

Department of English, DAV University, Jalandhar: Report (Sept. 2019 to June 2020)

Coordinator/Head of the Department: Dr. Nakul Kundra

1. The department celebrated Teachers' Day (5th Sept.) on 6th Sept.2019. In India, Teachers' Day is celebrated on the birthday of Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, former President, politician, scholar, philosopher and Bharat Ratna recipient.



Teachers' Day

2. To welcome new students, the department organized a Freshers' Party on 10th Sept. 2019. The very purpose of the party was to welcome new students into a friendly atmosphere. The party gave a platform to the students to unleash their talents.



Freshers' Party

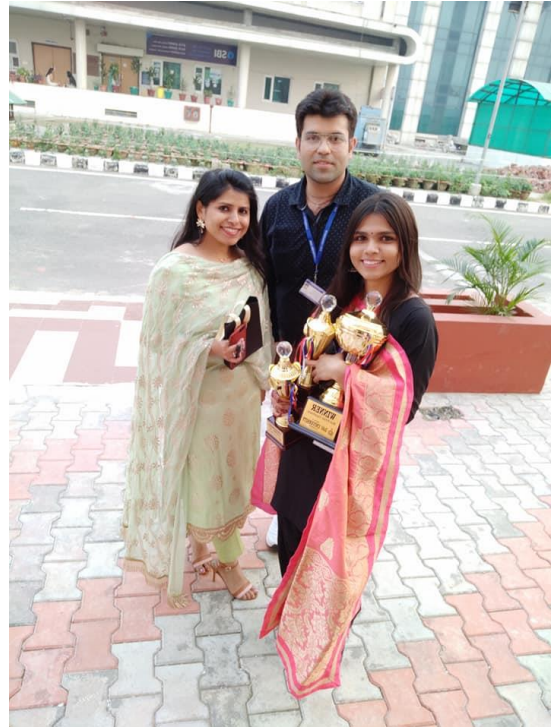
3. The Department of English won Overall Trophy (art events) in Diwali Mela-2019, held on 24th Oct. 2019.

Face Painting, First Prize: Vidushi Vidhu (B.A. Hons. in English- 2nd yr.)

Rangoli Competition, First Prize: Shweta Suman, Bhawika and Shubra (B.A. Hons. in English- 3rd yr.)

Vastram Competition, Second Prize: Vidushi Vidhu, Harmmeet (B.A. Hons. in English- 2nd yr.) and Namrata (M.A. English-2nd yr.)

Mehandi, Second Prize: Ramandeep Kaur (B.A. Hons. in English- 3rd yr.)



Diwali Mela, 2019



Diwali Mela, 2019

4. Dr. Nivedita Gupta, Dr. Nakul Kundra, Dr. Aruna, Dr. Anita and Ms. Shefali (Assistant Professors) attended a talk by Arundhati Roy at HMV College, Jalandhar, on 1st Nov. 2019.



A Talk by Arundhati Roy

5. In order to show how a literary text is presented creatively in live theatre, we took our students to Yuva Theatre Festival on 9th Nov. 2019. Swadesh Deepak's play *Court Martial* was staged there.



Yuva Theatre Festival

6. The department celebrated Children's Day on 14th Nov. 2019. Children's Day is celebrated to commemorate the birth anniversary of Jawaharlal Nehru, who, due to his love for children was fondly known as Chacha Nehru. The day emphasizes the importance of giving love, attention and affection to children. At the Department of English, we believe that there is a child in every person and that child should never die.



Children's Day

7. The department teachers coordinated literary events in Youth Flair-2019, an inter-school competition aiming at providing students a platform to showcase their talent, held on 20th Nov. 2019. More than 1300 students across Punjab participated in the event. Police DAV Public School, Jalandhar won overall trophy. DAV International School, Amritsar and DAV Public School, BRS Nagar, Ludhiana were declared first and second runners up respectively.



Youth Flair-2019

8. Dr. Nakul Kundra was appointed as a Judge for Sahodaya Inter-School English Declamation Competition held at Swami Sant Dass Public School, Jalandhar, on 29th Nov. 2019.



Sahodaya Inter-School English Declamation Competition

9. Dr. Nakul Kundra attended a two-day workshop on “Cine-Politics and Dictatorship: Curating, Archiving, and Reading Filmic Texts of the Emergency” at Indian Institute of Technology, Ropar, from 19th to 20th Dec. 2019.



Indian Institute of Technology, Ropar

10. Dr. Anita Abrol attended a one-week course on “Effective Research Proposal and Paper Writing” at Dr. B. R. Ambedkar National Institute of Technology, Jalandhar, from 20th to 24th Dec. 2019.



National Institute of Technology, Jalandhar

11. Dr. Nakul Kundra was appointed as Observer for the Term-End Examinations- December 2019, Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU).
12. The department started special classes to prepare the final year students for their placement interviews in Jan. 2020. The department focuses on Communication Skills, Interview Skills and Personality Development in these classes. These classes are taken by Dr. Nakul Kundra.





A Special Class on Personality Development and Soft Skills

13. The department started special classes to prepare the students of the department for NTA-NET (English) exam in Jan. 2020. These classes are taken by Dr. Nakul Kundra.

14. Dr. Nakul Kundra delivered a lecture on "Dealing with Examination Stress: Self-Awareness and Management" with Dr. Karan Paul at DAV School, Sector-14, Gurgaon, on 1st Feb. 2020.





DAV School, Sector-14, Gurgaon

15. Potluck: Affection defines us at DAV University. Thanks to B.A. (Hons.) English-3rd year and Dr. Kapil for making all the arrangements for the potluck. What an idea to say bye to the semester!



Potluck

16. Ms. Shikha Thakur delivered a guest lecture on “Stress Management” at DAV School, Faridabad, on 2nd Feb. 2020.



DAV School, Faridabad

17. Ms. Parvanshi and Ms. Anisha Sindhu presented a paper titled “Deconstructing Postfeminist Women: A Comparative Study of Selected Web Series in Terms of Dominant, Residual and Emergent Elements” at a seminar on Cultural Studies at the Department of English and Cultural Studies, Panjab University, Chandigarh, on 20th Feb. 2020.



At Panjab University, Chandigarh

18. Ms. Shikha Thakur presented a paper titled “The Ramayana, a Civilization: Tracing the Cultural Trajectory through Myths Then and Now in Devdutt Pattanaik’s *Sita*” at a seminar on Cultural Studies at the Department of English and Cultural Studies, Panjab University, Chandigarh, on 20th Feb. 2020.



At Panjab University, Chandigarh

19. A group of students from the department attended a seminar on Cultural Studies at the Department of English and Cultural Studies, Panjab University, Chandigarh, on 20th Feb. 2020.



At Panjab University, Chandigarh

20. Ms. Parvanshi presented a paper titled “Identity Conflict Versus Positive Psychology in Ananthamurthy’s Samskara: A Study in Lacanian Terms” at a national conference on *Psychological Disorders in Conflicting World: Role of Positive Psychology and Mental Health* at DAV University on 27th Feb. 2020. She coordinated a technical session also at the same conference.
21. Dr. Anita Abrol presented a paper titled “Contemporary Spirituality and Mental Health: Role of Yoga in Promoting Positive Psychology” at a national conference on *Psychological Disorders in Conflicting World: Role of Positive Psychology and Mental Health* at DAV University on 27th Feb. 2020.
22. Ms. Parvanshi, Dr. Anita, and Dr. Nakul Kundra attended a workshop on *Anger Management* at DAV University on 27th Feb. 2020.



Workshop on Anger Management

23. Dr. Nakul Kundra chaired a session at a national conference on *Psychological Disorders in Conflicting World* at DAV University, Jalandhar, on 27th Feb. 2020.



National Conference on Psychological Disorders in Conflicting World

24. Dr. Nakul Kundra presented a paper titled “Swami Dayanand Saraswati and the Indian Renaissance” at an international conference on *DAV Movement and Social Transformation* at KRM DAV College, Nakodar, on 28th Feb. 2020.
25. Ms. Parvanshi and Dr. Anita Abrol attended a workshop on *Behavioural Assessment and Psychometric Testing* at DAV University on 28th Feb. 2020.
26. A meeting of the Board of Studies of the department was held on 29th Feb. 2020. Professor Deepti Gupta (Chairperson, Department of English and Cultural Studies, Panjab University, Chandigarh) and Professor Rajesh Sharma (Department of English, Punjabi University, Patiala) attended the meeting as external experts. The Board discussed, revised and approved the proposed outlines of tests, syllabi and courses of the following programmes for 2020-21 batch: B.A. (Hons.) English, M.A. (English) and PhD (English). Dr. Nakul Kundra (HoD), Dr. Kapil Chaudaha, Mr. Digvijay Singh and Prof.

B.P.S. Bedi expressed their gratitude to the external experts for their guidance and support.



BoS Meeting 2020

27. Ms. Shikha Thakur presented a paper titled “Love through Literature? Or Literature Through Love?: A Literary Essay on Homogenising Convention and Innovation” at a national conference on *Text and Interpretation* at Vallabh Govt. College, Mandi, on 5th March 2020.



Vallabh Govt. College, Mandi

28. Ms. Parvanshi presented a paper titled “Hansda Sowvendra Shekhar's *They Eat Meat*: A Study of Food Habits as Semic Code” at a symposium on *The Interdisciplinary Hermeneutic: Reappraising the Socio-cultural Episteme* at LPU, Phagwara, on 5th March 2020.

29. Under the supervision of Ms. Anisha and Ms. Parvanshi, the students of the department visited Guru Nanak Sewa Ashram, Phagwara, on 7th March 2020.



Visit to Guru Nanak Sewa Ashram

30. Dr. Nakul Kundra attended a short-term course on “Soft Skills and Academic Communication” at Dr. B. R. Ambedkar National Institute of Technology, Jalandhar, from 5th to 9th March 2020.



National Institute of Technology, Jalandhar

31. Despite that the COVID-19 pandemic has affected educational systems worldwide, we have been trying our best to actively engage our students in different curricular and co-curricular activities in a number of ways since India went into the full-scale lockdown on 25th March 2020. We believe that our students must regularly listen to new voices offering different points-of-view in order to become more active, dynamic and mature.

At this particular moment in time, keeping in view the importance of e-learning, the Department of English organized an online lecture on "Cultural Studies". The lecture was delivered by Dr. Meenu Gupta, Associate Professor, Department of English and Cultural Studies, Panjab University, Chandigarh.

The lecture can be accessed at the following link:

<https://youtu.be/ooF9URLojTg>

Dr. Deshbandhu Gupta (Officiating Vice-Chancellor, DAV University) expressed his

gratitude to Dr. Meenu Gupta for her lecture. He congratulated Dr. Nakul Kundra for organizing the lecture.



Dr. Meenu Gupta

32. During the lockdown, keeping in view the importance of e-learning, the department organized an online lecture on “Why Engineering & Science Students Should Read Poetry”. The lecture was delivered by Paul T. Corrigan, Ph.D., Associate Professor of English, Southeastern University, USA. The lecture can be accessed at the following link:

<https://youtu.be/gleyEPSRFj4>

In this guest lecture, poet and scholar Paul T. Corrigan makes a case for why students of engineering and science should read poetry. Using examples from poems by the US poets Walt Whitman, Emily Dickinson, and Langston Hughes, Corrigan argues that reading poetry can (a) supplement the facts of science with the meaning of life and (b) help students practice skills of attention, analysis, and problem solving that are so crucial in engineering and science. He concludes connecting poetry to the current uprisings (June 2020) in the United States following the murder by a white police officer of an African American named George Floyd.



Dr. Paul T. Corrigan

Dr. Deshbandhu Gupta (Officiating Vice-Chancellor, DAV University) expressed his gratitude to Dr. Paul T. Corrigan for his lecture. He congratulated Dr. Nakul Kundra for organizing the lecture.

33. Dr. Nakul Kundra actively participated in a number of webinars, online workshops and conferences during the lockdown. He
- attended an E-learning workshop named “Spring Up!” on Language, Literature and Theory, organized by the Department of English and Cultural Studies, Panjab University, Chandigarh, from 15th to 21st May 2020.
 - attended a one-day international online seminar “Effective English Communication Skills in the Digital Era”, organized by Rani Channamma University, Belagavi, Karnataka, on 31st May 2020.
 - attended a webinar on “Text, Textuality and Discourse”, organized by Government Arts and Commerce College, Bharuch, Gujrat, on 2nd June 2020 (12.00 pm).
 - attended a national webinar on “Effective Transitioning from Traditional (T) Class to Virtual (V) Class Teaching”, organized by Punjab Commerce and Management Association on 2nd June 2020 (3.00 pm to 5.00 pm).
 - attended a national webinar on “ICT enabled Teaching, Learning and Evaluation of English Language and Literature”, organized by the Department of English and IQAC, Noble College (A), Machilipatnam (A. P.), on 5th June 2020.
 - attended an E-learning workshop named “In-Depth: An International Five Day E-Learning Workshop on Language, Literature and Theory”, organized by the Department of English and Cultural Studies, Panjab University, Chandigarh, from 6th to 10th June 2020.
 - attended a national level webinar on “Paradigm Shift from Offline to Online Teaching”, organized by the Department of Computer Science and IQAC, KRM DAV College, Nakodar, on 13th June 2020.
 - attended a webinar on “Modernism in Indian English Literature”, organized by Kamrup College (Gauhati University) in collaboration with Gogate-Walke College (Mumbai University) and Assam College Librarians' Association on 14th June 2020.

- attended a two-day national workshop on “Interview Skills”, organized by Dr. B.R. Ambedkar National Institute of Technology (NIT), Jalandhar, from 15th to 16th June 2020.
- attended a national level webinar on “Effectiveness of Online Teaching Over Offline Teaching”, organized by Jagdish Chandra DAV College, Dasuya (Distt. Hoshiarpur), on 24th June 2020.
- attended a national level e-workshop on “Designing e-Content for English Language and Literature”, organized by the Department of English and IQAC of Arts, Commerce and Science College, Lanja, Ratnagiri, on 29th June 2020.



Dr. Nakul Kundra