

NAAC CRITERION VII – BEST PRACTICES

7.2 – Description of Two Best Practices

2024-25

BEST PRACTICE – 1

Sl. No.	1
Title of the Practice	Value based Inter-disciplinary Courses
Objectives of the Practice	<p>Today the education system is defined in a highly commercialised technological sense, impregnated with a target-oriented attitude, mercenary approach, and epicurean philosophy — leading to the crumbling of society as an institution. There is a demand for value education to strengthen social bonds, establish interpersonal relationships, and meet global challenges. In this complex background, there is an urgent need to impart value education to the youth based on the deep-rooted Indian Vedic Value education system, so that they are not misled. It is in this perspective that the Vishwavidyalaya has introduced courses like Indian Aesthetics, Indian Knowledge Traditions, Dharma, Darshan Sanskriti, Vedic Maths, Vedic Management, Vedic Physics, and performance of Daily Yajna — helping students become better persons socially, emotionally, psychologically, and physically to face global challenges.</p>
The Context	<p>Indian tradition of imparting knowledge is known as Indian Knowledge Tradition, which includes subjects like Indian Drama, Indian Music, Indian Aesthetics, Indian Literature, Indian History, Indian Philosophy, Vedic Maths, Vedic Management, Vedic Physics, Vedic Astronomy, etc. When these courses were discarded under the influence of Western education, the Vishwavidyalaya was established to bring about an Indian Renaissance. All these are value-based courses designed to meet global challenges.</p>
The Practice	<p>1. In most Departments of modern science and engineering, a course based on Vedic knowledge in tune with the concerned subject is taught — e.g., Vedic Physics in the Department of Physics, Vedic Mathematics in the Department of Mathematics, Vedic Chemistry in the Department of Chemistry, and Vedic Engineering in the Faculty of Engineering. These courses are taught in their basic forms, yet are very informative to students and help them appreciate that conceptual knowledge concerning these subjects existed in Vedic Literature. 2. Courses on Dharma, Darshan and Sanskriti (Religion, Philosophy and Culture) and Bhartiya Jnan Parampara are offered to all UG students. The contents include Human Values, Indian Philosophy, and Indian Culture based upon ancient Vedic and Sanskrit literature, helping students become responsible citizens.</p>

<p>Evidence of Success</p>	<p>Students from all over the country take admission in the Vishwavidyalaya with varying behavioural aspects. Initially they feel uncomfortable with courses impregnated with Vedic values, but within due course of time they realise their importance and their attitude to life changes. Their approach becomes purposeful and they start reposing faith in Indian social traditions and practices. After their studies, when they join different institutions and organisations, they are accepted as better professionals and human beings.</p>
<p>Problems Encountered</p>	<p>While framing the syllabi of Vedic-content based courses for different disciplines, the basic challenge was to filter out the relevant Vedic literature based on the particular programme and compile it into structured units of the syllabus. With the help of Vedic scholars, Modern Scientists, and Engineers, this difficulty was overcome.</p>
<p>Notes</p>	<p>The above practice is universal and may be adopted by any institution with no requirements of much infrastructure or resources.</p>

BEST PRACTICE – 2

Sl. No.	2
Title of the Practice	Performing Daily Yajna
Objectives of the Practice	Today the society has crumbled down due to a highly commercialised technological attitude to life. We have forgotten the message of Lokasangrah (welfare of society) and Idam Namam (non-attachment). There is a need to strengthen the bond of society, establish interpersonal relationships, and sensitize the young generation to Society, Nature and Culture. It is in this perspective that the Vishwavidyalaya performs a daily Yajna that helps make a young student a better person — socially, emotionally, psychologically, and physically — to face global challenges.
The Context	Despite global environmental problems, the young generation remains insensitive to environmental governance. In Indian tradition, Yajna is a device to sensitize the young generation to the environmental matrix. The Vishwavidyalaya has been practising daily Yajna since its inception. The initial challenge was inspiring students and staff from diverse backgrounds to participate, but once they joined, they came to appreciate the advantages and the peace of mind achieved through its performance.
The Practice	Vedic Philosophy emphasises the protection of the Environment. The Rigveda mentions that whatever we take from the environment, we should compensate by giving back in some form. Practising Yajna has two-fold benefits: (i) inculcating Vedic values among students, and (ii) compensating the environment by strengthening its properties beneficial to the health of all living beings.
Evidence of Success	Students from all over the country take admission in the Vishwavidyalaya with varying behavioural aspects. Significant positive behavioural changes have been observed, with students developing better regard for social and national patriotic values. Special Yajna performed to cure tuberculosis and for antimicrobial effects has established that microbes responsible for tuberculosis decrease in the vicinity where Yajna is performed. Additionally, the level of fungi in the experimental area was found to decrease, demonstrating that performing Yajna also has disease-curing benefits.
Problems Encountered	While conducting Yajna for specific purposes, the selection of appropriate Samidhas (sacrificial wood) posed a challenge. Vedic literature was consulted and specific categories of Samidhas were chosen accordingly. Variable daily weather conditions were also encountered as a challenge.
Notes	The above practice is universal and may be adopted by any institution with no requirements of much infrastructure or resources.