

Mehr Chand Mahajan
DAV College for Women
Sector 36-A, Chandigarh (U.T.)

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH



ANNUAL | 2020
REPORT | 2021

Mehr Chand Mahajan DAV College for Women

Sector 36-A, Chandigarh

Postgraduate Department of English

Annual Report (2020 – 2021)

Names of Programmes/Courses offered:

Undergraduate Courses:

- BA (General)
- BA Functional English (Elective)
- BA (Honours)
- BA Elective/ Vocational

Postgraduate Courses:

- MA (English)

Add On Courses:

- Certificate Course in Communicative English

Doctoral Courses:

- Ph. D (English)

Faculty Achievements:

Publications:

Dr Sunaina Jain

- Published a book review of *The Family Saga* by Narendra Luther in the Issue 96 (Mar-Apr 2021) of a literary journal *Muse India*
- Published a book review of *Coconut: How the Shy Fruit Shaped Our World* by Robin Laurance in a literary journal *Muse India* in Issue 92 (Jul-Aug 2020).
- Published a paper titled “Swayam Shikshan Prayog: From Ecofeminist Theory to Praxis” in UGC Care listed Journal *New Horizons*, ISSN no. 2277-5218 in 2020.
- Published a story ‘A Doctor’s Diary’ in an international anthology titled *Covid’s Metamorphosis* edited by Prof. Manju Jaidka and Dr. Nilak Dutta in June 2020.

- Received letter of appreciation from RGNUL for judging an international Inter-university online Essay writing competition ‘Expressions@RGNUL’ held from Aug 29-31, 2020
- Published a poem “The Green Bangles” in an anthology titled *Bahaarein Phir Aayengi*, in June 2020.

Dr Aparna Sharma

- Book chapter ‘A Study on Guru Nanak Devji’s vision for the world-a Ray of Hope in the Dark Tunnel of Cynicism’ in a book titled ‘Aayi Panthi Sagal Jamati’ ISBN : 978-93-5204-454-2 Unistar Books Pvt. Ltd.
- Journal article ‘Revamping And Modifying The Construct Of Education In The Times Of Pandemic –Scope And Perspectives’ in International Journal of Emerging Technologies and Innovative Research Open Access, Peer reviewed, refereed, Impact factor 7.95, May 2021, ISSN:2349-5162

Awards / Fellowships

Ms Neena Sharma

- Received the Best Paper Award for the Research Paper on ‘Blogs and Podcasts -- Emerging Sub- Genres in the 21st Century Literature’ in the RUSA-Sponsored Online Conference on “The Future of Language and Literature in the Virtual Era” organized by the Mithibai College of Arts Chauhan Institute Of Science And Amrutben Jivanlal College Of Commerce And Economics, University of Mumbai on 16th May 2020.

Paper Presentations

- Presented a Research Paper ‘ Emerging from the Shadows of Exclusion: A Study of Nilovna in Maxim Gorky’s *Mother*’ in the National E-Conference on ‘ World Classics in English Translations’ held by Sri S. Ramasamy Naidu Memorial College, Sattur, Tamil Nadu in collaboration with Sahitya Akademi on 5-6th February 2021.

Orientations/ Short Term Courses/ Refresher Courses/ Faculty Dev Programmes

- Participated in a 7-day Workshop on MOOCs, Online Courses & Open Educational Resources on the theme 'ICT Tools for Online Teaching' organised by the UGC HRDC, Delhi University from 23rd May-29th May 2020
- Participated in a 2-week Faculty Development Programme on 'Managing Online classes and co- creating moocs 2.0' from 18th May-03 June 2020 organised by the Teaching Learning Centre of Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya National Mission on Teacher and Training (PMMMMNMTT) under MHRD , Ramanujan College, Delhi University.
- One-Week programme on ' Entrepreneurship, Incubation and Innovation ' organised by the Teaching Learning Centre, Ramanujan College, University of Delhi, sponsored by the erstwhile Ministry of Human Resource Development under Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya National Mission on Teachers and Teaching (PMMMMNMTT) from June 23-June 29, 2020
- Participated in a 2-day WeTom by JNU ' Empowering Teaching through Online Mode' from 12th July to 13th July 2020.
- Participated in an AICTE-Sponsored One-Week Faculty Development Programme on "Harmony in the Workplace: Effective Interpersonal & Communication Skills" in Online Mode from 26th October to 31st October 2020.
- Completed successfully a 4-Week Online Course-cum-FDP on 'Podcasts in Education' from 21st December 2020-17 January 2021 organised by the Centre for English Language Education, Dr B R Ambedkar University, Delhi.

Dr. Sunaina Jain

- Attended an Online Refresher Course in Language, Literature and Cultural Studies organized by HRDC-Guru Nanak Dev University from 5-18 Feb. 2021.
- Received certification for participating in 15 online IIC online sessions organized by IIC, MHRD's Innovation Cell from April 28, 2020-May 22, 2020 to promote Innovation, IPR, Entrepreneurship, and Start-ups among HEIs.
- Attended a 5-day online FDP on "Econtent: Designing and Deployment using G Suite" organized by Mehr Chand Mahajan DAV college for Women, Chandigarh from July 20-24, 2020.

Subject Experts/ Resource Persons/ Judges/ Chair

Ms Neena Sharma

- Adjudged Essay Writing Competition, Expressions@RGNUL, Online International Inter-University Competition, organized by Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law, Punjab from 29th to 31th August 2020
- Subject Expert in a Workshop at NITTTR to design the curriculum of NSQF compliant Diploma level programmes in Modern Office Practice at the behest of AICTE on 1st October 2020
- Conducted a session on ‘Truth Beyond Words----Relevance of Non-verbal Communication’ in the Online mode during Short Term Course for the technical faculty at National Institute of Technical Teachers Training and Research (NITTTR), Chandigarh on 5th October 2020.
- Discussant in the Online Panel Discussion “All for the Love of Literature” organised by Belletristic: Shoolini Loves Literature Society of Shoolini University on 6th November 2020.

Dr Sunaina Jain

- Delivered 2 lectures on “Modernism in America” on 4th and 6th April, 2021 during a ten day Online DAATH VOYAGE Lecture Series organized by Dr. Saikat Banerjee
- Adjudged Essay Writing Competition, Expressions@RGNUL, Online International Inter-University Competition, organized by Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law, Punjab from 29th to 31th August 2020
- Invited as Resource person for conducting a Workshop on Communication Skills organized by the D-Masters’ Club of Dev Samaj College for Women, Chandigarh on January 23, 2021.

Coordinator/ Convenor/ Organising Secretaries

Ms Neena Sharma

- Coordinated a National-level Awareness Programme on ‘Paradigm Shift in New Education Policy-2020: Role of Technology in Higher Education Sector’ with Prof K

Srinivas, Head, ICT & Project Management Unit, NIEPA, and Mission Coordinator, RUSA, Dr Dalip Kumar as Resource Persons on 19th September 2020.

- Co-Convened an Online International Conference on "Breaking the Stereotypes: A Paradigm Shift in Gender Studies" in association with the Department of Sociology from 2nd November to 6th November 2020.
- Coordinated RUSA-Sponsored Workshops and Awareness Programmes on Plagiarism in Research (7th Jan 2021) Open Educational Resources (22nd January 2021) Communication Skills (18th February 2021) and Online Assessment Tools (23rd March 2021) for the faculty, Support Staff and students.

Research Project

Dr Aparna Sharma

- 7 day Bridge Course (18 July to 24 July, 2020) 'Learn Basics of English' conducted by Post Graduate Department of English, Resource persons- Dr. Aparna Sharma and Ms. Ruchika Singh with 75 participants
- 10 day Bridge Course (26 July to 4 August, 2020) 'Advanced Course in English' conducted by Post Graduate Department of English, Resource persons- Dr. Aparna Sharma and Ms. Ruchika Singh with 57 participants

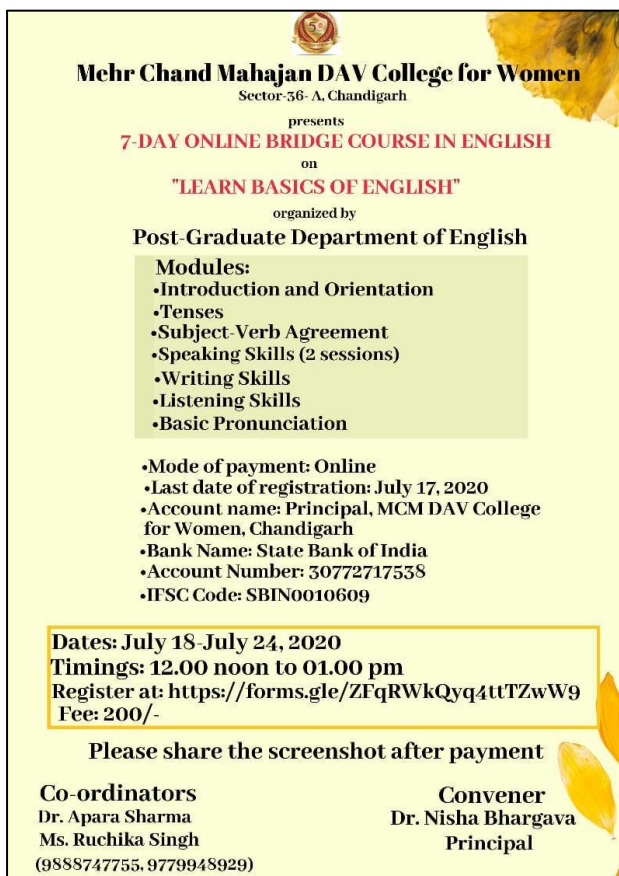
Students Publications/Awards/Achievements/Activities:

- Anshulika Singh, M.A. English II, (Roll number 5706) qualified for JRF and UGC-NET conducted in June 2020.
- Aarya Sharma, BSc Med II, (Roll number 1134) won Ist Prize in 'One-Minute Speech' organized by PGGCG42, Chandigarh on June 5, 2020.
- Aarya Sharma, BSc Med II, won Consolation Prize in Declamation Competition held on June 5, 2020, organized by PGGCG 11, Chandigarh.
- Shruti Sharma, of BA III, won first prize at the Inter-College Online Declamation Competition to commemorate 400th Birth Anniversary Celebrations of Sri Guru Teg Bahadur ji, sponsored by the Youth welfare society and MCM Cultural committee, organized on 25 August 2020.

- Sanya Sahgal, of BA II, qualified the preliminary round (zonal), quarter final (national) and semi final (national). She won the third prize at the National finals. The competition spanned over 4 rounds covering 17 states and a total of 250 participants.
- Vandana, a Research scholar qualified GATE (conducted by IIT Bombay in Humanities) with AIR of 355 on February 14, 2021. The result was declared on March 20, 2021. Her Registration number was: XH21S78029011.
- Divyanshi Chauhan, of BA III, won third prize in KK Grover Declamation Contest (online), organized by the Department of English and Cultural Studies in February 2021.
- Avi and Yotasha of BA III presented papers at an Online Undergrad Seminar on Neo-classical Sensibilities (18th Century literature), organized by Shoolini University on 7th May, 2021.
- Resource person in a One week workshop on ‘Communication Skills and Personality Development’ organized by Maharaj Agrasen University from 23th to 28th June, 2021. Delivered a lecture on ‘Communication Skills’ on 27th June, 2021

Departmental Events and Activities (2020-21)

7 day Bridge Course 'Learn Basics of English' July 18 to 24, 2020



Mehr Chand Mahajan DAV College for Women
Sector-56-A, Chandigarh

presents
7-DAY ONLINE BRIDGE COURSE IN ENGLISH
on
"LEARN BASICS OF ENGLISH"
organized by
Post-Graduate Department of English

Modules:

- Introduction and Orientation
- Tenses
- Subject-Verb Agreement
- Speaking Skills (2 sessions)
- Writing Skills
- Listening Skills
- Basic Pronunciation

•Mode of payment: Online
•Last date of registration: July 17, 2020
•Account name: Principal, MCM DAV College for Women, Chandigarh
•Bank Name: State Bank of India
•Account Number: 30772717538
•IFSC Code: SBIN0010609

Dates: July 18-July 24, 2020
Timings: 12.00 noon to 01.00 pm
Register at: <https://forms.gle/ZFqRWkQyq4ttTZwW9>
Fee: 200/-

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Co-ordinators
Dr. Aparna Sharma
Ms. Ruchika Singh
(9858747755, 9779948929)

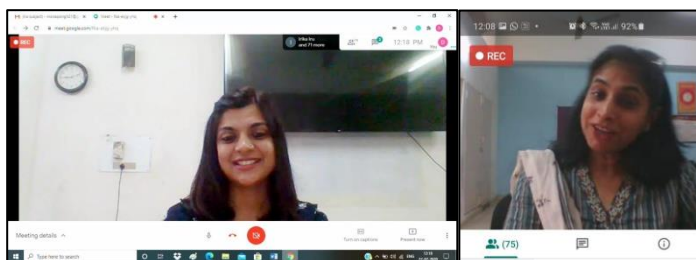
Convener
Dr. Nisha Bhargava
Principal

A 7 day bridge course on 'Learn Basics of English' was organized by the Postgraduate department of English by **Dr Aparna Sharma** and **Ms Ruchika Singh**, Assistant Professors in the Department of English of the college. The course was conducted from **July 18 to 24, 2020**.


The course was aimed at understanding and applying the basic skills of English Language in day to day life. The resource persons introduced the basics of phonetics and pronunciation to the students and also made the students understand the basic concepts of grammar which form the building blocks of any language. The course was also timed with the lockdown

during the Covid-19 pandemic so as to keep the students constructively engaged.

Participants from all walks of life registered for the 'Basic Course in English'; students, professionals, homemakers and many others who simply wanted to brush up the basic skills of English language. The modules covered rules relating to tenses, subject verb agreement, speaking skills, writing skills, listening skills and basic pronunciation. The sessions were followed by online tests and PowerPoint presentations of the respective topic were shared with the participants. The sessions were made interactive by permitting the participants to interact during the last fifteen minutes of each session.



10 day Bridge Course 'Advanced Course in English' July 26 to August 4, 2020



Mehr Chand Mahajan DAV College for Women
Sector-56-A, Chandigarh
presents

10-DAY ONLINE ADVANCED BRIDGE COURSE IN ENGLISH
on
"ADVANCED COURSE IN ENGLISH"
organized by
Post-Graduate Department of English

Modules:
•Introduction and Orientation
•How to write a CV
•How to Write an Application
•Transformation of Sentences (2 sessions)
•How to handle an Interview
•Narration
•Introduction to Phonetics
•Active to Passive Voice
•Punctuation

•Mode of payment: Online
•Last date of registration: July 25, 2020
•Account name: Principal, MCM DAV College for Women, Chandigarh
•Bank Name: State Bank of India
•Account Number: 30772717538
•IFSC Code: SBIN0010609

Dates: July 26-August 04, 2020
Timings: 12.00 noon to 01.00 pm
Register at: <https://forms.gle/VZq2xG3tjP4zwSm49>
Fee: 500/-

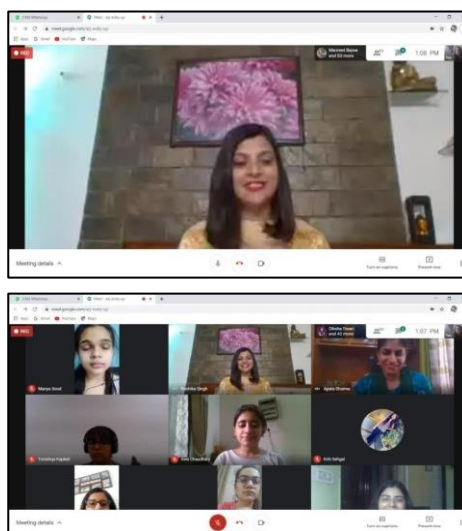
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<p>Co-ordinators Dr. Aparna Sharma Ms. Ruchika Singh (9885747755, 9779945929)</p>	<p>Convener Dr. Nisha Bhargava Principal</p>
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A 10 day 'Advanced Course in English' was organized by the Postgraduate department of English by **Dr Aparna Sharma** and **Ms Ruchika Singh**, Assistant Professors in the Department of English of the college. The course was conducted from **July 26 to August 4, 2020**.

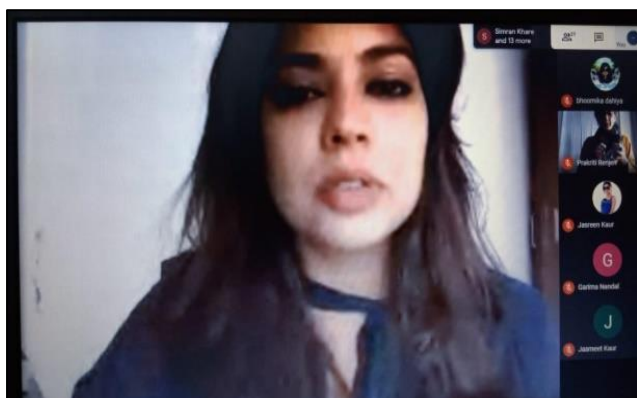
Some of the primary objectives of the course were to understand and apply the rules of advanced grammar in English; to prepare the participants to apply for a job right from writing a Resume to facing an interview as well as to keep the students constructively engaged during the lockdown.

The ten day 'Advanced Course in English' covered topics like rules for transformation of sentences, narration, writing applications, writing Resume, facing interviews and other related skills. Participants who registered for the Course included women who wanted to upgrade their language skills and also wanted to prepare themselves to enter the professional world. Sessions included online lectures, tests and PowerPoint presentations based on the day's session. The resource persons tried to make the grammar topics easy to understand rather than letting the participants feel lost in the maze of rules. Participants felt greatly benefitted from the course and urged the Resources persons to come up with similar course in future. E-certificates were given to the participants.



Online Lecture on 'Women, Reason and Masculinity in the era of the French Revolution' August 28, 2020

The Postgraduate department of English conducted an online lecture on '**Women, Reason and Masculinity in the era of the French Revolution**' on **August 28, 2020**.



The resource person for the lecture was **Ms Deeksha Bhardwaj** who is presently a journalist with Hindustan Times and covers governance, politics and policy. A graduate in literature from LSR, Delhi, she is currently pursuing her MPhil from Delhi University and has worked extensively in the realm of literary theory.

Her lecture explored the complex relationship between women and the masculine discourse of reason that pervaded the Enlightenment era leading up to and post the French Revolution. The speaker explored how reason over emotions reinforced patriarchal constructs of masculinity over femininity. She focussed particularly on the works of 18th century women writers, Mary Wollstonecraft and Mary Hays, and contrasted the approaches taken by both the authors towards this discourse of reason. Locating them in specific cultural milieus and the spaces both the women inhabit, the lecture tried to re-evaluate the existing, rigid idea of 'reason.'



The speaker tried to reevaluate definitions (as in the passion/reason debate) to allow women the space to be able to articulate their thoughts and anxieties more freely. The lecture was well received by the students as well as by the teachers.

5-Day Online International Workshop on “Breaking the Stereotypes: A Paradigm Shift in Gender Studies” November 2 – 6, 2020

एमसीएम में जेंडर स्टडीज पर 5 दिवसीय ऑनलाइन अंतर्राष्ट्रीय कार्यशाला

» विनोद कुमार

चंडीगढ़। जेंडर स्टडीज के क्षेत्र में महत्वपूर्ण मुद्दों पर विचार-विमर्श करने के उद्देश्य से मेहर चंद महाजन डीएवी कॉलेज फॉर वुमेन में डिपार्टमेंट ऑफ सोशलॉजी एवं डिपार्टमेंट ऑफ इंग्लिश ने जेंडर स्टडीज पर पांच दिवसीय ऑनलाइन अंतर्राष्ट्रीय कार्यशाला का आयोजन किया।

इंटरनेशनल कॉन्फ्रेंस ऑन द ब्रेकिंग द स्टीरियोटाइप्स: अ पैराडिग शिफ्ट इन जेंडर स्टडीज शीर्षक पर आयोजित इस कार्यशाला में भारत और विदेश के प्रसिद्ध शिक्षाविदों द्वारा जेंडर स्टडीज के क्षेत्र में ज्ञानवर्धक चर्चा की गई, जिसमें की रोम यूनिवर्सिटी, रोम में अंग्रेजी और अमेरिकी साहित्य के एसोसिएट प्रोफेसर एलिसाबेत्ता मारिनो, यूनिवर्सिटी ऑफ हैदराबाद में समाजशास्त्र के प्रोफेसर अपर्णा रायपल, शामिल थे। यूनिवर्सिटी



ऑफ हैदराबाद में समाजशास्त्र के प्रोफेसर पुष्पेश कुमार, करीम सिटी कॉलेज, जमशेदपुर में अंग्रेजी के असिस्टेंट प्रोफेसर डॉ बसुंधरा राय और एसईएस कॉलेज, केरल में अंग्रेजी के असिस्टेंट प्रोफेसर शर्बाना बैकर बतौर मुख्य वक्ता उपस्थित थे। कार्यशाला में 73 से अधिक प्रतिभागियों ने भाग लिया।

कार्यशाला के उद्घाटन दिवस पर प्रो एलिसाबेत्ता मारिनो ने द वुमेन क्वेश्चन एट द एंड ऑफ नाइनटीथ सेंचुरी: द ब्रिटिश एंड द

अमेरिकन कॉन्टेक्स्ट शीर्षक पर चर्चा की जिसमें प्रो मारिनो ने अमेरिकन एवं ब्रिटिश साहित्य का हवाला देते हुए जेंडर स्टडीज के प्रारम्भिक दौर पर व्यख्यान दिया। कार्यशाला के दूसरे दिन प्रो अपर्णा रायपल ने, अंडरस्टैंडिंग माइग्रेशन एंड जेंडर इन कंटेम्परेरी टाइम्स पर बात करते हुए, थर्ड जेंडर असमानता, वेज डिस्क्रिमिनेशन, वेतन असमानताओं और महिला श्रम की व्यापकता पर चर्चा करते हुए बताया कि समुदायों के भीतर लैंगिक पक्षपात कैसे होते हैं।

A 5-Day Online International Workshop on: "Breaking the Stereotypes: A Paradigm Shift in Gender Studies" was jointly organized under the aegis of Post Graduate Departments of Sociology and English. The workshop was organized from November 2 – 6, 2020 on Google Meet. The Co-conveners of the workshop were Ms Kamini Tyal and Ms Neena Sharma. The Coordinators of the workshop were Pallavi Kapila and Urvi Sharma, Assistant Professors in Department of Sociology and English, respectively.

Professor Elisabetta Marino, Associate Professor of English Literature at the University of Rome, Italy was one of the resource persons who spoke on “The Woman Question at the end of 19th century: The British and the American Context”. As a renowned scholar of American and British Literature, she used intertextual references to examine the intersection of gender relations with sexuality, race, class, religion and culture. By focusing on the terms like “good wife”, “selfless mother”; she delved into how the emancipation came with the realisation of a feminist awakening for women in the nineteenth century.

Professor Aparna Rayaprol, Former HOD and Associate Professor of Sociology at the University of Hyderabad, India was the other resource person who spoke on “Understanding Migration and Gender in Contemporary Times”. With proficiency in the area of diaspora and gender, she discussed the gender inequality, wage discrimination and pay inequities using her expertise in the area. Her talk concentrated on the migration of poor and marginalized women for work, with a special focus on how the upending times of pandemic have affected them and their sources of income.

Online Poetry Recitation Event, 'Resilience'

November 7, 2020



The Character Building Committee of Mehr Chand Mahajan DAV College for Women organized an online poetry recitation event 'Resilience' on 7th November, 2020. It was well attended by over a hundred students along with Dr Sunaina Jain and Dr Aparna Sharma from the Department of English. It was also attended by the Principal of the College and Chairperson of the Committee, Dr Nisha Bhargava, and Dr Seema Kanwar, the Convener of the Committee. The theme of the event aimed to make students imbibe and understand various life skills including the ability to bounce back each time one is faced with a challenge. It is important to

keep the virtues of hope and optimism alive in us as we try to balance life on all fronts in these testing times. The participants were from BA final year and included many students who were reciting poems for the first time. They were encouraged to recite these poems without feeling the pressure of being judged since it was an event which was meant for encouraging the students to come forward and recite poems without any inhibitions.

Worthy Principal of the College, Dr Nisha Bhargava also recited a self composed poem. She motivated the participants to embrace life in all its hues and remain ever resilient in the face of all the challenges. There were 23 participants who recited their poems including one by Dr Sunaina Jain which inspired everyone to rise and shine.

The poems recited by the students were in one or the other a celebration of life and taking its challenges in one's stride. The students felt encouraged after listening to the poem recitations and also gained confidence by participating in the event. The student coordinators of the event who contributed wholeheartedly to make this event a success were Srizen, Meenal, Radhika, Martina, Muskan, Mansi, Bhavya and Vineeta.

Captain Keatings, MCM Book and Movies Club
‘Discussion on the Cinema of Wong-Kar Wai’
November 20, 2020



The Book and Movies club of the College held a discussion on the **Cinema of Wong-Kar Wai** on **November 20, 2020**. The participants of the Club were asked to watch Wong-Kar Wai's movies for the discussion. The discussion started with a brief introduction of cinema followed by a discussion on various types of cinema like escapist cinema. The problematic nature of the Indian movie industry which has often been criticised for creating unrealistic content was also discussed. The discussion continued with the members of the club sharing their views on how Bollywood had witnessed many eras of particular heroes with specific genres of movies entitled to them. It was intriguing that despite a wholly

unrealistic depiction, these movies still remained a guilty pleasure for many. The problematic content these movies created also ended up justifying illogical and dangerous behaviour in our society.

The meeting from here onwards was led by the participants where they shared their best read books and movies like *Kafka on the Shore*, *The Book Thief* etc. The participants then discussed in detail the cinema of Wong-Kar Wai and debated the finer nuances of the movies. The fruitful discussion made the participants feel gratified and enlightened.

MCM Club Mavericks, 'Don't Stress: Digress'

November 30, 2020



MCM Club Mavericks held a discussion on **November 30, 2020** the focus of which was stress management especially during the times of the pandemic where everything has come to a standstill. The discussion focussed on how art, cinema and literature helped one relieve stress. The discussion was titled, '**Don't Stress: Digress**' and the meeting was held via Google Classroom. The meeting was initiated with a general discussion on how everyone copes with stress personally. The answers were vibrant and

interesting. Some of the students shared their love for books like the *Maze Runner*, while some others suggested a good run to deal with anxiety/stress, while there were many who chose writing as their safe haven. The discussion progressed with the idea of vulnerability a person/a writer feels when they decide to pen their emotions/experiences on paper. The constant fear of it to be found, read, manipulated leading to instant humiliation was the common fear shared by many. A participant commented that they would prefer burning their written thoughts literally, as a metaphor for burning bad feelings/traumas. There were some students who chose other mediums like poetry, painting, dancing as their alternative to utilize their energies in a better place. An interesting activity was conducted wherein the participants expressed what fictional characters they associated with the most, why and how. They also shared how knowingly or unknowingly they had imbibed the traits of these fictional/non-fictional characters in their real life.

Even though this discussion was not the conventional, meditative method of putting one's worries to rest but the interactive and light-hearted conversation brought mirth to many.

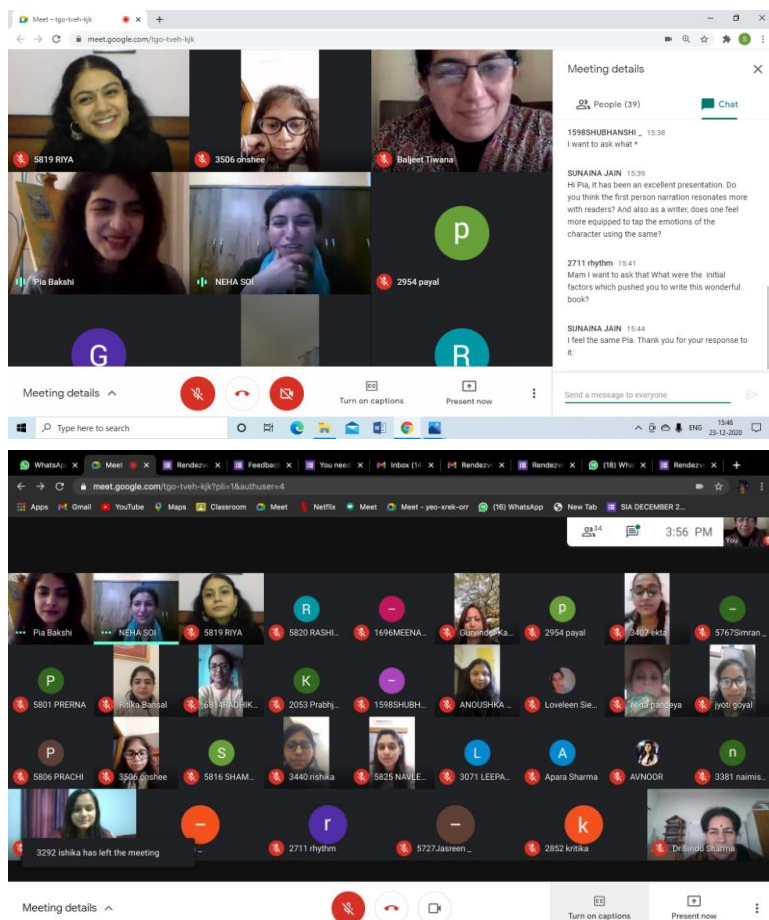
**Online Training Workshop on
'Information Disorder and Media Literacy: Fighting or Fake Fighting'
December 19, 2020**



An Online Training Workshop on the theme of '**Information Disorder and Media Literacy: Fighting or Fake Fighting**' was organized by the PG Department of English in collaboration with Data Leads and Google News Initiative under Factshala India Media Literacy Initiative Program. The virtual workshop was organized on **December 19, 2020** and witnessed an enthusiastic participation of undergraduate and postgraduate students, research scholars as well as faculty members of the College. The Resource Person for the Workshop was Dr Pragya Kaushik, Factshala Trainer and Media Educator

under Factshala India Media Literacy Initiative Program. The participants were made aware of about several social media fraudulent practices and corporate media house gimmicks which spread fake news and misinformation. The resource person also informed the participants about how not to become victims of fake news, curbing the spread of fake news and helping in the dissemination of verified facts.

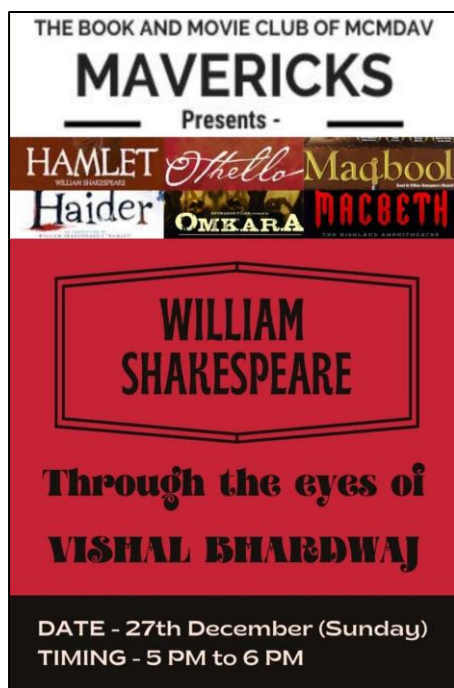
Interactive session on “Writing the I” by Ms Pia Bakshi 23 December 2020



An online talk and interaction on creative writing was organised, with Ms Pia Bakshi, author, Founder, PhilARThropy and Writer at Owliver's Post. In her session, she read various excerpts from her recent book 'Read/Read' and shared valuable inputs through them. She also answered the queries of the audience regarding the process of writing. There was also a discussion about the ideas of self and how the author unintentionally pervades through the works. The session kept everyone engrossed and

proved to be a fertile ground for discussions on writing as a creative pursuit.

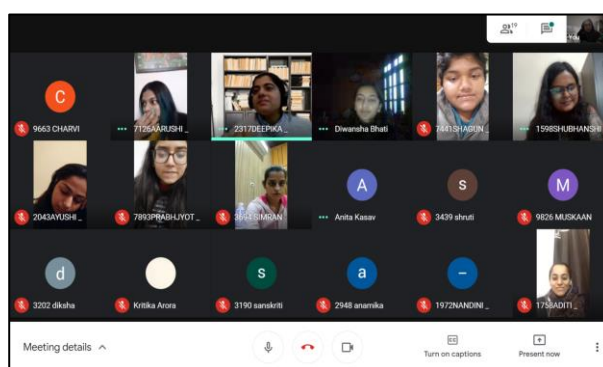
The Book and Movie Club, Mavericks Presents
Online Discussion: 'Through the Eyes of Vishal Bhardwaj'
December 27, 2020



The Mavericks Club of the PG Department of English organised a meeting on Vishal Bharadwaj's trilogy of film adaptations based on William Shakespeare's tragedies, namely Maqbool (2003), based on Macbeth; Omkara (2006), picturised on Othello and Haider cinematised on Hamlet. The participants of the group had been asked to watch the movies and acquaint themselves with the plays. The links for the movies had been shared in the groups. The similarities between Shakespeare and Vishal Bharadwaj's storytelling and depiction were shared by Dr Komil Tyagi with the participants by the faculty members. The opuses of the two respective creators have something for everyone

irrespective of their class. This is at least partly due to the universality of human experience and emotion impeccably shown in these works. Dr Komil Tyagi also pointed out how both the maestros have powerful monologues in their oeuvres. She also shared little trivia about Shakespeare's life and the British Theatre of the time.

The students shared their insights about these movies and their characters. Through the course of the discussion some students had pointed out that Bharadwaj uses a lot of the dark/cold palette in his movies. Some also noted a lot of green in the movies. The participants added that the music and lyrics



were a major highlight of Vishal Bharadwaj's works. The discussion was drawn to an end with the organisers taking suggestions from the participants on future activities of the club. The session had seen an enthusiastic participation from the attendees. This was partly the reason that the session stretched for 20 minutes more than had been planned. The meeting was held via Google Classroom and had 23 attendees.

RUSA Sponsored Online Workshop-cum-Awareness-Programme 'Ethics and Plagiarism' January 7, 2021



Mehr Chand Mahajan
DAV College for Women
Sector 36-A, Chandigarh (U.T.)

RASHTRIYA UCHCHATAR SHIKSHA ABHIYAN (RUSA)
sponsored
ONLINE WORKSHOP-CUM-AWARENESS PROGRAMME
on
ETHICS AND PLAGIARISM
organized by
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

RESOURCE PERSON

PROF. DEEPTI GUPTA
CHAIRPERSON
DEPT. OF ENGLISH & CULTURAL STUDIES
PANJAB UNIVERSITY, CHANDIGARH (U.T.) &
HONORARY COORDINATOR
CENTRE FOR SKILL DEVELOPMENT &
ENTREPRENEURSHIP, PANJAB UNIVERSITY,
CHANDIGARH (U.T.)

Click below to register for 7 January 2021 at 11:00 am
<https://forms.gle/yu9pfZtnzNCXKv2Q6>

Ms. Neena Sharma
Institutional Coordinator (RUSA)

Ms. Anuradha Kohli
Head, Dept. of English

Dr. Nisha Bhargava
Convenor & Principal

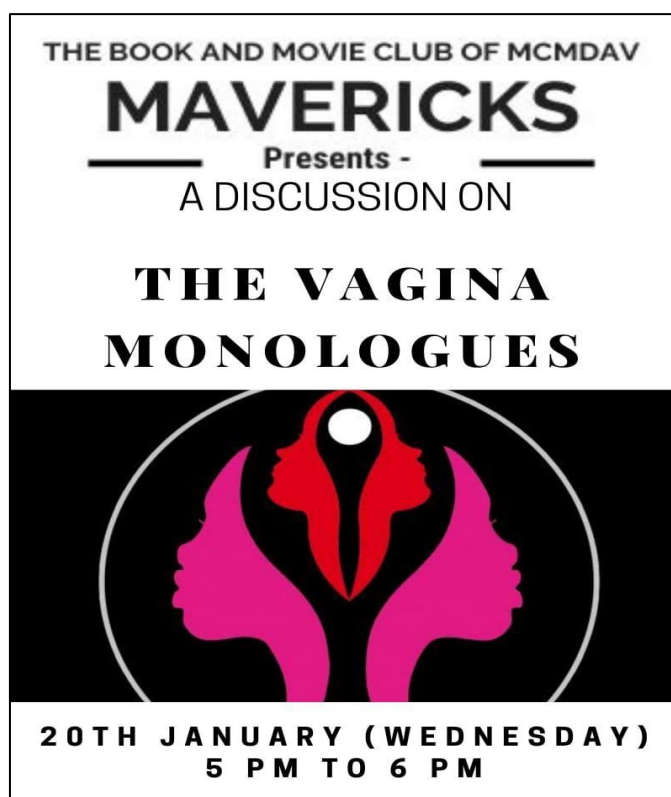
The Postgraduate Department of English of Mehr Chand Mahajan DAV College for Women organised a Rashtriya Uchhatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) sponsored workshop-cum-awareness programme on 'Ethics and Plagiarism'. Prof. Deepti Gupta, Chairperson, Department of English and Cultural Studies, Panjab University, Chandigarh was the resource person for the programme that witnessed an overwhelming response of more than 1619 participants from 11 countries and 28 Indian states and UTs. In an informative session, Prof. Gupta highlighted the significance of maintaining high ethical standards while

writing research papers and theses. Drawing from her vast experience as a research supervisor, she narrated incidents of gross plagiarism which marred the career of researchers. She apprised the participants about various types of plagiarism in practice including cyber plagiarism and self-plagiarism. Prof. Gupta gave a hands-on exercise to the participants to demonstrate the art of acknowledging other writers' ideas.

Principal Dr Nisha Bhargava appreciated the efforts of RUSA and the Department of English for undertaking this academic initiative and highlighted the fact that ethical practices must be followed in order to maintain the sanctity of research in this age of information and technology.



The Book and Movie Club, Mavericks Presents
Online Discussion on 'The Vagina Monologues'
January 20, 2021



The Mavericks Club organised a discussion on Eve Ensler's *The Vagina Monologues*. It is a "revolutionary play which continues to empower women around the world by normalising their body, by giving them agency, by speaking out about insecurities and injustices which they might not dare voice in real life." (Amrita Paul, 2019). The discussion began with the members sharing their favourite parts from the book. Taking instances from the play, "They beat the girl out of my boy... or so they tried", a discussion was initiated on human fear and

discomfort associated with the unknown. The discussion elaborated on the subconscious need of validation ingrained in an individual's psyche. It focused on the idea of conforming to the social conventions in order to seek comfort in day-to-day life. The participants agreed on the urgent need of unlearning the irrational thoughts and ideas prevalent in the society to generate better social relations which can only be achieved through acceptance of diversity and freedom of an individual.

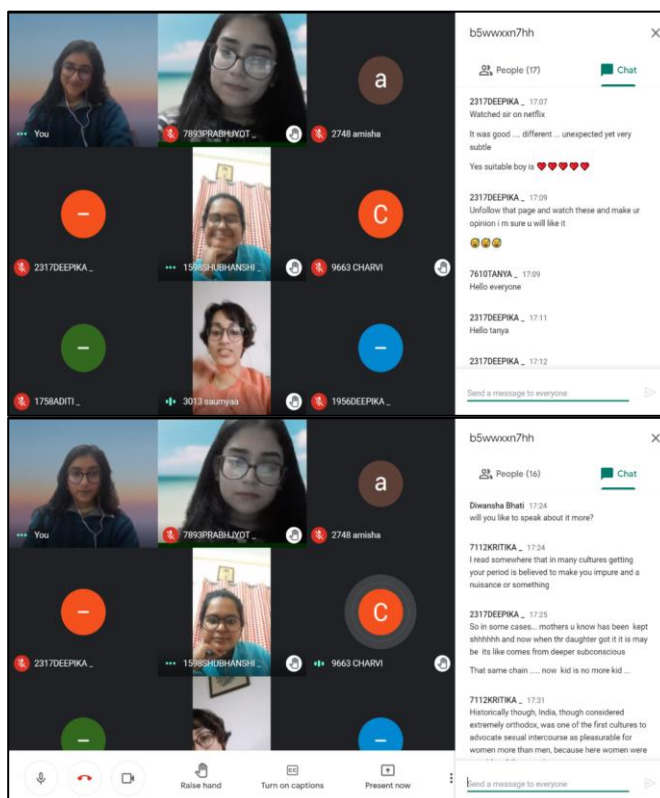
The conversation proceeded with another influential idea from the play 'Reclaiming Cunt' especially because of the language used in the section. The discussion swiftly switched to the concept of 'virginity' how it became a tool to subjugate women? The commodification of women was also elaborated on. It stressed on how the pronoun 'her' is reduced to be an extension of him. The participants also specified the problematic representation of sexual violence against women in films and media than the open representation of female sexual pleasure. For instance, a film 'Lipstick Under My Burkha' was denied certification solely because it was a film about female sexual needs.

During the course of the discussion, some of the issues touched upon were:

- Romanticism of love and its problems
- Violence against women during the time of war as a method of revenge.
- Mutilation of female genitals as a mode of exercising control over women's bodies and their subjugation. (based on 'Not So Happy fact' section of the Vagina Monologues)


There were thought provoking and deeply moving discussions on the personal experiences of participants regarding the change in their body during adolescent age which was followed by stories of acceptance. An elaborate discussion was conducted

about the judicial system and its treatment of rape cases like the Bhanwari Devi case, Mathura rape case, and the more recent Hathrascase. The meeting concluded with a discussion on intersectionality in feminism with special focus on caste system in India. It was deduced that women need to stop romanticising their physical pain suffered during child birth and menstruation.



**RUSA-Sponsored Online Awareness Programme on
'Literary Movements and Periodization: Negotiating Challenges'
February 12, 2021**

**Mehr Chand Mahajan
DAV College for Women**
Sector 36-A, Chandigarh (U.T.)

Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) - Sponsored
Online Awareness Programme
on
**Literary Movements and Periodization:
Negotiating Challenges**

Date: 12th February 2021
Time: 11:30 am to 1:00 pm

Resource Person
Prof. Praveen Sharda
University School of Open Learning
Panjab University Chandigarh



Click below on the scheduled date and time to join us :
<https://meet.google.com/epm-fgnb-xgc?hs=224>
E-certificates will be given to the participants who
fill the Feedback Form at the end of the session.

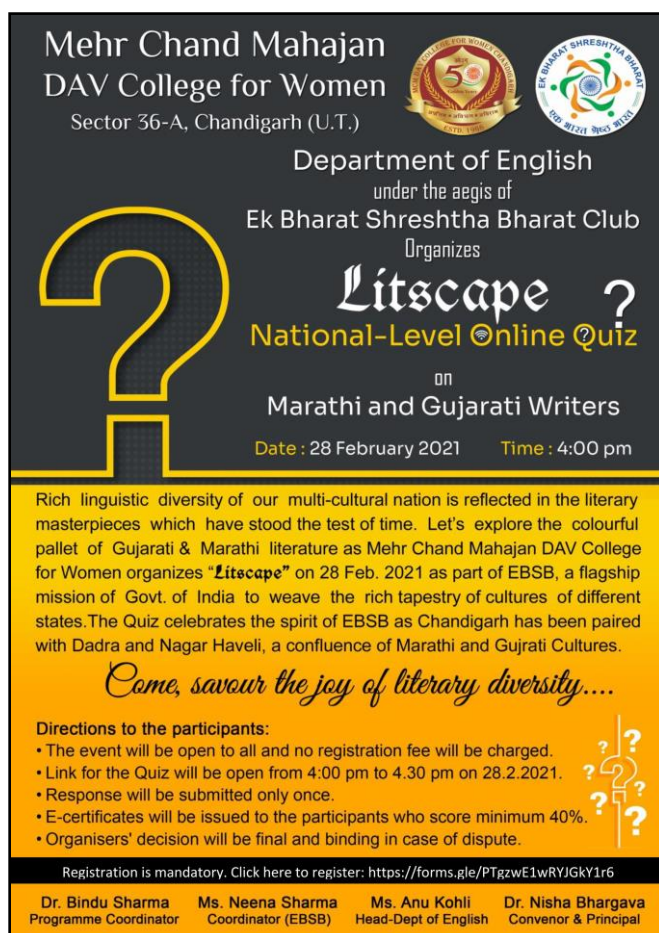
Ms. Neena Sharma
Institutional Coordinator (RUSA)

Dr. Nisha Bhargava
Convenor & Principal

Mehr Chand Mahajan DAV College for Women, Chandigarh, organised RUSA-Sponsored Online Awareness Programme on Literary Movements and Periodization: Negotiating Challenges. Prof Praveen Sharda, Coordinator, English Department, University School of Open Learning (USOL), Panjab University, Chandigarh, was the Resource Person. Prof Sharda dwelt upon the complexities of dividing literature into different periods as texts written during the same period may have no resemblance, and thus cannot be historically defended. She gave examples of Olsen, O'Hara and

Allen Ginsberg to illustrate her perspective. In an enriching session, Prof Sharda answered the queries of the participants by citing various examples. Principal Dr Nisha Bhargava appreciated the pivotal role of RUSA in quality enhancement initiatives.

Litscape: National-Level Online Quiz on Marathi and Gujarati Writers February 28, 2021



The poster for the Litscape National-Level Online Quiz is divided into two main color sections: a dark blue top half and a yellow bottom half. At the top left, it identifies the host as Mehr Chand Mahajan DAV College for Women, Sector 36-A, Chandigarh (U.T.). To the right are two circular logos: one for the Department of English and another for Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat. The central text, in white and yellow, reads 'Department of English under the aegis of Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat Club Organizes Litscape ? National-Level Online Quiz on Marathi and Gujarati Writers'. Below this, the date and time are given as 'Date : 28 February 2021 Time : 4:00 pm'. A large yellow question mark is on the left. The yellow section contains a paragraph about the linguistic diversity of India, a quote 'Come, savour the joy of literary diversity....', and a list of directions for participants. At the bottom, a registration link is provided, and a table lists the four organizers: Dr. Bindu Sharma (Programme Coordinator), Ms. Neena Sharma (Coordinator (EBSB)), Ms. Anu Kohli (Head-Dept of English), and Dr. Nisha Bhargava (Convenor & Principal).

Mehr Chand Mahajan
DAV College for Women
Sector 36-A, Chandigarh (U.T.)

Department of English
under the aegis of
Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat Club
Organizes

Litscape ?
National-Level Online Quiz
on
Marathi and Gujarati Writers
Date : 28 February 2021 Time : 4:00 pm

Rich linguistic diversity of our multi-cultural nation is reflected in the literary masterpieces which have stood the test of time. Let's explore the colourful pallet of Gujarati & Marathi literature as Mehr Chand Mahajan DAV College for Women organizes "Litscape" on 28 Feb. 2021 as part of EBSB, a flagship mission of Govt. of India to weave the rich tapestry of cultures of different states. The Quiz celebrates the spirit of EBSB as Chandigarh has been paired with Dadra and Nagar Haveli, a confluence of Marathi and Gujarati Cultures.

Come, savour the joy of literary diversity....

Directions to the participants:

- The event will be open to all and no registration fee will be charged.
- Link for the Quiz will be open from 4:00 pm to 4:30 pm on 28.2.2021.
- Response will be submitted only once.
- E-certificates will be issued to the participants who score minimum 40%.
- Organisers' decision will be final and binding in case of dispute.

Registration is mandatory. Click here to register: <https://forms.gle/PTgzwE1wRYJGkY1r6>

Dr. Bindu Sharma Programme Coordinator	Ms. Neena Sharma Coordinator (EBSB)	Ms. Anu Kohli Head-Dept of English	Dr. Nisha Bhargava Convenor & Principal
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The Department of English and Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat (EBSB) Club of Mehr Chand Mahajan DAV College for Women celebrated the linguistic diversity of our multicultural nation by organising an online National level Quiz- Litscape. As Chandigarh is paired with Dadra and Nagar Haveli under Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat mission of the Government of India, this quiz was aimed at celebrating the confluence of Gujarati and Marathi cultures in our paired Union Territory and to mark this cultural camaraderie. The quiz received very heartening response with 199 participants from 23 states and also from Sri Lanka. E-certificates were awarded

to the participants. Principal Dr. Nisha Bhargava appreciated the EBSB Club for this unique initiative. She added that such activities implemented under the aegis of EBSB mission are highly effective steps towards promotion of sustained cultural connect in the areas of language, music, cuisine, traditions and culture.