

S.P. Mandali's
R.A. PODAR COLLEGE OF COMMERCE & ECONOMICS (AUTONOMOUS)

Best Practice

1. Name of the Practice

Navigating the Educational Spectrum: Best Practices in 360-Degree Learning

2. Goal

The college has been a nurturing ground for aspiring Entrepreneurs and professionals in the field of commerce and management for the last several decades. The learners are nurtured to develop managerial skills and competencies to lead in their careers. This is achieved by providing learners an opportunity through to gain a diverse range of experiences that transcend traditional boundaries. By implementing innovative and holistic learning projects, this best practice aims to foster well-rounded individuals who excel in multidimensional skills, critical thinking, and real-world application, preparing them for success across the educational spectrum and beyond.

3. The Context

With autonomous status since 2019-20, the college has introduced an assessment pattern which comprises of 40% of Continuous Internal Evaluation (CIE). All the departments in the college design and finalize the framework for internal assessment. The teaching staff makes sure that internal assessment projects address the need for a comprehensive and adaptive approach to learning. The internal assessment projects respond to the call for a holistic educational approach that seamlessly integrate theoretical knowledge, practical skills, industry readiness, experiential learning, reflective learning, collaborative learning and team building exercises.

4. The Practice

The learners at Podar are expected to acquire managerial skills, technical knowledge, cognitive abilities, digital literacy, enhanced creative skills, interpersonal skills and adapt to the dynamic business environment by way of the multiple curricular and co-curricular activities. The college

believes that learners should become responsible, responsive and sensitized global citizens with positive attitude and values.

Each department of the college is known for its excellence in using innovative teaching pedagogies and unique teaching methodologies have been incorporated to maximise learner centric ambience in the campus. The faculties play a very important role by coming up with interesting, fun and thoughtful tasks for the learners to foster the 360-degree learning approach. Since learners differ in their ability to comprehend and grapple, it is quite difficult to address the needs and expectations of every individual learner. To ensure every learner gets acquainted with the learning, faculties are constantly engaged to facilitate learning by invigorating individual learner to comprehend at their personal level.

In the academic year 2022-23, the Commerce department of the College assigned the learners with the task of conducting an event division wise. The whole division had to act as a single team and conduct the event. The theme of the event was to be decided in consultation with the teacher in-charge of that division. The Commerce internal projects adopted a fox leadership style, allowing learners to take the lead in project planning, team efforts, and decision-making. The teacher assumed a supportive role, providing guidance when needed. Some of the events held were Synergy (Management games and events), Ebullience (Mini games), Uni-con (Startup idea competition) and Retro-stock (Mock stock event). 120 learners of each division had to collaborate to organize and conduct one event. The learners had to form departments for the execution of event, finalise the budget, assign tasks and conduct mock runs as well. This activity helped in developing the managerial skills amongst the learners while working in synergy with the other learners of their division. The project enabled learners to practically carry out the functions of management (PODSCORB) during the conduct of event without the use of ppt, paper and pencil. The learners were also presented with an opportunity to view the working mechanisms of a company by taking them for industrial visits to Navneet Educational Ltd., Waree Energies Ltd. and Parag Industries. The learners had to present a report based on their experience, learning outcomes and insights gained through the industrial visits.

The learners of Company Secretarial Practice were instructed to lead Group discussion on company compliances related issues, Maintenance of journal of an imaginary company right from promotion to incorporation, analysis of share prices of the chosen company giving reasons for choice of company and extreme deviation with proper analysis. The other assignments include

preparation of CSP dictionary, conduct of company meetings (group wise for imaginary companies) where the entire class becomes the shareholder of companies formed by the groups. The learners of Export Marketing course had to make an analysis of trade statistics provided on international websites like WTO, UNCTAD, WCO, etc. and present a report on the same. In the second assignment, Learners were required to refer to Trade Statistics of any one Country and do a comparative study of the same with India. A group of 10 was formed to present the findings of the analysis and review the trading mechanisms of various countries.

The learners in Foundation Course were trained for managing their time effectively by preparing weekly time sheets and recording activities of self. They also prepared a reflective review of their activities and identifying time wasters. The activity aimed at improving the learners' time management skills.

5. Evidence of Success

The institution's methodologies are designed to help transform learners from passive recipients to active respondents and creates a multi-dimensional learning atmosphere. This can be evidently observed through the achievement of predefined goals and objectives, successful and flawless conduct of events, innovative methods for presenting the outcomes and providing insights for a successful startup. The learners 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.

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 learners.

7. Notes

The institution's motto 'Nurturing intellect, creating personalities', has been served successfully by extensively practicing learner-centric pedagogy which primarily aims to impart education by keeping learners at the centre of learning. In addition to professional development, a culture of empathy and proactive engagement among learners is evidenced by their active participation in community service and the embodiment of ethical values. This comprehensive approach to education has not only transformed learners' 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.
