

Best Practices

Practice 1

Title of the practice: Combining practical aspects of learning with theory.

Objectives of the Practice:

- To equip students to relate to the context and content of theory presented in the books and apply it to real life situations.
- To engage students in the learning process and equip them with skills to be active participants.
- To equip them with problem solving techniques.
- To increase employability.

The Context: Traditional system of learning and training is a one-way process and does not expose students to real life situations, making them passive recipients. In today's competitive environment the graduates require scientific application of knowledge and specialized skills. The student should be able to apply theoretical knowledge for problem solving purposes and learn real life skills and help build confidence and effectiveness. Applying theoretical frameworks to practical aspects can enhance the prospects of students to be successful in the job market.

The Practice: Eminent personalities and professionals from academia-industry are invited to deliver lectures on various topics.

Faculties interweave practical issues especially in Accountancy, Management and Social Sciences within the prescribed syllabus. Students do presentations in the class on wide range of topics to enhance communication skills and boost self-confidence.

Special sessions are conducted for preparing google sheets & writing research papers and students are encouraged to participate in seminars and present papers.

The college has a preplacement training programme 'Antarang' for aided courses and 'Talarang' for self-financing programmes.

The institution has an Entrepreneurship Cell (BMS) in association with the Asian Institute of Family Managed Business. The idea of the cell is to inculcate and enhance entrepreneurial skills among students and to motivate them to enter into start-ups.

The BFM Department has a Stockers' Association where students discuss and analyse the functioning of the stock market. The students speculate on the market trends by giving timely reports on buying, selling and holding stocks on the Stockers' Association notice board. The association live streams the Union

Budget every year, providing a platform for students to discuss & deliberate the nuances of the budget.

Mathematics, Statistics & Computers Department conducted Bridge course by preparing booklet covering basics of Mathematics, Statistics & Computers. Workbooks are prepared in Mathematics, Statistics & Computers, Business Communication, Communication Skills and Economics. Glossary is prepared by the Department of Sociology, Accountancy and Economics for easy reference of concepts.

Field visits and internship programmes are conducted to expose students to experiential learning. Exhibitions, poster competitions, quizzes, debates, balance sheet presentation, mock interview sessions and slogan writing are conducted by departments to give students insight into the various nuances of various subjects.

The Self-Financing courses organize intra-collegiate competitive events that expose students to the practical aspects of marketing & business strategies.

Evidence of success:

Industrial visits and field visits were organized by various departments to complement theoretical learning. History Department organized visit to the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya and Maharashtra State Archives Department at Elphinstone College Archives. Visits were conducted to Gilbert Hill and Thane mental hospital, BMS department organized industrial Visit to Mapro Foods Pvt Ltd, Mahabaleshwar where they observed and learnt about the various functions of business. BAMMC visited National Film Museum to gain practical insights in film making, Industrial Visit to KiTEC Industries (India) Private Limited, Silvassa where they witnessed the manufacturing unit and quality control units of the industry.

Students participated in the 16th Avishkar Research Convention in 2021-2022 organized by Mumbai University. Total 6 groups presented their research project. One group won consolation prize for their research project titled “ Impact of Green Advertising and Green Brand Awareness on Environmental Consumerism” under the Humanities categories.

Power point presentations were done by students on various topics where students communicated their ideas and understanding of the topics creatively. The Department of Sociology as part of the Tourism in Maharashtra conducted online presentations on socio- cultural landscape of Maharashtra. Students presented the culture and tourist attractions of Maharashtra exploring the significant historical sites and special cuisines from different parts of Maharashtra. Economics Department conducted presentations on Multinational Companies, article review on Farm Bill 2020, Afghanistan Crisis, labour code, India’s GDP growth, History of Economic thoughts by major economists. The Accountancy Department and

BFM organized live screening of the Finance Bill followed by interaction. Accountancy Department conducted best presented balance sheet giving students the chance to present financial statements.

The Self-financing departments organize annual intra-collegiate festivals like MYOB (BMS), Technika (BSc.IT), Earning while Learning (BBI), Finzard (BFM), Food Carnival (BMM) and Trends Association (BAF) with the aim to provide a platform to the students to combine theory with practical application where students learn the skills of stock market trends, management principles, marketing skills, entrepreneurship etc.

Webinars were conducted for the students and staff on topics such as Career Opportunities in Insurance Sector, Building a better LinkedIn Profile and blockchain and cryptocurrency. An ICSSR sponsored 5 day online international workshop was conducted on Latex for social science research by Mathematics and Statistics Department. An innovative course 'Wow! Maths' (connecting maths to everyday life) was organized to fill the gaps in Mathematical Learning Practices. 12 workshops were conducted by various departments and associations in the field of Accounting and Finance, Interviews, Self Defence, Suicide Prevention, REBT, Career counselling, creative writing, Stress Management and use of online library resources.

Guest lectures were organized on topics such as investor awareness, Direct Marketing and E-Commerce, I.T. Recruitment Process-An Overview, business malpractices and consumer protection, Srinivasa Ramanujan and his Contributions to Mathematical Sciences, Black Hole Physics, Business malpractices and Consumer Education by eminent speakers from academia and industry. Workshops were conducted in the fields of accounting and finance, interviews, self-defense, suicide prevention, REBT, career counselling, creative writing, stress management and use of online library.

The college offers add on courses to enable the students to learn beyond the curriculum. BSc IT in collaboration with Technolytics conducted add on courses on Programming Logic Building Animation and graphics and Analytical model building (ML)

Through the placement cell 15 students were placed with Asian Paints, Motiwal Oswal Financial Services Ltd., Intellecta Consultants and IndusInd Bank. 8 students completed their internships.

Problems encountered and resources required:

Since syllabus is framed by University of Mumbai the scope to include current topics is limited due to timeconstraint. It is difficult to sustain interest of students in actively participating in various activities throughout the year.

Practice 2 Title of the Practice: Community engagement through Extension Activities

Objectives of the Practice:

- To instill a sense of social and civic responsibility among the students.
- To develop positive outlook inspired by the spirit of service and contributing to nation building.
- To enable students to grow into responsible citizens & become effective nation builders.
- To facilitate community empowerment.
- To help in personality development and fostering spirit of volunteerism.

The Context:

Apart from imparting theoretical and practical education, it is important to create link between knowledge and action inculcating in students' sense of community service and volunteerism making them responsible citizens, conscious of the society around them. Extension activities awaken students' sense of social responsibility and helps in developing leadership, organizational and team work skills.

The Practice:

The college has a well-organized NSS and DLLE unit where students engage in community service voluntarily and contribute to wellbeing of the society. Participation in various community driven projects creates environmental, social and political awareness. Through Population Education Club, the objective of DLLE is to sensitize the students towards socio - cultural realities and environmental issues.

The students participate in tree plantation drive, cleanliness drive and voter awareness programmes annually.

Awareness camps on health issues are undertaken regularly. Lectures by experts are held to create awareness about organ, skin and eye donation. Malaria, dengue and typhoid awareness workshop, AIDS awareness week, eye check-up camp, yoga workshops are conducted to promote health and fitness. The NSS organises blood donation and thalassemia check-up camps.

Evidence of success

NSS and DLLE conducted a Mega Special Free Vaccination Drive for College Students between the ages of 18-25 where teachers and other staff members were given the jab under the drive.

An Online Fund Generation for the flood victims of Chiplun, Mahad and Sindhudurg was organised to provide help, food, clothing, medicine and other necessities to the flood affected people. Rs. 13,001/- was collected and donated to Adarsh Vidyalaya of Mahad Taluka from Raigad district to purchase two almirahs for office.

An Awareness Cum Interaction Session was organised on the theme "Independent India @75: Self Reliance with Integrity". The objective was to observe Vigilance Awareness Week (26th October to 1st November). The session was organised with the objective to promote transparency and probity in public life through citizen participation and to stay firm and committed to the highest standards of honesty and integrity at all times and to work together to eradicate corruption.

Mr Abhishek Yadav won the best NSS volunteer trophy at the seven day University Level NSS special camp. The college received the best college award under the category Best Social and Community Service during the Progress Global Awards 2021 from The Progress, an Initiative of the Sri Aurobindo Yoga and Knowledge Foundation Trust, Chhattisgarh in the presence of the Chief Minister of Chattisgarh. The NSS unit was appreciated by the University of Mumbai for the remarkable work towards the collection of blood units at the suburban Railway station during Covid 19 pandemic.

Under the banner of DLLE many students showcased their sensitivity towards society and environment by participating in activity like 'Vaccination Drive', 'Clean Diwali, Green Diwali Competition', Street Play on World AIDS day, training-cum-awareness session on Sudden Cardiac Arrest Resuscitation-CPR, National Voters Day, Slogan Competition on National Cleanliness Day and Essay competition on Social Evil Practices.

Problems encountered and resources required.

Due to Covid pandemic few activities were conducted offline. Appointment of full-time faculty as programme officer for effective utilization of human resources is required.

Institutional Distinctiveness

In its quest to provide quality education and access the institution as a stepping stone towards automation is using MasterSoft ERP with constant upgradation to bring transparency with minimum point of human contact thus promoting operational efficiency.

The features of ERP in use are:

1. Students: Online admission, fee payment, teacher feedback, student grievance, online transcript, online examination, access to syllabus and lecture notes.
2. Teaching Staff: Work related to admission, examination, academics and administration
3. Office staff: Admission of students, fee payment link creation, leave application and students administration – TC/LC, bonafide and NOC.
4. Principal: monitor examination, staff daily reporting, admission status and leave approval.
5. Mobile App for students and staff.

The Library House Keeping activities are fully automated using LIBSUITE Library Management Software. The library has implemented Library SLIM21 Integrated Library Management Software. Use of Barcoding technology for Visitor's Login, Issue, Return and Stock Verification. Availability of wide range of electronic journals, books and company profile for student access. Subscription to the E databases of EBSCO, INFLIBNET NLIST, and remote login access. An institutional repository consisting of past question papers, syllabus, government circulars etc., digital archival collection, Library blog, e alert services, virtual bookshelf, e reference services, digital content service.

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