

ICT-enabled Educational Practices

Information and Communication technology is here to stay with its dynamic nature. This requires all the educational set ups to create the competitive working culture to face the challenges of latest technology related knowhow.

Institution has taken up the challenge to train student teachers in ICT enabled teaching-learning practices through direct and indirect learning experiences by keeping following objectives in line with its vision:

- To design ICT enabled teacher education practices to enhance ICT related competencies in student-teachers.
- To train student-teachers to use easily available and cost effective webpage creation tool, wiki like Google site, BLOGS, etc. to create and design own website and learning materials.
- To develop research skills using ICT tools like online survey form.

Revised B.Ed. syllabus demands the integration of computer technology in all the courses. In addition, it includes a workshop based course on Enhancing Professional Competencies in critical understanding of ICT in education. Institution is well equipped with the ICT enabled infrastructure. The Universal Group of education has a separate IT department that caters to the technology related requirements of the educational institutions.

The campus of the Institution is fully WIFI enabled with a computer lab having the capacity of around forty laptops. The lectures halls too are equipped with LCD projectors and smart boards. Few computers are dedicated to students for completing their assignments or for practice purpose. All the staff members are provided with the personal computers at their desks. The office and library is equipped with the management Information system (APPLANE)

Institution, strives to make the ICT training prescribed in the syllabus more meaningful and product based that can be applied throughout the curriculum and beyond it.

Most of the assignments given in the courses are completed by using the latest mobile and computer technology, like What App, e-mail, document sharing, BLOGs, survey forms etc.

In-house workshop is conducted to train students in creating and using learning management system, BLOG, Document Sharing etc.

Action research is part of students' practical work. Students use online survey forms to collect data for the same.

Students are trained in different software like Piktochart, VLSD etc. to create learning resources to use in their practice teaching. They are encouraged to use the learning strategies like flipped classroom, Cooperative learning or any other constructivist approach where such resources can be used to facilitate learning.

Using Piktochart software students developed text graphics for spreading awareness through cleanliness drive in the surrounding area as part of Institution's **community outreach programme**.

Guest lecture using Online webinars, video sessions are organized for students to avail expertise in the virtual set-up.

Institution encourages Staff members to take up online courses i.e. MOOCs as part of their professional growth on varied topics. Students too are encouraged to take up online courses offered by Department of life long and extension (DLLE) of Mumbai University.

In the academic term 2016-2018, teachers designed and uploaded one small unit on the readily available LMS, EDMODO where students during their internship learnt the topic using online modes like discussion forum and online test, YouTube, etc. teachers had uploaded the topics that became their learning material study and respond to the assignments. The teachers also could save time of theory lectures since this was during Internship and online.

Students were trained in software like Storybird, Edpuzzle which they used during their Internship as instructional material and also during community work to make pamphlets in creating awareness on social issues and topics of concern.

Every student contributed in spreading digital literacy by training at least two people in the society to use mobile apps like Paytm, UPI Bhim, etc.

Institution strives to connect with other institutions online for exchange programme for students and also establish teacher organisation for virtual teachers' meet for exchanging innovative ideas.

Institution thus strives to adapt ICT as the integral part of teacher training programme by making it cost effective for students and staff by availing easily and freely available learning resources, software and apps.