



Miranda House

UNIVERSITY OF DELHI

Internal Academic Audit

Department: Philosophy

Academic Year: 2021-22 (from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022)

Strength

- One of the biggest strengths of our department is our skilled faculty. There are 6 permanent faculty members and one Ad-hoc assistant professor. All are PhD holders. All the members are academically active and have published articles in renowned journals. The faculty is also active in General body meetings and engaged in revising syllabus, evaluation, setting question papers etc.
- Another biggest strength is our meritorious students who join the course across the country. We are proud to say that we have great student diversity with students coming not merely from humanities background, but also from fields such as commerce and science from different parts of the country.
- The department focuses on the Ethics-based education and hence conducts seminars and certificate courses for the same. One of the best practices of the department is annual certificate course on Living Values.
- The department also offered certificate course on Ethics, law and Policy Making.
- The department celebrated World Philosophy Day. In 2021, the theme was “Role of Public Philosophers”.
- The department celebrates the annual department fest Gnosis and conducts a lecture on the theme of the fest. In 2022, the theme was Ecofeminism.
- The department also conduct sessions like ‘Rejuvenating Minds’ wherein students and faculty come on a common platform for discussions on issues like stressbusters.
- Our students are given the platform of creativity and they launched the department magazine “Episteme” in 2021.
- As the department focuses on Ethical teachings, our students are sensitive towards the social issues and thus took an initiative during the Covid. They handled Covid helpdesk to help people during the hard period.
- The department strictly follows the mentor-mentee program.

Weaknesses

- We feel that as we have Philosophy of law, there should be infrastructure to offer more Inter-Disciplinary Courses such as Philosophy of Mathematics, Philosophy of Economics, Philosophy of Management.
- Sometimes the department faces a problem in tracking the student progression.

Opportunities

- As there is renewed focus on Indian Knowledge System under NEP, we feel happy that our department has already been uniquely situated to develop curriculum around the Indian Knowledge System.
- Our department offers various courses such as Ethics, Applied Ethics, Feminism, Bio-ethics etc. Apart from this, department also offers Ethics-based certificate courses as mentioned in our strengths. This results in the overall development of the students.
- Our students write the editorial columns for the department magazine “Episteme”.
- The department also offers career counselling sessions by inviting people from different streams to deliver lectures. In 2021, Shailja Das, an IPS officer was invited for guiding the students for UPSC preparations. In 2022, Tarunpreet Kaur, Metropolitan Magistrate from Saket Court was invited to deliver a lecture on career in Law.
- We offer discussion platforms for the students through movie screenings. In 2021, Sophie’s world was chosen for the same.
- Philosophy department students launched their Philosophy department blog on 25th Feb 2022.
- Students also launched department merchandise for students on 28th Feb 2022.

- Department also organizes field work trips, such as students are taken to museums and temples which gives them the exposure to the Ancient Indian Traditions.
- Students of our department are given the platform to contribute to the society and thus, students of the department started a volunteer driven organization, a project named 'RAAHAT' during the COVID-19 pandemic. The organization helped the interstate migrants, and the vulnerable communities present in Bhubaneswar, Odisha.
- Our students are also given the space for getting engaged in various co-curricular activities and thus they undertake internships in renowned organizations.

Challenges

- Philosophy is a discipline which requires an elaborate discussion. The faculty feel that the courses are vast, and we get less time to get in intense discussions during the lectures. However, the faculty does compensate by making use of the tutorials for the same.
- Our students are research oriented but are unable to focus on it due to their busy time-tables. So, the faculty encourages the students to write assignments as research papers.
- Though the medium of instruction is English, we have some Hindi medium students. To help them, the faculty make use of the tutorial slots.
- We wish to have more funds to provide books to the students.

Future Plans

- More value-oriented short-term Courses.
- Activity-based programmes.
- Certificate Course on Philosophical Counselling.
- Planning to start a Happiness Club.
- Encourage UG students to pursue research.
- Promoting and encouraging spirituality inherited from our rich Ancient Indian Tradition as a part of experiential learning.
- Sarva Dharma Sambhāva Yātrā with the aim to inculcate the value of religious diversity and harmonious co-existence.



Dr. Nisha Vashishta

Coordinator, IQAC