

S.P. Mandali's
R.A.Podar College of Commerce & Economics (Autonomous)

Best Practice

1. Name of the Practice

Responsible Citizenship

2. Goal

The institution's primary focus revolves around instilling a strong sense of responsibility within its students, emphasizing the significance of ethical conduct across social and environmental spheres. Through a holistic approach to education, the institution aims to nurture students with the necessary ethics and principles essential for their comprehensive development. By sensitizing students to pertinent social and environmental issues, the institution endeavors to inspire a proactive approach towards addressing these challenges, fostering a culture of active engagement and participation in the betterment of society and the environment.

3. The Context

Since the academic year 2021–22, the college has introduced a non-academic mandatory credit course, 'Responsible Citizenship' for third year students, which comprises theoretical lectures and practical sessions. The course aims to make students responsible in terms of social, environmental, and overall conduct with the objective of imbibing in them the ethics required for holistic development by sensitizing them to social and environmental issues and inspiring them to work towards these issues.

4. The Practice

The course expects that the students should emerge as responsible citizens in times of calamity to help their fellowmen with basic rescue operations, whether individually or in association with the authorities. The course further expects that students should be contributing to the nation's development and well-being and aspire for complete personality development that may inspire others to follow them towards emerging as Responsible Citizens.

The course comprises two modules. The first module covers a Disaster Management course of two days that is conducted by experts at the City Institute for Disaster Management, MCGM, Mumbai. The students are evaluated based on a detailed report submitted on the course attended and the operations learned at such a course. In the second module, the various topics of national, social, and

environmental importance are discussed by the course instructors, and students are required to prepare and submit an assignment on a topic that, among others, may include the following issues:

- Individual Social responsibility.
- Environmental ethics in daily life.
- Tax-paying responsibility of citizens.
- Voting responsibility of citizens.
- Organizational behaviour for employees.
- Crisis management in any organization.
- Role of citizens in nation development.
- Concept of global citizenship.
- Role of citizens in road safety.
- Consumer rights and redressal of consumer issues.

5. Evidence of Success

The institution's unwavering commitment to fostering responsible citizenship has resulted in a student body that actively engages in community service and extends a helping hand to those in need. Students, empowered by the institution's values of empathy and compassion, have consistently demonstrated their dedication to assisting their peers and addressing societal challenges, thereby embodying the institution's ethos of social responsibility and communal support.

Moreover, the institution's holistic approach to education has engendered a notable transformation in students' personalities, evident through their exemplary conduct and inspiring demeanor. Exhibiting a profound commitment to personal growth and societal well-being, students have taken the lead in various extracurricular and community initiatives, setting an admirable precedent for their peers and serving as beacons of inspiration within the institution and beyond.

6. Problems Encountered and Resources Require

While the institution has encountered a range of challenges, each obstacle has been viewed as an opportunity for growth and advancement. With a proactive approach, the institution remains committed to enhancing its physical infrastructure, attracting and retaining skilled educators, securing essential resources for technological upgrades, and fostering an inclusive and diverse learning environment. These efforts reflect the institution's unwavering dedication to providing an enriched and supportive educational experience for its students.

7. Notes

The institution's initiative, 'Responsible Citizenship', has successfully nurtured a culture of empathy

and proactive engagement among students, evidenced by their active participation in community service and the embodiment of ethical values. This comprehensive approach to education has not only transformed students' personalities, but has also inspired their peers, showcasing the institution's commitment to holistic development. Despite challenges in infrastructure enhancement and faculty retention, the institution remains resolute in its pursuit of a nurturing and inclusive learning environment, viewing each obstacle as an opportunity for progress and improvement.
