

BEST PRACTICE I

Title of the Practice

Earning while Learning

Goal of the practice

Apeejay has been always a College with a difference. Its mission is to make the students self-sufficient and professionally enabled. In order to achieve this target, the College provides unique opportunities to its highly talented students to start earning in their respective field even while they are studying in the second and third year of their course. Such students are given special grooming, extra coaching and skill enhancement opportunities by the trained and experienced faculty to enable them to earn while they are learning and prove themselves befittingly.

The Context

Apeejay College of Fine Arts is a multi-faculty Institution running a blend of traditional and modern techno-savvy courses under one roof. The courses are conducted in such a manner that every course is in complete synergy with other courses, each course complementing and supplementing the other with a seamless inter-disciplinary flow of knowledge helping to produce a cult of self-reliance amongst the students. Most of the courses are practical in nature and talented students are groomed to the extent that they become confident to provide their services in the market with a professional edge. Such students start earning even while they are still students and help partake of the financial burden of their parents. Along with that, they attain like high level of confidence which leverages their employability and their future career prospects.

The Practice

The talented students are selected from each department on the basis of their credentials and their class performance and their role in co-curricular activities. They are then required to undertake an aptitude test specially designed for the purpose of selecting the students would be in a position to work on certain projects and earn

money. After identifying the areas of their expertise, the opportunities are identified from outsources. For instance, the students who are good at painting have been allocated commissioned work in the state, University and District Administration. Such students are guided by the faculty to execute quality work. The Entrepreneurial Development Cell of the college also helps students to initiate their start-ups. Special hobby classes and Skill enhancement classes are also offered to the students free of cost to enhance their talent and skills and excel in these in order to become self-reliant even while studying. The well lined infrastructure facilities enable the students to acquire a cutting edge.

Evidence of Success

Many of our students excelling in performing arts have been provided with opportunities to take part time jobs in schools, colleges, TV, radio station and other private organisations. The College also helps the students to get work from the Industry and Corporate houses. They are engaged to develop their logos, book illustrations, website etc. Students are also encouraged to do Photography on special occasions and are hired by companies and private bodies to shoot for weddings and birthdays etc. The college has a well-equipped sound studio within the campus and students take up certain assignments and get remuneration from the college. They also work as accompanists on special occasions inside and outside the college and earn money.

Problems Encountered and Resources Required

Sometimes it is difficult to get employers for such students. The College has to work hard to convince the job providers. The College also has to take care of the safety of the students and ensure a conducive environment at the work-place. Since this practice has been going on for the last many years, people have full faith in the credentials and the quality bench mark of the college. Extra coaching along with regular classes is also a challenge but our dedicated faculty fulfills the required output.

BEST PRACTICE – II

Title of the Practice

ICT Enabled Education

Goal of the Practice

To provide world-class advanced technology to the students for a proper dissemination of knowledge, enhancement of presentation skills, promotion of innovative capabilities and to leverage global placement of our students. To equip the students with a cutting edge and a sound professional potential to enable them to make a mark for themselves in the highly competitive world where technology is the order of the day.

The Context

Worldwide research has shown that ICT can lead to an improved student learning and better coaching methodology. Seeing the interest of the students in technology, the College has made efforts to make technology an essential and integral part of its classroom teaching. Technology has the power to transcend barriers and ensure a smooth flow of knowledge even in most testing times through on-line education. The College aims at providing world-class teaching learning ambience to the learners at par with global standards.

The Practice

In order to fulfill the objective of providing ICT Enabled Education, following measures have been taken by the College:

1. The College has 74 ICT enabled classrooms, 10 smart classrooms and fully equipped ICT enabled studios, workshops, conference halls, auditorium etc.
2. 3D engraving machine in the Design department and hi-tech infrastructural facilities enable the students to become techno-savvy.
3. Extensive use of MOODLE and updating it with latest information mandatory for all teachers. MOODLE is a Learning Management Tool worldwide. It is

used as a platform for exchanging valuable notes, lectures, videos etc. It is also used for submitting assignments and project works. It is also an automated attendance system.

4. Online tests are conducted at the departmental level through MOODLE at regular intervals. The result compilation is fully automated which results in timely delivery of report cards.
5. Record of the students performance in the mid-terms and class assignments is duly maintained in the college in soft version for monitoring the growth of the students in classes and midterm exams.
6. The curricular aspects of the Institution are enhanced by its high speed network and free access to Wi-Fi and Data sharing.
7. Live online demo classes with artists and scholars of international repute to facilitate effective teaching-learning are regularly conducted.
8. Students are trained to make use of ICT tools and for making effective presentations and projects. They are motivated to attend relevant, online video tutorials offered by SWAYAMPRAKASH.
9. The mentors encourage the students to take up MOOC courses after a proper analysis based on their interest and ensure timely completion of the course.
10. Students of various professional and technical courses are encouraged to take up research based projects. **Use of accounting and statistical software is encouraged among students from relevant streams.**
11. There are two fully air conditioned digital and fully automated libraries, stocked with rare and relevant books, KINDLE and Subscription to prominent and research based Journals, Magazines and Newspapers.
12. KOHA and D Space automated software for library are installed.
13. The main library houses a cyber-zone with 12 computers, printers, scanner and

two photocopier machines where the students avail the services of OPAC, INFLIBNET, Book Bank Facility, Reprography, Printing, Photocopy, etc.

- 14.To facilitate smooth admission, online admission forms are provided on the college website.
- 15.All information related to the latest courses in the college is also provided on the social media to reach the techno savvy youngsters.
- 16.Adoption of CRM (Custom Relationship Management) through Lead squared application helps in handling student queries efficiently.
- 17.Fee collection is done electronically
- 18.Website queries are linked with CRM tools to make the online query/process centralized.
- 19.Teaching and Non-Teaching faculty is regularly trained for ICT enabled education through a number of workshops and online webinars in order to equip them to meet the quality benchmark of teaching with technology and meeting the students requirements through technologically enabled offices.
- 20.Students are allowed to use their mobile phones for interactive sessions.
- 21.Every class has internet access points so that worldwide interaction can be made possible. Students are connected to national classrooms and to the lectures of the experts from any part of the world.

Evidence of Success

Apeejay College of Fine Arts, Jalandhar was able to overcome all challenges posed by the pandemic Covid-19 and succeeded in reaching out to all its students through online teaching platforms like Zoom and MOODLE. An online time table was put into practice and there was a seamless delivery of the course content and e-content from the teachers to the students. Even practical

assignments were carried out with 100% success through online modes. Marching ahead of its times, ACFA had embraced technology in education for the last one decade and it was put to the best usage during the pandemic. Co-curricular activities and competitions were also carried out uninterrupted through the e-portals. A series of significant webinars were conducted to equip the students with the latest know-how of their fields along with other values and necessary measures to cope with the stress caused by the pandemic.

Problems Encountered and Resources Required

ICT enabled education involves a lot of finances which at times becomes a challenge due to the paucity of Government and UGC funding. The College ensures the best of its infrastructure facilities provided to the students laced with technology.

