



**Lekshmipuram College of Arts and Science**  
**Neyyoor-629802**  
(Affiliated to Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, Tirunelveli)  
**Kanyakumari District, Tamilnadu**

### **Best Practices 2023-24**

Best Practice 1: Enriched Teaching Learning Experiences through Experiential Learning  
Title of the Practice: “**Enriched Teaching Learning Experiences through Experiential Learning**” **Goals of the Practice**

The practice is intended to enrich the teaching-learning experiences of the learners through experiential learning strategies. Knowledge acquisition process and develop an understanding of various learning concepts through direct experiences and reflective learning situations.

#### **The Context**

The curriculum and syllabus prescribed for the undergraduate and postgraduate programmes are more theory-oriented than student-centered. The involvement of students in the teaching- learning process is more passive rather than active in traditional teaching and learning. The curriculum prescribed by the affiliating university has a wide scope for providing experiential learning through individual and group projects, industrial visits, internships, simulations, and games.

#### **The Practice**

Traditionally, the curriculum prescribed for the undergraduate programme is more theory based and has minimum opportunity for direct experience, no opportunity to learn through experience, no learning through reflection, and no relation to real-world situations. Thus, the institution has planned to provide a wide variety of learning experiences to the learner through project-based learning, internships, industrial visits, visits to historically important places, and other significant areas as enriched teaching-learning experiences through experiential learning. Some of the undergraduate programme has project-based learning opportunities in the existing curriculum framework. The institution extends this practice too to those programmes that do not have project learning in the curriculum.

#### **The Success**

As a part of experiential learning, undergraduate students in subjects like English, History, Biochemistry, Electronics, Information Technology, Costume Design and Fashion, and Commerce undertake group and individual projects to abreast their knowledge, develop

understanding, and apply it in relevant situations for socially useful products and concepts. The members of the faculty arrange field trips, educational tours, visits to museums, planetariums, nuclear projects, and botanical gardens as a part of experiential learning. The behavioural symptoms of students in accessing library resources, both print and electronic resources, conducting interviews or surveys, interacting with the community, observing, acquiring, and reflecting, improving retention, taking a systematic approach to context, using problem-solving techniques, approaching the problem with assumptions, reflecting, and criticizing their own findings, reading books and journals, and so on, clearly shows they gain more experience than the traditional approach.

### **Resources**

For the arrangements of educational tours, places of historical importance, industrial visits, and undertaking innovative projects, manpower, as well as financing, is required. The existing expertise available in the department may be utilised at maximum for the success of the practice. Collaborative efforts between institutions and industry help the optimum utilisation of resources for the cause of learning.

### **Problem Encountered**

The identification of appropriate places and institutions and obtaining their consent within the stipulated time period is a challenge that every department faced. Financial constraints for arranging such programme more frequently is another problem, and the involvement of all faculties is required for the success of the practice.

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Best Practice 2: Social Responsibility through Extension and Outreach Programme

Title of the Practice: “**Social Responsibility through Extension and Outreach Programme**”

### **Goals of the Practice**

The practice aimed at developing social responsibility consciousness among the learners through systematic and planned extension and outreach programmes for the cause of betterment of the society.

### **The Context**

The purpose of education is the overall development of the individual, which is not limited only to classroom learning but goes beyond that. The college is located in the rural and coastal belt of Lekshnipuram village, Mondaicadu, Colachel, and the neighbouring areas. The majority of the students who seek admissions in the institution are the weaker and downtrodden section of the society. The ignorance, lack of education, unemployment, lack of awareness on health and hygiene, and lack of awareness on emerging technology-based services are typical problems faced by them in their day-to-day life. So it is the responsibility of the institution to prepare the neighbouring community, sensitise them on emerging issues through extension activities, and outreach programmes.

### **The Practice**

The institution conducts extension activity in terms of cleaning programme, awareness programme, rallies stressing social issues like voting rights, anti-drugs, women's rights, road safety week, medical camps, special camps, and so on. These activities are carried out by the NSS, NCC, YRC, RRC, and the like. The NSS conducts the special camp in the neighbourhood village annually and renders highly appreciable work. The members of the teaching staff contribute funds for the free noon meal scheme; they also provide financial assistance to the needy students for remitting tuition fees, examination fees, and other medical expenses. The institution adopts a village library, free tuition to homes of different categories, and financial assistance to old age homes. It clearly shows institutional commitments to the society for development.

### **The Success**

The institution successfully conducted awareness programme like health, sanitation, hygiene, cancer awareness, road safety week, cleaning of public important places, road safety week, and awareness rallies shows the success institutional initiatives of fulfilling its role for the cause of society. Every year, the students and faculty donated blood to the district blood bank. Resources Arrangements of extension activities and outreach programme require financial assistance as well as manpower. All types of cooperation from governmental agencies as well as non governmental agencies are required for the conduct of extension activities. The agencies like NSS, NCC, YRC, RRC, the consumer forum, and the eco-club are effectively used for extension and outreach programmes.

### **Problem Encountered**

Either the institution or the individual (Programme officer) is expected to meet the financial requirements for conducting the events related to outreach programs, which is a

financial burden. The examination system and completion of the syllabus within the stipulated period posed several hurdles to conducting extension and outreach programme more frequently.

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