



Mangayarkarasi College of Arts and Science for Women

Affiliated to Madurai Kamaraj University | Re-accredited with 'B' Grade by NAAC

Approved by UGC Under Section 2(f) Status | ISO 9001:2015 Certified Institution

Paravai, Madurai-625402

7.2.1 - Best Practices – 1

1. Title of the Practice

Incorporating Knowledge and Skills of Students

2. Objective of the Practice

In today's swiftly changing world, one must persistently enhance oneself to have a successful career. Technological advances, global competition and day-to-day changes in industrial requirements demand professionals to be equipped with updated knowledge and skill sets. Along the way, we have realized that in order to enhance the job readiness of our students, it is necessary that along with their regular degree programmes, each student should undertake at least one add-on course per semester. These certificate courses are aimed at students who want to gain new skills for a prospective career.


Objectives

- To bridge the skill gaps and make students industry ready
- To increase domain based certifications and increase employment opportunities
- To allow students to go beyond their curriculum and facilitate them to extend their interest level in each area
- To enable students gain expertise in a specific field and improve their competencies in that specific field
- To emphasize the value of Certificates obtained through add on courses as it attracts the attention of recruiters and meet out their needs
- To enable students take a diversion to a distinct career path with the help of a certificate course if the UG or PG degree is not self-contained. This offers the chance to change or expand student's existing career plans
- To provide hands-on learning opportunities, creating a platform for students to experience competitive environment through real time projects and assignments. This makes the learning process more effective

3. The Context

Mangayarkarasi College of Arts and Science for Women has a multifaceted approach towards enhancing abilities of students in terms of skills and career. A compendium of flexible, accessible, affordable and industry appropriate courses offered in our college provide the




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Students with multiple platforms at the department as well as inter-department levels. Industry experts and regarded academicians have designed these courses, which have special relevance to each subject. Also, students receive training from renowned industrial experts and are exposed to real world corporate scenarios that help them to stand apart from their peers in the job market.

4. The Practice

Certificate courses are not mandatory to qualify for any programme and the credits earned through the Courses shall be over and above the total credit requirement prescribed in the curriculum for the award of the degree. The Certificate courses run concurrently with regular programmes and are inclusive of classroom instructions, practical work, case studies and presentations and internal assessments.

The norms followed in our college for conducting the Certificate Courses are as follows:

- The courses are chosen after evaluating its content, productivity, shelf life and market relevance
- The courses would be reviewed and revised every year based on the changing needs and demands of the academia and industry
- The courses are open to the students of all years by paying a nominal fee
- Students are encouraged to opt for the Certificate courses offered by his/her parent Department as well as other departments
- Industry experts/eminent academicians from other institutes are invited to conduct the courses
- Classes for the Certificate courses are conducted during the Time Slot allotted in the regular time table in a week or beyond the regular class hours
- Classes may also be conducted during weekends
- The duration of Certificate courses is 30 hours with a combination of theory and practical
- Each faculty handling the course is responsible for the attendance and CIA (Continuous Internal Assessment) marks of the students. Minimum of 75% attendance is compulsory
- Proper record of the attendance and Internal marks should be maintained duly signed by the Course Instructor, HOD and Principal



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- After the completion of the course, exams will be conducted and qualified students would be given certificates

5. Evidence of success

Mangayarkarasi College of Arts and Science for Women aims to motivate the students for acquiring skills in their areas of interests and widen their scope of employability. Students get course completion certificates which are an additional qualification along with their UG/PG degrees. The following outcomes are indeed the evidence of success:

- ❖ The evidence of success is qualitative as well as quantitative. Totally 57 courses were conducted from 2018 - 2023
- ❖ Out of the total strength of 7032 students, 6995 completed the courses and obtained the certificates in the last five years
- ❖ After the course completion, students will receive Government approved certificates from NIELIT/ NSOF/EDA Hub/MSME/KVIC/CED
- ❖ MOUs were also signed with companies like PS Infotech, Elysium, National Tailoring Academy, and ICT for the successful conduct of these courses
- ❖ The beneficiaries of certificate courses are settled with jobs
- ❖ The evidence of success is witnessed in the testimony of students narrating their success stories in areas like skill and career development

6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required

- ❖ Accommodating the students after class hours is a biggest challenge encountered by the course instructor
- ❖ Time is a major constraint to conduct the certificate courses amidst the packed academic schedule
- ❖ Scheduling the time slot for the heterogeneous group of students from all the departments poses a serious problem in fixing a common time
- ❖ For some of the courses, external experts are invited. So, classes can be scheduled only based on their availability. This sometimes causes delay in completing the course
- ❖ Conducting the courses on weekends and government holidays reduces the percentage of attendance as students going for part time jobs could not turn up on these days
- ❖ Though the course fee is fixed at a nominal rate, a few students cannot afford it. So, encouragement scholarship can be provided for maximum participation
- ❖ Getting qualified personnel with the minimum fees collected from the students is very challenging



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