



Miranda House

UNIVERSITY OF DELHI

Internal Academic Audit

Department: History

Academic Year: 2022-23 (1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023)

Steps Taken by the Department to provide Inclusive Teaching Learning Environment

Academic:

- The Department offered several courses (GE, SEC, VAC, BA Programme DSC, BA Programme Minor) in bilingual medium to provide better learning experience to Hindi medium students.
- The teachers conducted separate tutorial classes for Hindi medium students, provided reading material to them in Hindi to facilitate inclusive learning.
- VH students were encouraged to use resources from the Amba Dalmia Centre.
- Students were encouraged to work in groups for continuous assessment in the tutorial class. They did group projects where they used multilingual skills to report on historical events and sources.
- Students have done individual as well as group presentations in tutorials. They made innovative and creative power point presentations for continuous assessment.
- Students have used ICT skills to map historical data as part of continuous assessment.
- Teachers supplemented lectures with teaching aids: documentaries, photographs, maps, models of historical artefacts to provide better learning experience.
- The timelines and schedule for IA and CA were decided in a democratic manner.
- Teachers engaged with students through mentor-mentee groups to discuss their issues in the contact hours.
- Several field visits were organized in Delhi (National Museum, National Archives, Qutb Complex, Nizamuddin Basti) as well as to the Rampur Raza library to provide experiential learning to students. Students prepared field visit report regarding their learnings from the visit.

- A workshop was conducted by History faculty to provide detailed insight regarding writing research papers and student seminars.
- Student paper presentation competition was organized as a part of History society event. There was wide participation from students from history departments of various colleges of Delhi University.
- History society events are largely student driven, elicit wide participation of student volunteers in preparation, organization and participation in various academic and cultural activities of the department. In 2022-23 the cultural event of History society's annual festival had more than five classical and folk-dance performances by the students of the History department. The event was sponsored by Indian Culture, Government of India.
- Academic seminar and lectures were held throughout the semester to encourage learning beyond the classroom. The themes of which lectures and discussions were held include: panel discussion on history of Miranda House, depiction of art in different forms, seminar on historical context of Ukraine crisis, Hindi cinema and popular culture, exhibition on art and a webinar on new approach towards study of Humayun's reign.

Co-curricular activities:

- The History Department and its students' societies (History Society and Raahi, the heritage walks society) actively organised co-curricular and extra-curricular activities to provide a holistic education and inclusive learning environment to the Hons. and Prog. students. The History Department organised various indoor and outdoor activities in collaboration with other societies and institutions. For example, the History Society organised a tour to the Rampur Raza Library and Jim Corbett National Park on 15 and 16 March 2023.
- Raahi organised many heritage walks in and outside Delhi throughout the year for students. For example, *History through lens* (in collaboration with Museo-Camera on 28 April 2023), *Takth aur Naqab: Gendering Sultanate* (in collaboration with MH Women's Development Cell on 29 Jan 2023), *Nazm-e-Dilli* (in collaboration with Poesis, the MH Book Club on 30 Oct 2022), *The Sage of Bhuli Bhatyari* (09 Oct 2022), *Agrasen ki Baoli* (16 Oct 2022), *Kamala Nehru Ridge* (04 April 2023), *Tracing the History of Miranda House* (28 April 2023), etc. All these walks were led by the history society members and were open to all.
- Our BA Hons. and Prog. history students were active members of NSS, NCC, Sports, WDC, Indian Dance Society, and other societies. Similarly, the faculty members were the convenors and members of some societies (Equal Opportunity Cell, Queer Collective

Society, Indian Dance Society, etc.). Many teachers also participated in games (Football and Volleyball) organised by the Sports Department on Teachers' Day (05 Sep 2022) to encourage students for outdoor sports activities.

Challenges:

- A major difficulty in the sphere of inclusive education is the paucity of standard study material for the Hindi medium students.
- Paucity of audio recordings and Braille books for the visually impaired students.
- The students enrolled under the UGCF structure are doing seven papers in a four-month semester. Most students face physical and mental fatigue due to this and are finding it difficult to cope with the pressure of Internal Assessment and Continuous Assessment.

Future Plans:

- The department has a limited collection of standardized reading material in Hindi language. The department would like to procure more reading material in Hindi.
- All the faculty members are well versed in teaching bilingually, they many a times help students translate texts, however, the department would like to highlight the problems faced by the Hindi medium students and wish that the college writes to the university in this regard.
- For visually impaired students, audio recordings of standard books can be made with the help of student volunteers of the Department and NSS.
- Students will be encouraged to use digital mediums for their assessments and presentations. This will also be helpful in skill enhancement of the students which is part of NEP 2022.
- Encouraging research interests among students through mentorship by the faculties specialized in various fields.
- The faculty members would like to update themselves with regard to the use of digital mediums, and would like to do FDP's in the field of Digital Humanities as and when they can.