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LAXMINARAYAN COLLEGE, JHARSUGUDA

BEST PRACTICES 2021-22

BEST PRACTICE: 1

Title: Blended Learning

1. Goal: To encourage the students for self-study with the help of ICT

2. The Context: During the period of Lockdown and in the post-COVID situation, our College adopted both online and blended mode of learning. The College has developed an Online Teaching and Learning Strategy framework as well as a self-learning model for providing an active and personalized education for all the students to complete the University curriculum planned for this academic session.

3. The Practice: To achieve the goals set up, the Blended Teaching and Learning Strategy framework was developed which involved:

- Various methods were adopted for teaching different theory-based courses as well as lab-based courses by the faculty members of all the departments in the College.
- The online platforms like Google Meet has been used for the optimum utilization of online teaching.
- Program and course-wise what's app groups have been created for doubt clearance session and for sharing notes and study materials.
- PPTS are prepared based on the texts and lectures shared to facilitate critical explanations.
- In the introductory class students were told about the concerned unit of the paper.
- Study materials were shared to students and they were encouraged to have the self-study.
- After that some doubt-clearing classes were held as per the needs of the students.
- Internal evaluations were conducted by the concerned teachers. Assignments were given both as objective and essay-type questions. Students had to upload pdf files of their handwritten answers after the completion of the examination.

4. Evidence of success: During this time of crisis, the online teaching and learning as well as blended learning experience enabled much flexibility in issues of time and place for both teachers as well as students. Both teachers and students got the opportunity to explore new and innovative online resources. Online classroom platforms were found to be effective in giving assignments and sharing study materials. For the laboratory courses, students got to learn about some of the advanced instruments. Students tried to be self-learners. The audio-visual as well as library materials helped them a lot.

As the teachers became the facilitators and the method was learners-centred, both the teachers and students learnt the use of modern technology to access the online resources. After receiving feedbacks from both

teachers and students and assessing the students performances in the evaluations, it was understood that blended mode of teaching learning would be successful in the long run.

5. Problems encountered and resource required:

As the blended learning expects students to do much of self-learning, the students being habituated to traditional method of feeding by the teachers didn't get complete benefit out of it. Not all the students have the necessary knowledge and skills to use the online resources. The teachers also need proper orientation to help the students. There must be a support mechanism for digital literacy for students and facilitators. Training should be provided to teachers as well as students to make the best use of various online platforms and ICT tools used for Blended Learning.

Best Practices-2

Title: Extension Services through NSS, NCC and YRC

1. **Goal**: To inculcate social values and sense of responsibilities among students and staff members

2. **The Context**: Through this practice the most challenging issues relating to the students' involvement in social issues has been resolved and a sense of social responsibility has been developed in the stakeholders.

3. **The Practice**: The NCC cadets, NSS and YRC volunteers along with other students and faculty members create awareness in the community relating to cleanliness, environment protection, health and hygiene, blood donation, COVID relating issues, plantation, road safety, communal harmony, etc. Regular programmes have been organized for such extension activities.

4. **Evidence of Success**: The Community-Institution link is benefiting the society. Evidence of the feeling of "my community my responsibility" among students

5. **Problems Encountered and Resources Required**: Organizing various programmes during working hours, sometimes, has led to sacrificing the class work. Safety of girls in the programmes like traffic control, voluntary services during car festival, Durga Puja, etc. No specific funds for organizing major camps adopting villages, etc.

However this practice of providing extension services to the community was hampered this year due to the COVID situation.

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