philosophy and Critical Thinking (35)
This course from the University of Queensland introduces you to the main concepts and methods of philosophy, such as logic, ethics, epistemology, and metaphysics. You will learn how to think critically about various philosophical topics and questions, such as knowledge, reality, morality, and free will (35).

Free Critical Thinking Courses & Training (36)
This collection of courses from LinkedIn Learning covers various aspects of critical thinking, such as problem-solving, decision-making, creativity, innovation, and communication. You will learn how to applycritical thinking skills to different domains and contexts, such as business, education, or personal development (36).

Logical and Critical Thinking (37)
This course from the University of Aucklandteaches you how to improve your logical and critical thinking skills. You will learn how to identify and analyze arguments, how to use evidence and examples to support your claims, and how to spot and avoid logical fallacies (37).

These are some of the online courses for developing critical thinking skills at work that you can enroll in today. By taking these courses, you can enhance your ability to think clearly, rationally, and creatively in any situation

CONCLUSION

The study concludes that the NEP 2020 is a visionary document that has the potential to transform the higher education landscape in India. It will require a lot of coordination and cooperation among various stakeholders, such as government, regulators, institutions, faculty, students, industry, civil society, etc. It will also require a lot of implementation support and monitoring mechanisms to ensure its effective execution. If implemented well, it can create a vibrant knowledge society that can foster excellence, innovation, inclusion, and social justice in India.

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