

**UGC-HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT CENTRE, PANJAB UNIVERSITY  
CHANDIGARH**

**PROGRAMMES FEEDBACK BY PARTICIPANTS SESSION 2014-15 & 2015-16**

**102<sup>nd</sup> Orientation Course - 10.05.2014 to 06.06.2014**

The theme of our orientation course “How to become an effective Teacher” was really very practical and the need of the hour. Our teaching skills have been improved and we also learnt how to analyze the things critically (both positively and negatively). The live experiences, which we had by visiting museums, by watching movies were wonderful as well as of great fun. We hadn't seen these items in the way we saw them earlier. Most of the lectures arranged for us were very knowledgeable and their learning objectives were achieved. Some events like self-encounter, ice-breaking, simulated classroom, teaching sessions really brought confidence in the participants. In a simulated classroom situation of role play sessions, we were enabled to look at things from the students' perspective and it also highlighted our ability skills. Research ability has also been improved. The course was highly informative and helped us grow our communication, presentation, pedagogical and interpersonal skills. The design of the course enabled and sharpened our critical faculties. Educational trip was wonderful experience Another very magnificent contribution of the course was the psychological space provided to us. However, there was repetition of the content in the some of the sessions. Some of the speakers were not really interactive and effective. Regarding infrastructure, we were well accommodated in a comfortable environment. Some of the facilities like sound system and seating arrangement, generator system need to be improved. No doubt, outstation candidates are well accommodated in AC rooms in ASC guest house with wi-fi facility, but even then some improvement is required. Photostat and printing facility may be provided on payment. The cooperation extended by the office staff and hostel staff was heart-warming. Overall, it was a satisfactory and good learning experience.

In brief, the positive aspects of the course entail the following observations:

1. Opening of the day with prayer and 2 minute silences.
2. Stepping into the shoes of a learner, the participants have been able to empathize with their students.

3. Benefitted from different subject matters addressed by the various persons.
4. Visit to Arts Museum was very informative, which kindled in us the spirit “to enjoy out just for art’s sake”.
5. Methodology adopted in book review, session reviews and paper presentations developed our skills of critical analysis.
6. Overall course helped us to build confidence and positive attitude towards teaching profession and life.

However, the need was felt to improve upon the following points:

1. More attributes could have been included in the sessions to break the monotony of the day.
2. Inflexibility of some resource person and they were not ready to shed off their notions and beliefs.

In the end we may sum up that it was enriching and learning experience which will surely stay with for a life time.

### **103<sup>rd</sup> Orientation Course - 20.08.2014 to 16.09.2014**

103rd Orientation Course was a very well organized programme. This course achieved its aim fairly well. The course was successful in imparting knowledge, values and awareness among participants. It was helpful in promoting innovation and creative ability among the participants and in inculcating professional skills among the participants and also increased the confidence level of the participants by making them chairperson of the day. The content of the course was very much relevant and useful to all the participants. It will really help the participants in enhancing their communication skills, teaching skills, paper presentation skills etc. The environment of the Academic Staff College is very harmonious and the staff is also very co-operative. It helped us to impart professional skills in teaching, research and management. Arrangements and management were excellent

It is suggested that renowned figures of respective fields should be invited from India and abroad. The topics such as personality development, yoga & meditation, self encounter session

for all etc should be organized. The involvement of participants can be encouraged through more of indoor & outdoor activities.

### **104<sup>th</sup> Orientation Course - 25.11.2014 to 22.12.2014**

All the group members would like to extend their gratitude towards Academic Staff College, Panjab University for providing us this opportunity to be a part of 104<sup>th</sup> Orientation Course. Overall the course was quite beneficial for enhancing our teaching skills as well as sensitizing us about several other aspects like research, value based development, class management and professional empowerment. The faculty acted as a role model with a good blend of discipline and a motivator who inspired and ignited critical thinking process for being better teachers. Supporting staff and most of the resource person provided us a platform for developing teaching learning skills. The course should be open to faculties from all categories of teachers whether permanent or contractual, there is a need to address the issues of colleges in rural areas, resource persons should also be invited from different fields and reputed institutions other than P.U. IITs, IIMs etc. Some subjects like culture, media, and environmental sciences should also be included. The course should also train us in dealing with the practical challenges of the class more specifically with differently-abled students. Although the infrastructure at ASC was quite appreciable but the outstation participants felt that the accommodation facilities could have been better. Finally, we would like to add that being benefitted from the course would hopefully be reflected in our classrooms and even beyond.

In brief:

1. Topics were relevant
2. Most of the resource person conveyed their message clearly to the participants
3. The facility of printing material should be available.
4. The resource person having two sessions shall cover different topics.
5. The microteaching should be made compulsory to the participants, so that they should improve further.
6. Review sessions are praiseworthy as they made us to think and analyze all the sessions critically.

7. We were taught how to be effective teachers. Sessions should also be held on theme like how to make teaching effective from ground level, institutional level with special emphasis on rural areas.

### **105<sup>th</sup> Orientation Course - 10.05.2015 to 09.03.2015**

We came to know about the Orientation Course through UGC-HRDC website. First day of the Orientation Programme we had inaugural session followed by Ice-breaking session and briefing about the course. Consequently, all the sessions were interesting and informative, however we especially enjoyed the session such as communication in the class room, participant centered learning, how we teach & how we should teach, values employability & use of power. The course was very well organized and planned in a systematic manner, we have learnt a lot about teaching as well as organizing skill. The reviews and chairpersonship duties of each member helped us to overcome our inhibition, which we really liked. We were really benefited from this well planned 105<sup>th</sup> Orientation program. This made us all patient listeners and effective teachers. The curriculum was up to the mark covering wide topics keeping in mind the diversity of the group. Time allotted for the sessions was very good. The visits to museums/places were fruitful. The staff of Academic Staff College was very cooperative and helpful. The course-coordinator handled the course effectively & efficiently. Overall we learned and enjoyed a lot and our experience is very good as participants from the whole country were in our group. There was a balanced selection of the resource persons. Overall it was a great learning experience which was delivered effectively and efficiently by the cooperative staff of the Academic Staff College.

However, there are certain points which can be improved upon:

1. There should be a small canteen.
2. Improvement in the Guest House facilities.
3. Fun activity at the end of each week.
4. Participant centered activities should be increased.
5. Self encounter session should be compulsory.
6. Better maintenance of the parking area.
7. Surprise attendance should be more often.

## **106<sup>th</sup> Orientation Course - 22.4.2015 to 19.05.2015**

106<sup>th</sup> Orientation Course was a really good experience. It was well planned, systematically organized and coordinated. We have learned novel skills e.g. writing book review in a critical way; how and why should we teach, handling student problems, learning and thinking skills etc. Visit to Museums, film review were enriching experience. The lectures on topics viz. sahitya kyon padhen; educational system, vedic ages, library session and visits' history and text books; educating the educated-developing traffic sense, conservation of heritage; student centered learning were very informative and interactive. The whole programme was well-scheduled and the schedule was given to each participant beforehand.

While the overall course was a learning experience, it goes without saying that the course certainly led to value addition for each and all. Besides inculcating leadership skills, respect for fellow colleagues and in-depth self-assessment, the orientation course facilitated a platform to not only learn but also indulge in critical evaluation exercises. The add-on was good networking for future.

However, the participants should be trained into the realms of 'emotional quotient' it would have been more wholesome. A brainstorming session once a week among the participants should be included. The course should be made compulsory before the joining of a teacher. It should be all practical. More sessions can be in the form of workshops. More focus should be on the skills of teaching. However, the way, we are guided and taught critical evaluation of the books, movies and even the resource persons is highly appreciative and should always be a regular feature of such courses. If some sessions on the topics are included like teachers' rights, the information about UGC projects and research funding and how to go about international collaborations, the teachers' issues dealing with salaries, T.A/D.A. and other administrative issues, it would be more helpful. One leave during the course should be allowed. We feel that there should be more sessions on topics like Yoga and Meditation, Human Rights, Research Methodology and Technology. etc. GOC should be made compulsory immediately after appointment.

In brief:

1. Instead of having 3 theoretical sessions per day, there should be 2 theoretical sessions followed by one practical/workshop after lunch. Infrastructure is good but little improvement is required
2. Course sessions should be focused on the active participation of group
3. Design the schedule in such a way that only one session per day should be those for participant presentation. MCQ should be conducted at the end of the course.

### **107<sup>th</sup> Orientation Course - 29.07.2015 to 25.08.2015**

Orientation Course is a mandatory training for teachers. We joined this course to enlighten ourselves in teaching, research and professional development. 'Ice Breaking Session' helped us to know each other. The course was very useful and motivating exercise for new teachers and acted as reinforcement for good teaching. So, frequency of the course may be increased and may be made compulsory every two years. 09.00 AM – 05.00 PM, five days a week can be introduced to make it more effective. Lectures by eminent personalities were exceptional and exemplary of how a teacher should have mastery of content and presentation. Class activities involving participation especially book review, paper presentation, how to teach etc. were very interesting and informative. Lectures should be more diverse, especially sciences need more coverage. In this training programme we were encouraged to critically think and inculcate that in teaching and research. We have gained confidence in writing, speaking, presenting ourselves through activities like review, self encounter, paper writing, paper presentation and discussions. Visits to different Museums, Botanical Garden and Library are a tool for better learning. Sessions have sensitized us about important social issues like human rights and duties, child rights, gender, ageing, women in prisons and domestic violence. This Orientation has 29 participants from 18 disciplines- *A Big Learning in Itself* Through these 28 days we got enough time for thinking about our self and to gain from others.

Overall, it was a very good experience and care taken by ASC to carefully plan and organize the course must be appreciated. Finally, it is gratifying that it was indeed a learning experience and has enhanced our skills. This orientation course was excellent, very informative, interesting and enthusiastic

The most positive sessions which contributed to our personality were:

1. Ice breaking, how we should teach, thinking skills session were excellent.
2. Critical evaluation through film specially discussion and religious sensitization
3. Communication (skills), Gandhi & Ambedkar (Comparison), Human Rights and Duties Sensitization lectures were excellent
4. Self encounter session for learning micro teaching skills was really informative.
5. Sessions on code of conduct and service rule for teachers, significance of foreign language were very good.
6. Morning review session was very informative and all actively participated.
7. All committees were devoted completely towards their duties.
8. Tea break sessions were very useful to us for intellectual discussions.
9. Our most of the skills have improved through this Orientation Course like thinking, writing, listening, speaking, use of black board and power point presentations.

#### **108<sup>th</sup> Orientation Course - 09.12.2015 to 05.01.2016**

The Orientation Course was quiet relevant as it helped us to hone various skills. The best part of the course was the diversity of lectures, strong emphasis was laid on value creation, visits to museum sensitized our artistic skills and made us aware on various socio-cultural scenario. It was extremely well organized and managed. The resource persons from various backgrounds made the whole learning experience more enriched. We gathered a lot of knowledge regarding various aspects of our profession through talks, discussions, personal interaction, trips and museum visits. The ambience was great and very comfortable. Many socio-cultural issues were also discussed. Number of sessions were included on pedagogical skills, research methodology etc. No doubt, the course was participant oriented, but more workshops should have been conducted. Majority of the resource persons were found to be highly effective as per their content and methodology of their presentations. However, a few had been unprepared and comparatively less influential. Some of resource person imposed their opinions without taking participants views. Lunch should have been included as a part of the course to invoke interactions in informal setting. On the whole, the course was effective and the staff was co-operative. The course made our four weeks of training highly interesting with cooperation and dedication towards the participants. This course is highly beneficial in boosting our morals. As

the participants of 108<sup>th</sup> Orientation Course, we would like to thank the Director of UGC-HRDC, Panjab University, Chandigarh for organizing a wonderful programme which will be helpful at every step of our lives. Special thanks to clerical and administrative staff for their continuous support. The staff was quite cooperative.

In hostel infrastructure not more than 2 participants should be allocated a single room. Orientation should be made compulsory for teachers when they join job and after 1-2 years of joining. The resource persons should bring topics of interest of the participants.

In brief:

1. The infrastructure was satisfactory.
2. Majority of the resource persons were from Panjab University only, more experts should be called from outside, other reputed Universities and institutions like NITs, IITs and MITs.
3. Some of the topics like seventh Pay commission, Research Project submission in UGC; DST etc. should be more elaborative. More discussions and project work should be involved.
4. We highly appreciate the interactive and encouraging sessions by HRDC faculty.

### **109<sup>th</sup> Orientation Course - 16.02.2016 to 14.03.2016**

The 109<sup>th</sup> Orientation Course started on 16<sup>th</sup> February, 2016 with opening remarks of Honorary Director along with an International Scholar from China. It all started on a very enthusiastic note from the ice-breaking session up till the last day to talent hunt and theatre-oriented activities.

The orientation programme introduced the participants to various diverse disciplines, which was great learning. People from different walks of life were the resource persons throughout the orientation course. Few of them were highly commendable. Sessions like ice-breaking, critical thinking and communication skills helped us to be conscious about our challenges in many spheres or fields of learning. Last but not the least educational tour was very fruitful. But also there were many scopes which should be looked into for the later orientation programmes such as there should be more stress on research proposal writing, health, road safety, tax learning, research methodology, soft skill development, philosophical ideologies, and also if possible even

or dietary, yoga and physical exercise as these activities help the teachers as well as students. There must be some inclusion like sports, theatre; dance etc.; they should be made compulsory in the program. Further, theme based week may be there; like sports week, theatre week, art and craft week etc. Teams can be made and will be asked to give their final performance at the end of each week.

The visits to various museums in Panjab University as well as Chandigarh were fruitful as the visits make us more pro-active in learning different aspects of life. Visit to old age homes, hospitals etc. could also be of great help. We also suggest facilitating the participants with mess facility. It was a great opportunity for all of us as it gave us the platform to share, express, improve and see through the issues that we need to work upon and improve in our teaching. Overall the sessions were indeed very motivating in playing a significant role. This orientation course has given us a different perspective towards teaching profession. We are feeling motivated, filled with a different energy. At the end we thank faculty of HRDC, Panjab University, Chandigarh for giving us a wonderful experience. We appreciate the help provided to us by hostel and office staff.

In brief:

1. Basic concept of research was clarify by the different resource persons. Some of the resource persons were excellent.
2. Well organized and well coordinated programme.
3. UGC-HRDC, PU, Chandigarh created conducive environment for the participant and always permitted them to exchange free flow of ideas.
4. Education tour and stay in one guest house was very appreciable.
5. Infrastructure was satisfactory.
6. UGC-HRDC, PU, Chandigarh deserves full appreciation for managing all the activities and for successfully inculcating the sense of self discipline among the participants.
7. Provision of lunch, breakfast on a common platform should be included to make the stay more comfortable and easy.