



Photograph by Rohan Thomas Cherian

Reports



SETU – BRIDGE COURSE



To help the students get acquainted with English Literature, Interpreting Literature and the tools that are used for analysing, interpreting, and understanding literature, the department of English conducts a Bridge Course every year. The Bridge course, thus named, **Setu** - is a launch pad to set the students on the literary path of learning and discovery. The duration of Setu is **30 contact hours** that would then culminate into an **Exit Test**, to help students analyse the addition to their knowledge and also strengthen their understanding.

The course was conducted online and commemorated with an official Notice announcing the beginning of the course from **22nd July to 8th August 2024**.

A separate syllabus was made for both the undergraduate and postgraduate entrants and a Timetable was shared with them along with teacher wise links. The Exit test for the course was conducted on **9th August 2024**. A total of 23 students benefited from the course at the undergraduate level and a total of 22 students attempted the Exit test. At the postgraduate level, around 20 students got enrolled and passed the exit test too!

The course was successfully completed before the Freshers' started their regular classes with their core subjects. Thus, they came prepared with a background about the subject and got easily attuned to the subject that was new for a majority of them.



CHAPTER 1: ORIENTATION DAY



The Department of English organised its orientation day on **10th August 2024** for UG and PG students of the academic session 2024-25. The title of the orientation program was '**Chapter 1 – Orientation Day**', and it was held in Room No. 321 at 8:50 AM. Many ice-breaking sessions were organised for the students, and an orientation of department activities and academics was also introduced. The teacher coordinator for the event was Mr Rohan Thomas Cherian and he was assisted by a team of students from second and

third year undergraduate studies in English. Mr. Rohan Thomas Cherian explained both UG and PG students of their courses and papers in their curriculum, also emphasised on the importance of attendance. He also explained the importance of library hours, MOOC/SWAYAM, and assignments. The student team explained the co-curricular activities conducted by the department. The student coordinator for the same was Ms Pranjal Saini. The event was received positively by the freshers.



CERTIFICATE COURSE ON ELEMENTARY ENGLISH



The certificate course in Elementary English organised by the Department of English in collaboration with ISREAC and UBA Cell for the students of **Mahatma Gandhi Govt. School, Khatwara** was held from **31.09.2024 till 5.10.2024**. Department students conducted interactive English language sessions, focusing on foundational skills, for students in grades VI-VIII. The well-structured English curriculum covered language skills, incorporating both theoretical grammar and practical, interactive exercises for the students. The teacher coordinator for the same was **Dr. Rama Hirawat**.

Ayushi Jain and **Salome D'Souza** from B.A. English Hons III served as the student coordinators. Aashna Jain, Aineen Alvi, Aniruddh Singh Rathore, Ayushi Jain, Pranjal Saini, Prateeksha Gaur, and Salome D'Souza (B.A. English Hons II-III) served as the course instructors.

Classes 6th, 7th, and 8th: Grammar Lessons:

Students received in-depth instruction in grammar topics, including nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, conjunctions, prepositions, gender nouns, synonyms and antonyms, tenses and articles.



These lessons were designed to improve their understanding and application of these fundamental elements of the English language.

Interactive Activities:

Interactive sessions were conducted to engage students actively in the learning process. Games, quizzes, worksheets, and group activities were used to make learning fun, and reinforce their understanding of the topics taught.

Homework Assignments:

Students were assigned homework related to the topics covered in class. This homework aimed to enhance their comprehension and application of grammar rules.

Final Assessment:

A final assessment took place on 4th October 2024, evaluating students' knowledge and understanding of the topics covered throughout the course. An exit test along with a speaking skills test was taken in each class.

Student Engagement and Progress:

Throughout the course, students displayed enthusiasm and active participation in their classes. They exhibited improvement in their grammar skills, reading and recitation abilities.

Facilitation Ceremony

On 5th October 2024, the closing day ceremony took place in which rewards and certificates were distributed.

The ceremony was attended by Rev, Father Principal Prof. S. Xavier SJ, Fr Dr M Amaldass SJ, Dean, R & D, Rama Hirawat, Dr Ranjit Kaur Ma'am, Dr Shruti Rawal Ma'am, Dr Atiq Kelsy, Dr Akanksha Johar Ma'am and Mr Rohan Thomas Cherian sir. The student coordinators were given certificates and trophies for commendable work, and the student teachers were given Certificates. From each class, the three best students were rewarded as well-

6th: 1. Menka Dhanka

2. Gauri Shankar

3. Vikas Prajapat

7th: 1. Chhavvi

2. Sanjana

3. Ankita

8th: 1. Bharat

2. Kritika

3. Himadri

Besides Star students, from each class, one STAR INSTRUCTOR was also rewarded-

6th - Aniruddh Singh Rathore

7th - Aineen

8th - Danika

The certificate course on the foundation of English provided students with a comprehensive and engaging learning experience. It taught them essential language skills and improved their reading and speaking abilities. The teaching team's collaborative efforts and the students' dedication resulted in a successful course.



EXPERT SESSION ON CAREER OPPORTUNITIES & UGC NET/SET EXAM PREPARATION



Xavier's ELT Research Centre (XERC) in collaboration with the Department of English organized an expert session on **Career Opportunities & UGC NET/SET Exam Preparation** on 11 September 2024 at 10:30 am in the college auditorium. The speaker of the session was **Dr Arpita Karwa** who is an alumna of the department of English of the college. The session was moderated by a panel of postgraduate students of English: Devangshree Saini, Paras Yadav and Saina Agarwal who asked pertinent questions regarding NET preparations.

Dr Karwa elaborated on the important aspects of the preparations for the competitive exam and the importance of consistency and hard work in the process. She also answered questions from the audience that related to distractions in the form of phones and shared practical tips to stay focussed. Prof Fr S. Xavier, Principal appreciated Dr Karwa's efforts and guidance. Dr Ranjit Kaur, Coordinator XERC extended a formal vote of thanks.



INTERVIEWS CONDUCTED FOR LITERATI COUNCIL AND ENLIGHTENED ECHELON



The Department of English conducted interviews for the Literati Council and the Enlightened Echelon on **11th September 2024**. Both councils play vital roles within the department, with the Literati Council overseeing significant literary events such as **Inka**, **Proscenium**, and other department activities, while the Enlightened Echelon leads social welfare initiatives, including **Pre-Inka**, **Syaahi**, and **Whisper No More**.

Students from all three years in the department enthusiastically sat for the interviews. The selection process was rigorous, with candidates expressing

their visions and ideas for taking the department's initiatives to new heights. The panel of interviewers included the Head of the Department, Dr. Rama Hirawat, and faculty members Dr. Ranjit Kaur, Dr. Atiqa Kelsy, Dr. Shruti Rawal, and Mr. Rohan Thomas Cherian. They fairly evaluated students on the basis of their skillset and commitment to the department.

After a thorough evaluation, the results were announced on 20th September. The selected students will now take on key roles in organising and leading department initiatives in the coming year.



PROSCENIUM EDITION III



The Department of English organized the **third edition of Proscenium on 12th September 2024** at 9:30 am in the college auditorium. It is an intra-department play competition in which the students of different classes perform prominent scenes of various plays. The plays performed included: **Doctor Faustus (two scenes), Macbeth, As You Like It, Hamlet, Lady Windermere's Fan, and A Doll's House.** Prof Fr S. Xavier, Principal motivated the students and complimented them for their brilliant performances.





Dr Rama Hirawat, Head, expressed her appreciation for the students' performances. Thereafter, the judges: Dr Ranjit Kaur, Dr Atiqa Kelsy and Mr Rohan Thomas Cherian shared their insights and gave valuable feedback to the students. Dr Shruti Rawal, Coordinator extended a formal vote of thanks expressing her gratitude to the Management, the department and the students.

Dr Rama Hirawat declared the results which were as follows:

Best Actor (Male) – Kush Godara

Best Actress (Female) – Bhavika Sharma & Bhaswati Kalita

Best Play – As You Like It (BA Eng I) & Doctor Faustus (BA Eng II)

LITERARY EXPLORATIONS: A COLLABORATIVE LECTURE SERIES



The Department of English organized a lecture under **Literary Explorations: A Collaborative Lecture Series** (Hybrid Mode), in collaboration with Patna Women's College (Autonomous), Patna; Kristu Jayanti College (Autonomous), Bengaluru; Sophia Girls' College (Autonomous), Ajmer and General Shivdev Singh Diwan Gurbachan Singh Khalsa College (Autonomous), Patiala. The first lecture of the series was delivered by Dr Shruti Rawal from the Department of English at St. Xavier's College Jaipur. The session's title was **The Tales of Cities: Literary Urbanism and the City's Soul**. She elaborated on the aspects of cities, their evolution in

history and the different theoretical frameworks in which cities could be studied. The session elaborately discussed literary urbanism which is the representation of cities in literature and the dynamics of the same. She elaborated on the literary texts that have cities in the backdrop and emerge as a character that shaped the identities of others. She then discussed in detail the city of Istanbul and its representation in the works of Orhan Pamuk. Soulful aspects of feelings related to cities like huzun, saudade and tristesse were compared and contrasted. The session ended with questions from the students followed by an exit test.



LET'S TALK I: LAAPATAA LADIES

MOVIE SCREENING AND GROUP DISCUSSION



A screening of the movie '*Laapataa Ladies*' was held by the Gender Study and Women's Cell in collaboration with the Department of English, on 18 September 2024. *Laapataa Ladies* is a 2024 Indian Hindi-language comedy-drama film directed by Kiran Rao. This film has been selected as the Official Entry from India for the Best International Feature Film for the 97th Academy Awards. It stars Nitanshi Goel, Pratibha Ranta, Sparsh Shrivastava, Chhaya Kadam and Ravi Kishan, and tells the story of two young newly-wed brides who get exchanged during a train ride to their husband's homes.

The film explores the challenges pertaining to gender within the patriarchal Indian Society.

Almost 80 students watched the film and experienced the dilemma of the characters as was evident by their fervent group discussion that followed the 2 hour movie.

ENLIGHTENED ECHELON

SYAAHI- ANNUAL STATIONERY DISTRIBUTION DRIVE



SYAAHI, Stationery Donation Drive, annually organized by **Enlightened Echelon** was conducted on **5th October, 2024** this year. It was conducted in collaboration with **ISREAC** and **UBA Cell** at **Mahatma Gandhi Government School, Khatwara**. The aim of SYAAHI is to encourage college students to realize their social responsibilities and help the underprivileged school students in empowering them for education.

The drive was notably attended by Rev. Fr. Raymond Cherubin SJ, Dr. Ranjit Kaur, Dr Mamta Pareek and Mr. Rohan Thomas Cherian. The teacher coordinator for the drive was Dr. Rama Hirawat, Head, Department of English.

The student coordinators were Ayushi Jain and Salome D'Souza from BA English Hons - III, and the volunteers were Aniruddh Singh Rathore and Jaya Kanwar from BA English Hons - II, and Saniya Soni from BA English Hons I. Other student attendees were Pranjal Saini, Aineen Alvi, and Divya Jain.

The team successfully collected and distributed various stationery items like pens, notebooks and pencils, significantly benefiting underprivileged children while fostering community spirit and social responsibility among participants.



STORIES THAT MATTER: THE POWER OF JOURNALISM IN SHAPING PUBLIC OPINION



The Department of English of St. Xavier's College Jaipur, organised an Alumni Interaction Session on the topic '**Stories that Matter: The Power of Journalism in Shaping Public Opinion**' on **7th October 2024**. The speaker of the session was **Mr. Akashdeep Virk**, Sub-editor at The Tribune, one of Northern India's leading English newspapers and an alumna of the Undergraduate batch of 2015-2018. The event was held in the conference hall and organised by teacher coordinator **Dr Ranjit Kaur** and student coordinator **Ms. Khyati Kapoor**. The session began with a warm welcome by the emcees, Khyati Kapoor and Gauri, who introduced the purpose of the session and the significance of engaging with industry professionals.

Fr Dr. Raymond Cherubin SJ, Vice Principal of St. Xavier's College, delivered an inspiring welcome address. He highlighted the crucial role of journalism in democracy, emphasising how well-crafted stories can inform, educate, and influence public opinion.

Mr Akashdeep Virk, sub-editor at The Tribune, has also served as a Content Planner and Public Relations Manager at Design Boxed in Chandigarh, a Researcher at Swastika Political Consultants, and a Research Associate at Pinaca India. Akashdeep has also dedicated his time to volunteering, notably as a caretaker for L'Arche International in Bengaluru.



He presented a compelling session on the impact of journalism and the key points included:

- **The Role of Journalists:** Exploring the responsibilities of journalists in ensuring accurate and ethical reporting.
- **Storytelling Techniques:** Discussing how powerful narratives can shape public perception and drive social change.
- **Challenges in Journalism:** Addressing issues like misinformation, bias, and the impact of digital media on traditional journalism.



The session provided a platform for 50+ students from the Department of English & Political Science of our college to engage with an accomplished journalist, Mr. Akashdeep Virk, and gain insights into the critical role of journalism in shaping public opinion. It emphasised storytelling's impact on society and underscored journalists' ethical responsibilities.

The interactive Q&A session allowed students to engage directly with Mr. Virk. Students posed questions related to Career paths in journalism, Strategies for effective storytelling, particularly for media and the influence of social media on public opinion. Mr Virk was honoured with a token of appreciation for his valuable contributions to the field of journalism and for sharing his insights with students.

The event ended with a vote of thanks from Dr. Ranjit Kaur, the academic coordinator of St. Xavier's College Jaipur. On behalf of the team, she expressed her gratitude to Mr. Virk for his informative and engaging session, the college management, the Department of English & Political Science faculty members, and the students who attended and showed proactive participation in making it a success. A group photograph was taken to remember the successful session, capturing the engagement between students and professionals.

The Alumni Interaction Session achieved its objectives, providing students with valuable insights into journalism's power and challenges. The Department of English looks forward to organising similar events that bridge the gap between academia and industry, enriching the educational experience of its students.



FIRST INDIA NEWS CHANNEL MEDIA HOUSE VISIT



The Departments of Political Science and Department of English, St. Xavier's College, jointly initiated "Exploring Media Dramatics: A Visit to the First India News Channel." The visit took place from 12 noon to 1:30 p.m. at Chhanel's office located at Sahkar Marg, 22 Godam, Jaipur. This initiative was designed to provide students with a hands-on experience of media functioning and to bridge the gap between theoretical knowledge and real-world media operations. The primary objectives of the field visit were to provide practical experience in media functioning, an understanding of newsroom operations, new production, and interactions with media professionals.

The outcome of this field visit was to Understand media operations and newsroom dynamics, Insights into media professionals' needs and preferences, and Familiarity with media channels' target audiences. Through this field visit, students were expected to gain a deeper understanding of the following areas: **Media operations and newsroom dynamics, Insights into the preferences and challenges faced by media professionals and Familiarity with target audiences.** The visit helped students understand how media channels tailor their content to meet the preferences and expectations of their diverse viewers. A major highlight of the visit was the interaction with key



figures at the news channel, including Mr. Shekhawat, the channel's Editor, Ms. Dimple Sharma, a senior reporter, and Mr. Mukesh, an HR professional, along with their dedicated team. These industry veterans shared valuable insights and experiences, leaving a lasting impact on both students and faculty. Their knowledge, professionalism, and passion for their work greatly inspired the students, encouraging them to think critically about potential careers in the media.



The visit became successful because of the constant support of Father S. Xavier SJ, Principal Father Raymond Cherubin SJ, Vice Principal of the college, Faculty Coordinator Dr. Denny Shahji, Dr. Mamta Pareek Department of Political Science and Dr. Ranjit Kaur Department of English. The student played an important role in making the visit memorable and valuable.

Moreover, the enthusiasm and active participation of the students contributed significantly to the success of the visit. Their curiosity, engagement, and willingness to learn made the experience not only educational but also valuable, leaving a lasting impression on both the students and the faculty involved.

This successful initiative marks the beginning of more collaborative efforts between academic departments and media houses, aiming to provide students with more such opportunities to explore real-world dynamics in media and journalism.



ENLIGHTENED ECHELON PRE- INKA



This year's Pre-INKA was successfully organised on **November 14, 2024, Children's Day**, by **The Enlightened Echelon**, under the aegis of the Department of English, St. Xavier's College Jaipur. This social initiative aimed to share the joy and festivities of **INKA 2024** with the children of **Bal Basera**, a transit shelter home run by TAABAR.

Under the guidance of the teacher coordinator Dr Rama Hirawat, team Enlightened Echelon, Ayushi Jain and Salome D'Souza from 3rd year, and Aniruddh Singh Rathore and Jaya Kanwar from 2nd Year, organised

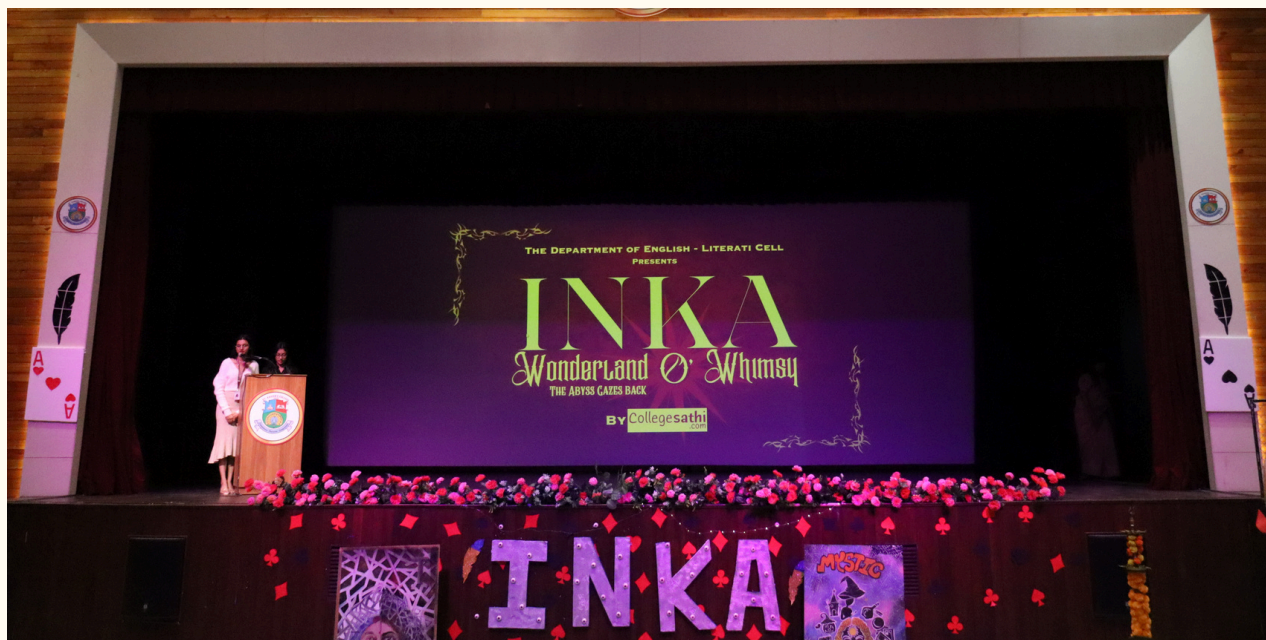
various creative activities for the students which included Coloring sheet activity, singing and poetry recitation which facilitated an enjoyable involvement between young ones and the students of the Department of English.

The event was a collaborative effort, with the students of the English Department working diligently to collect funds for the donation of socks, woollen hats and stationery items to the shelter home and make it a memorable event. By sharing joy and spreading warmth, the students of St. Xavier's College Jaipur made a positive impact on the lives of the children at Bal Basera.



INKA 2024

WONDERLAND O' WHIMSY: THE ABYSS GAZES BACK



The 2024 edition of the Annual Literature Festival of St. Xavier's College Jaipur, was organized on **22nd November, 2024**, titled- **"INKA '24- Wonderland O' Whimsy: The Abyss Gazes Back"**, sponsored by **College Saathi**.

The name **'INKA'** comes from the image of ink flowing across paper, transforming tangled thoughts into wonderful sceneries with simple swirls called words. For the Department of English, it is synonymous with a day meant for reveling in the world of literature and pushing boundaries of creativity. This year's theme- gothic and absurd literature, drew inspiration from works like S. T. Coleridge's *Christabel* and the famed absurdist work *Alice in Wonderland* by Lewis Carol.

The Literati Council is given the herculean task of organising INKA year after year, and each time, they surpass all expectations and deliver successfully. From contacting authors and judges to approaching potential sponsors, from writing concept notes and designing posters to ensuring smooth execution of everything on the day, the Literati Council, under the presidency of Pranjal Saini managed everything seamlessly.

The workforce was divided into various committees like admin, marketing, technical, editorial and so on. The inaugural ceremony started the event for the participants and transformed the nervousness of the organizing committee into excitement.



It was held in the auditorium from **10:15 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.** It ended with the schedule entailing the order in which the various events would take place being announced. It was immediately followed by '**Plathian Paradise**', i.e. poetry slam in collaboration with **Kommune Jaipur**. Heart wrenching entries from students of St. Xavier's college and other colleges were recited in both Hindi and English. The event was a massive hit. It proved that no boundaries called languages exist for those who love literature.

The participants then moved from the auditorium to the north quadrangle for the next event- **Cold Brewed Conundrums a.k.a Coffee Tales**. One of the biggest signature events of INKA after **poetry slam**, coffee tales ended with new bonds between the participants being forged by the ardent flames of shared enthusiasm for gothic and absurd literature.

An **Author's Session** was held with the critically acclaimed writer, **Ms. Annie Zaidi** in the conference room. Her witty replies and wise insights were truly a delight.

The closing ceremony followed shortly after. The winners of Plathian Paradise and Cold Brewed Conundrums were announced alongside Best Personnel for each committee. Fr. Principal then voiced his thoughts about the fest and appreciation for the faculty and the organising committee. It was a touching moment and tears of happiness could be seen in the eyes of many after the closing ceremony.

Lastly, it was time for the most anticipated event of the day, "**Looking Glass Gala: Wonderland Soiree**" or the famed masquerade, the characteristic ball of the Xavier's Literature Festival- INKA. Beautiful silky gowns and dashing suits were donned in each corner one laid their eyes on.

In the end, it was a day with a mesmerizing beginning and an unforgettable ending. Memories were made, for both participants and the organizing committee, treasured for a lifetime.



VISIT TO JAIPUR LITERATURE FESTIVAL 2025



The Department of English at St. Xavier's College Jaipur, organized an academic visit to the Jaipur Literature Festival (JLF) from **30 January to 3 February 2025 at Clarks Amer, Jaipur**. This visit provided students with an exceptional opportunity to engage with **renowned authors, scholars, and intellectuals** from across the world. The festival, often referred to as the “Greatest Literary Show on Earth,” featured insightful panel discussions, book launches, and interactive sessions that enriched the participants' literary and cultural perspectives. The students were able to explore various themes ranging from **postcolonial studies, gender narratives, city literature, and artificial intelligence in literature**, aligning with their academic curriculum.

During the visit, students attended several sessions led by award-winning writers, poets, and critics like David Nicholls, Tina Brown, John Vaillant, André Aciman, Cauvery Madhavan, Imtiaz Ali, Javed Akhtar, Anirudh Kanisetti, Nathan Thrall, Anna Funder, Manav Kaul, Rahul Bose, Priyanka Mattoo, Abhijit Banerjee, Andrew O'Hagan, and Geetanjali Shree and others which helped them gain a deeper understanding of contemporary literary trends. The festival also provided a platform for students to interact with publishers, literary agents, and aspiring writers, giving them insight into the publishing industry and career opportunities. Additionally, the festival's vibrant atmosphere, with its **cultural performances, art exhibits, and book signings**, further enhanced the immersive literary experience.



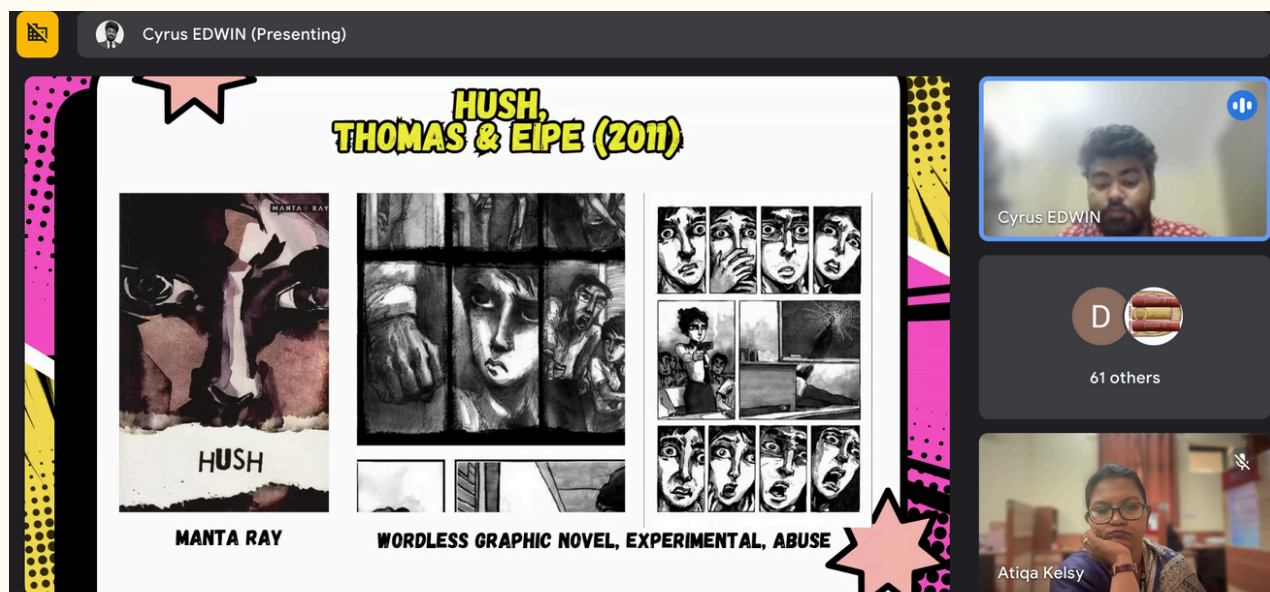
The visit was highly beneficial for students, fostering critical thinking, intellectual curiosity, and an appreciation for diverse literary traditions. It strengthened their academic foundation while exposing them to global perspectives on literature and culture. The Department of English expresses gratitude to the faculty coordinators, student volunteers, and Jaipur Literature Festival organizers for making this visit a success. Such experiences reaffirm the department's commitment to promoting literary discourse and academic excellence beyond classroom learning.

Outcome of the Visit

It fostered experiential learning through direct engagement with global literary figures, aligning with interdisciplinary and multicultural education. The visit encouraged research-oriented discussions on emerging literary themes, potentially leading to publications and academic projects. It also provided career exposure to students, strengthening industry-academia interactions.



FR. SEBASTIAN ANAND MEMORIAL LECTURE COLOUR, COMICS AND THE INDIAN GRAPHIC IMAGINATION



The Department of English of St. Xavier's College Jaipur organised the **2nd Fr. Sebastian Anand Memorial lecture**, titled, ***"Colour, Comics, and the Indian Graphic Imagination"*** on **12th March 2025**. The lecture was headed by **Mr. Cyrus Derek Edwin**, a proud alumnus of the Department of English at St. Xavier's College Jaipur.

It was an online lecture and started with Teacher Coordinator, Mr. Rohan Thomas Cherian introducing the attendees to Fr. Sebastian Anand and his legacy and the resource person for the lecture, after which Principal, Rev. Fr. Dr. Arokyswamy SJ, took to the gathering to acknowledge the contributions of Fr. Sebastian Anand towards the institution, and bless the gathering with his words.

Mr. Cyrus Derek Edwin, who is an assistant professor at JECRC University, Jaipur, started his talk by introducing the attendees to the basics of a comic book or a graphic novel and the different eras defined within this subgenre of literature like the 'Golden Era', from which the modern trope of superheroes arise. He also talked about the different categories within the graphic media like comic strips, comic books, and graphic novels. Mr. Edwin's talk also addressed the political issues and the propaganda that the comic book as a media used to, and still in a lot of ways tackle. The allegory for Jewish-American suffering hidden within Marvel's "X-Men" and the first artistic representation of the Rosa Parks incident being in a comic strip cement

the subgenre's reputation as a home to many struggles and stories that do not find the necessary space in traditional and mass media. He then talked about the Indian writers and illustrators and their works leading the way in the Indian graphic novel scene like, "The River of Stories" by Orijit Sen, "Corridor" by Sarnath Banerjee, and "Delhi Calm" by Vishwajyoti Ghosh.

The event came to an end with a question and answer session where the students of the Department of English – 73 in attendance (including, UG, PG, and PhD scholars of the Department of English) – asked Mr. Edwin questions relating to topics like the Indian comic scarcity, tackling queer issues in graphic media, Mr. Edwin's interest in the medium itself, and the prejudice against comic books and graphic novels as mediums of storytelling, followed by a note of gratitude by the teacher coordinator and a group photograph of the organisers and the attendees.



PERCEPTIONS 2024-25: CINEMATIC LANDSCAPES: SPACES AND CULTURES IN INDIAN FILMS



The Department of English at St. Xavier's College Jaipur, organized the annual event '**Perceptions 2024-25,**' an intra-department PowerPoint presentation (PPT) competition focusing on the theme 'Cinematic Landscapes: Spaces and Cultures in Indian Films.' The event was held on **25th March, 2025** in the Conference Room of the college. The competition aimed to explore how Indian films depict various cultural and geographical landscapes, providing students with an opportunity to critically analyze and present their perspectives on the subject.

The competition witnessed enthusiastic participation from students across different disciplines. Each participant presented unique insights into how

Indian cinema portrays urban and rural spaces, cultural identities, historical backdrops, and regional diversities including cities of Udaipur, Jaipur, Kolkata and Gwalior. The presentations covered a wide range of films, including mainstream Bollywood productions and regional cinema, shedding light on the socio-cultural narratives embedded within these cinematic representations. The judges of the event were Dr Ranjit Kaur and Dr Atiq Kelsy. The event also included an engaging discussion session where students and faculty deliberated on the evolution of Indian cinematic landscapes and their impact on popular culture. The competition concluded with the announcement of winners, recognizing the most insightful and well-researched presentations.



The first prize was awarded to **Bhaswati Kalita**, second to **Tisha Jain** and third to **Khyati Kapoor**. The event concluded with the final remarks from Dr Rama Hirawat and a formal vote of thanks by the coordinator Dr Shruti Rawal.



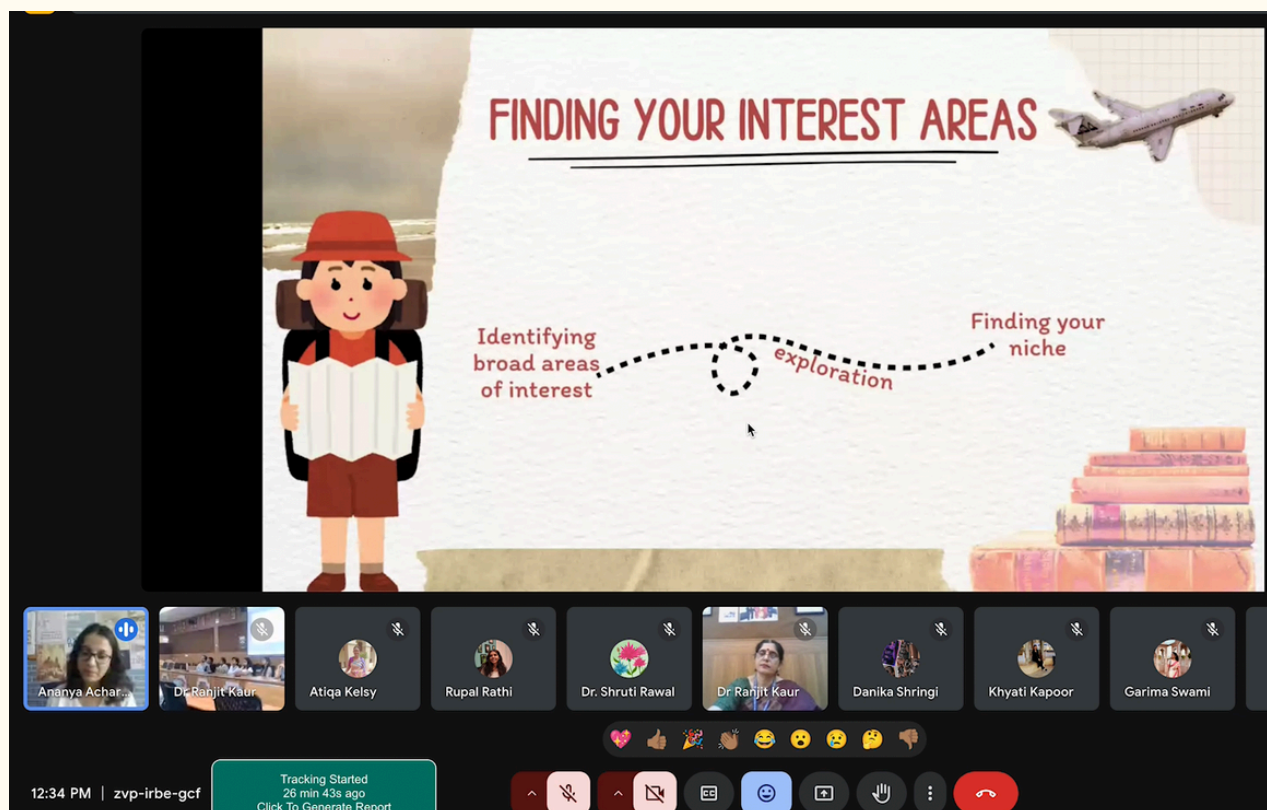
interdisciplinary dialogue, bridging literature, film studies, and cultural criticism. Enthusiastic discussions and insightful analyses showcased students' research abilities and creativity. The competition also strengthened collaborative learning and public speaking skills. By the end, students gained a nuanced appreciation of Indian films as cultural texts, making the event a valuable academic exercise that contributed to their intellectual and personal growth.

Outcome of the Activity

The Perceptions 2024-25 PPT competition successfully fostered critical engagement with Indian cinema, enhancing students' analytical and presentation skills. Participants explored diverse cinematic landscapes, deepening their understanding of cultural narratives, spatial representations, and sociopolitical contexts in films. The event encouraged



BEYOND THE CLASSROOM: NAVIGATING RESEARCH AND ACADEMIA



The Department of English, in collaboration with **Xavier's ELT Research Centre (XERC)**, organised an enriching **Alumni Interaction Session** titled *Beyond the Classroom: Navigating Research and Academia* on **17th April 2025**. The event aimed to provide valuable insights into academic and research opportunities and foster a deeper understanding of the academic world. The session was conducted in a **hybrid mode**, with the on-campus audience gathered in the Conference Hall and a virtual option provided via Google Meet to ensure accessibility. The session commenced at 12:00 noon onwards and witnessed

active participation from students, with special emphasis on attendees from the Department of English.

The speaker for the session was Ms. **Ananya Acharya**, a distinguished alumna of the Department (Batch of 2022–24), a **University Gold Medalist**. She is also the founder and curator of *Khuli Kitaab*, a dynamic book club that fosters a vibrant community of readers. Drawing from her academic journey and professional initiatives, Ms. Acharya shared her experiences navigating the educational landscape post-graduation, including the challenges and opportunities in research and higher education.



The idea was to connect the students' academic experiences with actual research exposure and post-academic learning experiences. Ananya described her rise through the academic pathway in a way that was both grounded and motivating, helping students understand how to begin and navigate the essentials of research work and writing.

The session proved to be highly interactive and informative, offering students a platform to engage with a recent graduate who has successfully transitioned into academia and the literary community. Attendees were encouraged to ask questions, seek advice, and reflect on their academic aspirations.

Student Coordinators **Khyati Kapoor** and **Paras Yadav** efficiently managed the event logistics and communication, ensuring smooth coordination throughout the event. The interaction session concluded with a vote of thanks by faculty coordinator **Dr. Ranjit Kaur** and a resounding appreciation for Ms. Acharya's inspiring talk, which motivated and informed the participants about the path ahead.

Outcomes of the Session:

- Encouraged a foundational understanding of research writing and demystified the academic paper development process for young scholars.
- Provided firsthand, experience-based guidance on navigating academia after postgraduation.
- Bridged the gap between classroom learning and real academic practices through alum experience sharing.
- Enhanced clarity and confidence in university exam preparation through strategic answer-writing tips.
- Fostered interactive dialogue and mentorship, creating an enriching peer-alumni connection.



NAVIGATING THE GLOBAL EDUCATION LANDSCAPE: STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS IN HIGHER EDUCATION



The Departments of Computer Science, English, and Arts at St. Xavier's College, Jaipur, jointly organised an enriching interactive session titled **"Navigating the Global Education Landscape: Strategies"** on 6th May 2025 in collaboration with **Jamboree Education Pvt. Ltd.** The session commenced at 10:00 AM with a warm welcome address by **Fr. Dr. Arokya Swamy SJ**, Principal of the College, who emphasised the institution's focus on holistic and globally attuned education.

The resource person, **Prof. Alok Jagga**, a renowned academic and trainer for competitive exams such as GMAT, GRE, CAT, and SAT, delivered a high-impact 60-minute session that engaged a diverse audience of 175 students.

His address focused on evolving global education methodologies, career-aligned skill development, and strategies for pursuing higher education abroad. The session also included valuable insights into preparing for international standardised tests and understanding interdisciplinary educational pathways.

A vibrant and interactive Q&A segment followed, during which students raised pertinent queries related to global academic pursuits and competitive exam planning. The event concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. Ranjit Kaur, Academic Coordinator, who appreciated the collaborative efforts of student volunteers Subraanshu Pratap Singh, Shreeja Seth, and Ayushi Choudhary, as



well as faculty coordinators **Dr. Ranjit Kaur, Dr. Arpita Banerjee, and Ms. Mrinalini Faujdar.**

The session stood out for its seamless coordination, rich content, and active student engagement. One of the most notable aspects was the diverse and enthusiastic participation of 175 students from different disciplines, which reflected the relevance and appeal of the theme. The presence of a renowned expert like Prof. Alok Jagga brought credibility and depth to the discussion, as he effectively linked global education trends with practical strategies for success in competitive exams.

The structure of the session—from introductory remarks to the interactive Q&A—was thoughtfully designed to maintain interest and ensure meaningful takeaways. A key highlight was the speaker's ability to simplify complex concepts such as application timelines, exam patterns, and global university expectations. The involvement of trained student volunteers and proactive faculty coordinators ensured smooth logistics and a professional learning environment. The session also provided a platform for real-time dialogue, encouraging students to voice aspirations and clarify doubts about studying abroad.

The session provided several significant takeaways for students aspiring to pursue global academic opportunities, underscoring the importance of adaptability in a rapidly evolving global education environment and emphasizing interdisciplinary learning as a vital strategy for career success. Prof. Alok Jagga's insights on test preparation for exams like the **GRE, GMAT, and SAT** helped students understand the structure, approach, and timelines necessary for competitive performance. Students also gained clarity on aligning academic choices with long-term career pathways.

The interactive format encouraged curiosity, with students asking questions related to scholarships, international university selection, and balancing academics with preparation. Additionally, the event fostered valuable networking among faculty, students, and guest speakers, enhancing collaborative learning. The session also encouraged students to take initiative in their academic planning and introduced them to reliable educational support platforms like Jamboree. Overall, the event contributed meaningfully to students' global readiness and academic confidence.

