



Implementation of Blended Learning in Higher Education Institutions in West Bengal

(A NSOU-CEMCA Collaborative Initiative)

3-Day Workshop on 'Face-to-Face, Online and Blended Learning for Higher Education Teachers in West Bengal'

Report (5th Workshop)

Date & Time: 8, 9 & 10 April 2022, 10 AM-5 PM

Venue: Jalpaiguri Regional Centre, NSOU

Participants- Comprised of 37 teachers and academicians (Male-29, Female-08) from HEIs of northern parts of Bengal.

Preview: COVID-19 has wreaked havoc across the world and like any critical sector, education has been hit hard. Students, schools, colleges and universities have been deeply impacted. Teachers at all levels were confronted with the problems of transitioning from traditional classroom instruction to online instruction on a digital platform. Educational institutions worldwide promptly responded to the pandemic by going online. In record time, students moved from physical spaces that provided them with much-needed social interactions, to being seated behind a screen for hours on end. In India, the shift to online platforms happened at a slower pace, and was mainly driven by the academic institutions that already had digital learning platforms in place, and the means to operate them. However, these difficulties have underlined the bright future of learning and the rapid improvements in delivery methods for high-quality education. On the flip side, the knowledge and availability of ICT tools, as well as sufficient capacity building and professional development of HEI teachers and academicians, is a pressing demand.

In this context, **the 3-day workshop as a supplement to the 2nd workshop in the series (held in blended/online mode)** was organized at Jalpaiguri RC, NSOU. College/ University teachers from Malda, North & South Dinajpur, Cooch Behar, Raiganj and Siliguri registered for the workshop.

Inaugural Session:

The 3-Day Workshop was inaugurated on 8/04/2022 at 10.30am. NSOU & CEMCA has yet again put their concerted efforts to muster a teeming academicians for an experiential and contextual exchange of views, knowledge and competence on the minutiae of face-to-face, online and blended learning with its unique attributes in implementation in any educational context. The session progressed through the following addresses:

Welcome Address was delivered by Sri. Santanu Dam, Deputy Director, Jalpaiguri RC, NSOU. He greeted the attendees warmly and set the tone for the workshop by deliberating upon the University's collaborative ventures with CEMCA to bring about such a wonderful project in the just time.

Thematic Address was delivered by Prof. Anirban Ghosh, Director, CIQA & Project Director. He envisioned NSOU's ICT endeavours as one of its visions for 'Reaching the Unreached.' He noted that, despite the trying times, NSOU's teaching-learning framework had remained undisturbed due to the various ICT support provided to learners. Prof. Ghosh further stated that equipping teachers with culminating f2f, online and blended learning methodology will ensure the much-needed learner-centric approach and benefit the social-cultural pedagogy as a whole. He reiterated that the university has been collaborating with CEMCA on many projects to improve the equity, quality, and accessibility of higher education and will continue to do so. Students learn, retain and apply information most effectively when they receive personalized education paths and when sufficient resources are made available to them. In typical classrooms, students that require more attention or support are tended to – however, with the pandemic, this was no longer the case. This workshop will map the competence and adept with new skills for a sustainable education environment.



Formal Vote of Thanks for the inaugural session was proposed by Dr. Papiya Upadhyay, Assistant Professor of Education, NSOU and Joint Project Coordinator. The event was neatly compered by Sri. Debraj Sarkar, System Analyst, Jalpaiguri RC, NSOU.

The proceedings of the 3-day workshop are briefly described below:

The technical sessions were taken over by the workshop facilitators- Mr. Purandar Sengupta and Dr. Shaunak Ray, Prof. Anirban Ghosh to continue with the interaction and presentation and activities.

- ✚ Session 1: Mr. Sengupta and Dr. Roy presented a quick recap of previous learning on Blended Learning and Developing a Blended Learning Program (using ICT Tools) before the participants.
- ✚ Session 2: The relevant facilitation tools and techniques were discussed as a part of recapitulation of previous learning on facilitation.
- ✚ Session 3: Mr. Sengupta documented the Value Proposition of each Intervention by the participants through various display and demonstration.
- ✚ Session 4: The facilitators recapitulated the diversified Learning Styles and Cognitive Levels of the different students with eloquence and vivid examples. The participants were deeply involved in this session with narration and participation.

- ✚ Session 5: In this session, the participants took the lead by documenting their Value Proposition of different learning styles through role-play.
- ✚ Session 6: Mr. Sengupta demonstrated the scope for Value Addition while implementing the Learning Models. He also affirmed the significance of learning models and integrated the learning needs for fruitful and successful interventions.



- ✚ Session 7: Dr. Roy deliberated o recap of ICT Tools with brilliance and Introduced various ICT Tools relevant to the Blended Learning milieu.
- ✚ Session 8: This was a vibrant session marked with Hands-on Activity by using Canva for creating infographics and presentations for Blended Learning.
- ✚ Session 9: Prof. Ghosh through an erudite presentation deliberated at length on two important aspects: Development and Delivery of MOOCs and OER. He highlighted the guidelines and instructions that has to be abided while developing the 4-quadrants of an online course. His slides justified and evoked a thoughtful essence to face-to-face, online and blended learning.
- ✚ Session 10: Close to the last session, Dr. Roy briefly discussed on Participatory Planning and Course Design for a blended learning material. The participants were segregated into 6 groups according o their subjects/disciplines. A template for course design on blended learning was provided to all participants for preparation of the course design.



Valedictory session: Prof. Ghosh, Mr. Sengupta and Sri. Santanu Dam were invited to speak on this session. This was followed by an endnote by Dr. P. Upadhyay. Some of the participants were invited to share their experiences during the 3- day workshop. The session ended with distribution of participation certificates and a group photograph.



Report prepared by Dr. Papiya Upadhyay
Project Coordinator

Programme Schedule

DAY 1 (08.04.2022)

Time	Event
10.00 AM – 11.00 AM	Registration
11.00 AM – 11.30 AM	Inaugural Ceremony
11.30 AM – 12.15 AM	Session 1: Ice-breaking Session
12.15 PM – 1.30 PM	Session 2: Recap of previous learning on Blended Learning and Developing a Blended Learning Program (using ICT Tools)
1.30 PM – 2.00 PM	Lunch
2.00 PM – 3.00 PM	Session 3: Recapitulation of previous learning on Facilitation Tools and Techniques
3.00 PM – 5.00 PM	Session 4: Documenting the Value Proposition of each Intervention by the participants

DAY 2 (09.04.2022)

Time	Event
10.00 AM – 11.45 AM	Session 5: Recapitulation of the diversified Learning Styles and Cognitive Levels of the different students

11.45 AM – 12.00 PM	Session 6: Documentation of the Value Proposition of different learning models by the participants
12.00 PM – 1.30 AM	Session 7: Scope for Value Addition while implementing the Learning Models
1.30 PM – 2.00 PM	Lunch
2.00 PM – 3.30 PM	Session 7: Recap of ICT Tools & Introducing ICT Tools in the Blended Learning Context
3.45 PM – 5.00 PM	Session 8: Hands-on Activity of using Canva for creating infographics and presentations for Blended Learning

DAY 3 (10.04.2022)

Time	Event
10.00 AM – 1.30 PM	Session 9: Participatory Planning and Course Design
1.00 PM – 1.30 PM	Lunch
2.00 PM – 5.00 PM	Session 10: Development and Delivery of MOOCs

Facilitators:

Mr. Purandar Sengupta

Dr. Shaunak Roy

Prof. Anirban Ghosh

List of Registered Participants

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