

DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY

Internal Academic Audit

Academic Year: 2022-23

ACADEMIC:

Department of Geography has always been a sigil for academic excellence with regards to creating an enriching environment for students' growth and development. Each faculty member with their diverse specializations offers an opportunity for students to experience varied facets of geography.

The subject has a combination of papers from both physical and humanistic stream along with practical papers in each semester that provides analytical tools to apply them in an experiential way into various branches of geography. In every practical paper, a record file is created either in manual and digital mode that have in-depth interpretations and findings.

Apart from building their theoretical knowledge through immersive and interactive class experiences, students are also allocated projects that require thinking outside the box, applying learned knowledge and engage in problem solving.

The students get an understanding of skill based learning and contemporary problems through papers like Disaster Management, Climate Change and Sustainability Science. They are also able to relate to many other issues in their surroundings through environmental, regional and urban studies. Some papers introduced into the new education system also addresses a deeper understanding of the subject through everyday geography.

Field work has been a mainstay of the discipline which help them to conduct research in real world situations. It is just not an experience which they get in different geographical locations but the whole process from planning, executing the survey and compilation of the field report, they constantly engage themselves in brainstorming activities. The aim has also been to foster a keen curiosity, analytical capacities, innovation, team work and leadership among students.

Many of our ex-students are employed in different capacities with government, private and nongovernmental sectors, who are also invited to interact with the present students through a series of career-oriented seminars. The students see them as their role models not only because of their academic and professional excellence but also as strong women who have surpassed many challenges in their life, one of them being cracking the toughest civil services exams.

The faculty members also engage in active research, national and international collaborations and conduct training programmes to build their own capacities; as well as for other stakeholders and community in general.

CO-CURRICULAR:

We believe, as educators that education does not end when the bell rings. Its other half begins from there. To ensure holistic development for each student, our department constantly strives to create opportunities for students by organizing activities and events that stretch the precincts of geography and also go beyond them. The goal is not only to invite students to participate and learn but also to cultivate and express their own ideas.

Furthermore, we attempt to support each student when they wish to embark on their own co-curricular journey and bring in new ideas. Through various academic seminars, workshops, creative writings and career-oriented activities, it gives an opportunity to each student to work according to their core competencies.

Whenever a student feels hesitant, they are encouraged to showcase their multifaceted talents in their own creative ways. We strictly understand the value of multiple intelligence and do not expect them all to have similar interests.

CHALLENGES FACED:

The Department has faced its set of difficulties and has emerged resilient from time to time. From managing the large student strength with limited resources to the post pandemic period of adjusting the hectic schedule, with long practical sessions, sometimes overflowing beyond the classroom hours have always been challenging. Despite their constraints to have access to the privileges, the faculty has attempted to create a synergistic bond with the students.

Despite the large population of students in each class and the restricted time each semester allows, teachers constantly persist to help students who find it difficult to adapt to conventional learning by understanding their unique learning style and integrate it into the classroom experience. Sometimes they reach out to them through counselling sessions.

FUTURE PLANS:

Going forward, our aim is to strengthen our mentor-mentee system to ensure each student gets unruffled time with their allocated mentor to discuss their concerns. Furthermore, we will strive to offer more opportunities for research, field-based learning and innovative projects.

With the new educational system in place, and inclusion of new papers and more research-oriented studies, the department aims to bring in special learning tools and instruments to expand the existing laboratory facilities.

Additional opportunities have been created for students to undertake internships within the college by collaborating with various research centres and establishments.

On the whole the department aims to encourage each individual to be empathetic, smart and ready for facing the future world, professionally and emotionally.