

Institutional Distinctiveness Features in 2019-20

Maintaining the academic standard and excellence has been one of the strongest qualities of this 83-yearold institution. Students are admitted strictly according to merit and in adherence to the governments reservation policy. After admission, classes are held in strict adherence to the time-table and syllabus completion remains a target of pivotal significance. The students are examined and assessed to gauge their level of comprehension of the work done in class, and remedial classes are arranged for detecting gaps or flaws in their grasp of the subject-matter. Internal evaluation through class tests, group discussions, student presentations, doubt-clearing sessions, revision classes, supplementary classes, peer mentoring and mock tests are undertaken to ensure the preparedness of students prior to their appearance in the final University examinations. Selections and pre-selections along with mid-term evaluations are summative assessment tools used by the institution. Undergoing such meticulous scrutiny, the students' performances are bound to be very close to being excellent. The results of the college students are invariably reflections of such excellence. Students most of the times perform meritoriously by achieving first-class marks (above 60 percent) and by securing University ranks in their respective subject areas. The Institution remains one of the most sought after in the city as far as academic excellence is concerned. special mention must be made of the effort made by the College to enhance the learning opportunities for the students also in areas other than their own Honours/Major subjects through enrolment in Swayam-NPTEL courses. These courses are conducted by the faculty of IIT, Kharagpur and students have enrolled in a number of different disciplines. The college also offers value-added certificate courses such as Computer Course and the HR Associate Course which enhance the employability skills of students.

The IQAC has planned to undertake continuous one to one mentoring of all the students which will be a pathbreaking policy to be introduced from the session 2019-20 onwards. Such mentoring sessions need to be accommodated within the time table so that they can be undertaken within college hours and can be extended beyond college hours as per the requirement of the mentees. A Student Counselling Cell has also been planned to be formed for the benefit of the students. Counselling sessions conducted by a competent and qualified counsellor would include general sessions for all students and special need-based sessions.

Pursuance of the above objectives has found particular relevance in Covid 19 pandemic lockdown situation when it has become imperative to not only cater to the academic needs and spirations of the students but also to their mental wellbeing as they remain confined to their homes and are compelled to unable to attend classes online in the digital mode.

A most distinctive feature of the institution was the commitment its policies reflected during the most trying times of the Covid 19 pandemic was the prompt commencement of online classes from 20th March 2020 onwards immediately after the official announcement of the Covid 19 pandemic lockdown. The institution promptly created Gsuite accounts for all departments for convenience in use of all Google Tools and Apps of the Gsuite Magic Box

suited for teaching-learning - Gmail, Chrome, Drive, Docs, Slides, Sheets, Class rooms, Pen tab tool etc.

The faculty also began the use of other digital platforms such as Zoom, Webex, Edmodo, Microsoft Apps for delivering the curriculum. The administration used google Meet, Zoom, Team Viewer and such other Apps for administrative work.¹⁹ pandemic.

Examination answer scripts too were being checked using different online tools such as Xodo pdf writer, Adobe, Microsoft Edge etc.

Virtual classes began to be held regularly in the digital mode by the faculty across all departments in the digital mode. Regular use of digital tools helped teachers and students to gain efficiency in and increase the and effectiveness of day-to-day learning and enhanced the productivity of teachers and students

Google's suite of apps for education—Gmail, Chrome, Drive, Docs, Slides, and Sheets, white board, etc., were practised daily in the virtual classroom. These apps have significantly improved the efficiency and effectiveness of day-to-day learning, enhancing efficiency and productivity of teachers and students. It actually fostered higher degree of collaboration and helped in equipping and empowering the students.

To add to the quality of the academics, the institution encouraged the departments to organize Lectures and Webinars for the benefit of both the students and the teachers.

Alongside the academic measures with adherence to the above practices, student counselling sessions were also held to boost their morale in such difficult situation as that of the Covid 19 pandemic. Counselling sessions were held for the college staff too as they too were confined and uncomfortable. Such counselling sessions also included a lecture session on maintenance of health and hygiene in pandemic situations and delivered by the eminent virologist Dr. Amitabha Nandy, formerly associated with School of Tropical Medicine, Kolkata.