

7.2 Best Practices

(I) Introduction of courses like Foundation Course, Moral Education Course, Social Outreach in curriculum
KMV Jalandhar, the Autonomous, Heritage Institution has many firsts to its credit. KMV has always prioritised selfless service to humanity. It has reached out to the underprivileged and needy in the society through various activities and programmes undertaken from time to time. Catering to the need of the hour to inculcate these values in its students, the face of tomorrow, KMV has made such value-based courses a mandatory part of its curriculum. Each semester grooms and chisels the students to be future ready by introducing a value-based concept in the form of a course. The first semester has Foundation course, the second semester features Moral Education course, Gender Sensitisation in the third and Social Outreach in the fourth.

Objectives of the Practice:

Foundation Course-

This course is in synch with UGC programme Deeksharanbh and has been running very successfully at KMV since 2011.

- to enable the students to realize their position in the whole saga of time and space
- to inculcate in them an appreciation of life, cultures and people across the globe
- to promote, in the students, an awareness of human intellectual history
- to make them responsible and humane world citizens so that they can carry forward the rich legacy of humanity

Moral Education Course-

- To sensitize students about the role and importance of human values and ethics in personal, social and professional life;
- To enable students to understand and appreciate ethical concerns relevant to modern lives
- To sensitize the students about the current issues and events of national and international importance
- To highlight plausible implications of ethical human conduct, trustful and mutually fulfilling human behaviour and mutually enriching interaction with nature

Social Outreach Course-

- To equip the students to learn to connect knowledge gained in classroom with real life situation by getting hands on experience through community services
- To engage students in social service.
 - To provide students an opportunity to reflect upon larger issues that affect communities through readings and discussions.
 - To Integrate academic learning and community engagement through practical field work.
 - To develop awareness, knowledge and skills for working with diverse groups in the society.

The Context:

Foundation Course –

This course has been designed to strengthen the intellectual foundation of all the new entrants in the college. One of the most common factors found in the students seeking admission in college after high school is the lack of an overall view of human history, knowledge of global issues, peaks of human intellect, social/political benchmarks and inventors & discoverers who have impacted human life. For a student, the process of transformation from school to college is full of apprehension and intimidation of the system. The Foundation Programme intends to bridge the gap between high school and college education and develop an intellectual readiness and base for acquiring higher education.

Moral Education Course-

This is a unique programme for instilling moral values in Gen X-a largely tech-savvy generation. The programme is mandatory for the students of UG (II-sem) and PG (II-Sem) of Science, Commerce, Arts and IT streams.

Social Outreach Course-

The Social outreach programme proposes to equip the students for community upliftment work. It strives to prepare citizens who will make a marked difference in the society. The students are provided with numerous opportunities to build their knowledge and skills on the fundamental values of social fairness and compassion.

The Practice:

Foundation Course – The programme traces the human story beginning from the dawn of humanity and passing through the ancient and middle Ages right upto the modern times. Each module of the course focuses on the important milestones in the growth of human intellect right from the Gita, the Bible and Guru Granth Sahib to the more recent struggle for the rights of women as well as other marginalized communities both in the east and the west. The students are also acquainted with important social and political benchmarks in world history and renowned inventors and discoverers whose works have impacted human life greatly.

Description of the Current Practice of the Innovation

➤ Curriculum

Each Topic of this course is developed by separate teacher resource person.

Being a Human: Introduction & Student Assessment, The Human Story, The Vedas & Bhagwad Gita: Indian Religious Philosophy, Philosophy of Guru Nanak Dev Ji and The Holy Bible & Genesis, Day 5 Changing Paradigms in Society, Religion & Literature, Woman - A Journey through the Ages, M.K. Gandhi and Indian Freedom Struggle,8 Martin Luther King Jr. and Civil Rights Movement , Makers of Modern India,ay 10 World at a Glance I: Current Geographical Scenario, World at a Glance II: Current Socio-Economic Scenario, India at a Glance: Political, Social and Economic Scenario, Values vs Technology, The KMV Experience: Vision, Mission, Student Code, Student Assessment and Closure of Programme

➤ **Target Group**

- All semI undergraduate students in the college
- All the faculties covered: Faculties of Humanities, Sciences, Commerce and Computer Science

➤ **Delivery**

- *Not a sage on the stage rather a highly interactive programme*
- *Use of multimedia PPTs, music, songs and video clips to give a multidimensional experience to the students*
- *Student participation encouraged by presenting them with chocolates or other token prizes as incentive during the sessions*
- *Certificate of participation awarded to all the students attending the whole programme*
- *Most outstanding students in interactive participation and assessment awarded prizes during Annual Prize Distribution Function*

Moral Education Course-

The methodology of this course is aimed at perception transformation.

- It is free from any dogma or value prescriptions
- It is an initiation into the process of self-investigation and self-exploration
- It aims at encouraging a dialogue between the teacher and the taught, passing the way for a continuous self-evolution.
- The self-exploration will enable the students to evaluate their personal beliefs & their pre-conceived notions while marching on the path of truth and righteousness.

Curriculum

Module I: Introduction, What is Moral Education, Need , content and purpose, Vedic values, Character building

Module II: The Self and You, Understanding the Self –Self-awareness, fighting the five evils (lust, anger, attachment, ego and greed), Self-growth, Personal ethics, Aspiration v/s ambition, self- seeking v/s selflessness, Self-Discipline

Module III: The Family and you, Importance of family- the basic unit of human interaction, Generation gap, Relation with peer group, sibling, elders.

Module IV: The Society and you, Social responsibility, Our rights and duties, Civic sense, Opposite sex relations, Globalization and IT boom – Cellphone menace, Drug abuse, Sex abuse

Module V: The Nation and you, International peace and brotherhood, Saving the environment

Social Outreach Course-

The students are expected to be actively engaged in working on any of the projects listed below as volunteers. Evaluation is based on consistency, commitment and results achieved in areas taken up.

List of Projects under Social Outreach Programmes:

- a. Working as Motivators under the Swatch Bharat Campaign of the Government,
- b. Literacy drive: (i). Teaching in the Charitable School Adopted by the College

- i. (ii). Work in projects undertaken by Rotary Club of Jalandhar for inducting students in child labour Schools.
- c. Enrol as NSS Volunteers for various projects (Cleanliness, Women health awareness)
- d. Counselling camps in villages
- e. Tree plantation (i) Maintaining the trees in the park adopted by the college, in Vikas Puri, Jalandhar
 - 1. (ii)Enrol for projects undertaken by JCI Jalandhar City
- f. Enrol in the Gandhian Studies Centre as student Volunteer for surveys in villages.
- g. Women Empowerment Programmes in collaboration with JCI Jalandhar Grace
- h. Generating awareness on voting among the youth.
- i. Drug Abuse (Generate awareness among the school children)
- j. Environment Awareness (Reduce Pollution)
- k. Old Age Homes/Orphanages
- l. Operating the Empathy Corner outside the college gate.
- m. Disaster Management/ Relief Work

Evaluation /Assessment:

In the beginning of the semester the students after enrolling for one of the Projects offered are given deadlines for the project.

- a. Students are responsible for getting their hours of service recorded with the faculty and also map the progress of their subjects (children, old people, saplings etc.).
- b. The respective departments monitor the involvement of their students
- c. The students submit a report of the project taken up by them.
- d. There is no written examination, the students are given grade on the basis of evaluation of the projects by an evaluation committee, comprising of the Dean of the respective streams, Head and two teachers of the concerned department.

Evidence of Success:

Foundation Course –

- 1. *It is observed that after attending the course, the students gain knowledge that leads to improvement in overall academic performance*
- 2. *Their participation in academic and co-academic activities is enthusiastic and better*
- 3. *Their increased interest in human concerns is visible as the course reaches its culmination*
- 4. *Students develop an understanding of as well as tolerance towards different world religions*

Moral Education Course-

This innovative experiment proved to be a crucial academic input for the institution. It turned out to be the

primary step to fulfil a long-felt need and provided the missing link in the present education curriculum. This programme brought out a perception transformation among the students by initiating a process of self-exploration. It has helped the students to appreciate the essential complementary relationship between ‘values’ and ‘success’ and facilitated the development of a holistic perspective among students towards life and profession as well as toward happiness and prosperity. After attending this course students have turned out to be better human beings.

Social Outreach Course-

This course has been helpful in inculcating certain values in the students and to ensure they take pride in being part of the society. Is successful in evoking passion in students and making them aware about their social responsibilities This course has helped in engaging students in those activities which develop the students into empathetic, compassionate and good human beings.

Problems Encountered for these courses

- Preparing innovative, interactive lectures with audio-visual presentations
- Fitting the programme within the existing college time table to suit all the faculties
- Developing & maintaining interest of the students
- Developing a mechanism for the assessment
- Monitoring time spent by students in social work

(II) Monday Morning Assembly

Objectives of the Practice:

1. To inculcate patriotism
2. To impart value-based education
3. To empower women
4. To arouse social consciousness
5. To counsel the students
6. To contribute to national development

The Context: Conceived and initiated with the avowed aim of arousing nationalistic pride, imparting information and providing a platform for collective thinking and community feeling (strategizing future course of action) at a time when the nation was reeling under foreign yoke, the practice of Morning Assembly has an added significance and relevance in present times when gross materialism and consumerism have overridden ethical and patriotic values. Knowing that values are imbibed rather than taught, the college has adopted this practice to counsel the students and inculcate those values that are needed to live in a pluralistic society and contribute to national development.

The Practice: Monday morning assembly, a regular and important feature of the college, is a subtle manifestation of the collective consciousness and purposeful education of KMV. The national flag is hoisted and national songs—“Vande Matram” and “Jan Gan Man” are sung with nationalistic fervour. Worthy of mention is the fact that at a time when singing of National Song invited flogging and hoisting of the national flag was deemed a crime

against the British empire, in Kanya Maha Vidyalaya the students spun charkha, wore Khadi, hoisted national flag and sang “Vande Matram” with full throated fervor. In keeping with the same patriotic and Gandhian spirit, Khadi uniform, synonymous with freedom struggle and empowerment of women is still worn on Mondays. It is compulsory for all students to come in white Khadi uniform (White Khadi suit and White Muslin Dupatta). The national fabric and pride of India, Khadi serves as a great equalizer, enthuses the students with the essence of our rich, vibrant cultural heritage and inculcates patriotism. Above all, this assembly of heterogeneous students in white khadi, while creating a feeling of belonging, a spirit of oneness and nurturing everlasting bonds subtly manifests and promotes secularism and social equity.

Thought for the Day is given to instill values among students and arouse the intellectual, moral and social consciousness of students. The thought provoking ‘Pearls of Wisdom’ and the collective counselling prepares every student to raise herself intellectually and morally so as to face the stern realities of life with confidence and courage. Each student of the college is expected to look on herself as the ambassador of the college and conduct herself with dignity that is worthy of the institution.

Awards and Laurels: The students achievers, who have won laurels for the college on the academic and co-academic/co-curricular front are honoured and awarded prizes to inspire and motivate the students to aim for the sky and achieve their goals. The initiatives of NSS Volunteers are also lauded and given due recognition to infuse students with an ardent sense of responsible citizenship for nation building and to impinge upon the students’ mind the need to meaningfully contribute towards meeting societal needs. Faculty achievements are also highlighted to offer role models for the students to look up to and emulate.

Collective Counselling:

Official instructions, announcements regarding intra-college and intercollege competitions and upcoming events are made. Rapt in attention the students listen carefully to the instructions given during the assembly and follow them earnestly.

The mission of the college to reinforce the culture of excellence and contribute to national development is substantially met with through Morning Assembly which imparts value-added education and inculcates patriotic fervour.

Evidence of Success: The practice has exercised a great motivational influence on the student community. Motivated by the student achievers and honours conferred on them, the students are recognizing their potentialities, shedding their inhibitions and coming forward to participate in various activities being organized by the college. What is laudable is that they are benchmarking their achievements and effort. The achievements of the competent teachers in their respective fields further fire them to give their best and outperform.

Well-defined value system and love for our culture has given strong roots and poise to our students and facilitated their moral and intellectual growth. It has gone a long way in inculcating a strong sense of ethical values, a genuine concern for our culture and commitment to nationalistic causes. We have a galaxy of alumni who have done the college proud by making significant contribution in ameliorating the lot of oppressed, marginalized sections of society.

Problems Encountered and Resources Required:

The problem area is time table. A lot of rescheduling and adjustment in time table has to be done to enable all the teachers to meet their respective classes and prevent any academic loss. Duration of each period has to be reduced to hold the assembly.

Also during COVID-19, this practice has to be paused.