4.3.1 - Providing Access of University Resources to General Public

Providing access to university resources for the general public is of immense importance for several reasons:

- Democratizing Education: By opening up libraries, research facilities, online courses, and other resources, universities can extend the reach of education beyond their enrolled students, making learning accessible to a wider audience.
- 2. Fostering Lifelong Learning: Access to university resources supports the concept of lifelong learning, encouraging individuals to continually develop their knowledge and skills, regardless of their age or educational background.
- Community Engagement: Sharing resources helps universities engage more deeply with their communities. It positions the institution as a hub for knowledge and innovation, fostering stronger community ties and collaboration.
- 4. Promoting Research and Innovation: Public access to research papers, data, and academic publications can stimulate new ideas and innovations. It allows a broader group of people to contribute to and benefit from academic discoveries.
- 5. Economic and Social Benefits: Educating the broader public can have significant economic and social benefits. For instance, providing access to business resources and training can help local entrepreneurs, while educational programs can address social issues like health and sustainability.
- 6. Building Public Trust and Support: Transparent sharing of resources builds public trust and demonstrates the university's commitment to social responsibility. It can enhance the institution's reputation and garner support from the community and stakeholders.
- 7. Encouraging Diversity and Inclusion: Making resources accessible to all promotes diversity and inclusion, ensuring that people from various backgrounds have the opportunity to learn and grow.
- 8. Enhancing Cultural and Intellectual Life: Universities often have unique cultural and intellectual resources, such as art collections, historical archives, and scientific data. Making these accessible enriches the cultural and intellectual life of the community.

Manav Rachna University supports providing access to university resources for the general public as it enhances individual growth and societal well-being and also strengthens the role of the university as a key contributor to the community and the broader knowledge economy.

The list of some of the initiatives in this direction is shared in the document.

"Kaushal": A Skill Development Program

What is Kaushal Kaaryashaala?

Approximately 47 million students drop out of school. They drop out of school to help support their families financially. The majority are unskilled and untrained, and they are vulnerable to exploitation by society and market forces. The **Kaushal Kaaryashaala** Initiative of Dr. OP Bhalla Foundation aims to empower the Government School Students of Faridabad from standard 9th to 12th through a variety of skill development program via. online and offline hybrid teaching method and providing necessary skill sets for better employment opportunities in the higher paying jobs.

Innovation and Incubation centre (IIC) MRU in association with the Dr. O P Bhalla Foundation has been diligently working on enhancing the skill development of Government School Students through its initiative called **Kaushal**. Under the mission of enhancing the skill of Government School Students and making them ready for job through its initiative called Kaushal Karyashala. The students were taught the basics of Microsoft Office emphasizing on MS Word. The Program is being conducted by Dr Prashant Bhardwaj, and Dr. Jai Prakash Sharma with the guidance of Dr Parneeta Dhaliwal.

The students of this third batch belong to Grades 9 to 12 and are from GSSS Bhankri. Their enthusiasm was palpable during the inaugural class, where they delved into the basics of Hardware and Software, mastering essential skills such as operating a mouse. We are excited about the prospects of this new batch and remain committed to empowering these students with valuable IT skills that will undoubtedly shape their futures.

KAUSHAL KARYASHALA: 21st April 2022- 12th May 2022 Schedule of Classes : 2hrs per Week(Every Thursday) Detailed course content of the project Kaushal is as follows:

Course Content

Introduction to MS WINDOWS & COMPUTER BASICS

- Computer Basic, Creating Folder, Paint
- Directories, input units, Output unit
- Central Processing Units,
- What is hardware, what is Software
- Windows shortcut keys

A. MS WORD

Module 1: Text Basics

Module 2: Text Formatting and saving file

Module 3: Working with Objects

Module 4: Header & Footers

Module 5: Working with bullets and numbered lists

Module 6: Tables

Module 7: Styles and Content

Module 8: Proofing the document

Module 9: Printing

B. MS EXCEL

Module 10: Introduction to Excel

Module 11: Formatting excel workbook:

Module 12: Perform Calculations with Functions

Module 13: Sort and Filter Data with Excel

Module 14: Create Effective Charts to Present Data Visually

Module 15: Proofing and Printing

C. MS POWERPOINT

Module 16: Setting Up PowerPoint Environment:

Module 17: Creating slides and applying themes

Module 18: Working with bullets and numbering

Module 19: Working with Objects

Module 20: Hyperlinks and Action Buttons

Module 21: Working With Movies and Sounds

Module 22: Using SmartArt and Tables

Module 23: Animation and Slide Transition

Module 24: Using slide Master

Module 25: Slide show option

Module 26: Proofing and Printing

INTERNET & E-MAIL

- What is Internet?, Receiving Incoming Messages
- Sending Outgoing Messages, Email addressing
- Email attachments, Browsing, Search engines

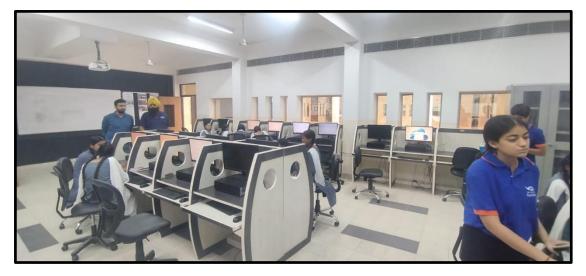
- Text chatting, Job Searching
- Downloading video and Music
- Uploading Video or Music, Voice chatting, Webcam Chatting etc.
- Introduction to Blogging, Facebook

Glimpses of the sessions:















Developing Content for Free Access to the General Public:

Developing content for free access to the general public holds immense significance in today's interconnected world. It democratizes knowledge, making it accessible to individuals regardless of their socio-economic background, location, or educational status. By removing barriers to information, we empower people to pursue lifelong learning, develop new skills, and stay informed about current events and advancements. This can lead to a more educated and enlightened society, fostering critical thinking and innovation. Moreover, freely accessible content can bridge educational gaps, providing resources to those who might not have access to traditional learning environments. It also promotes inclusivity and diversity, as a wider range of voices and perspectives can contribute to and benefit from shared knowledge. Manav Rachna University supports lifelong learning in its real essence and therefore, we have initiated the free course development on international platforms such as UNESCO and also upload lectures and study material on our website which is accessible to the general public.

FACULTY-LED OER DEVELOPMENT

Introduction

The faculty-led OER development project has been a valuable initiative that has contributed to UNESCO's mission of promoting quality education for all. OERs enhance student learning while breaking down barriers of affordability and accessibility. Manav Rachna University is among the few pioneer universities that supports quality education in its real essence. In this light, the university has taken the initiative to create courses on an international platform that are free of cost and accessible to all irrespective of their geographical boundaries, religion, caste and socioeconomic status. By creating high-quality, accessible, and reusable educational resources, the project has empowered learners and educators worldwide. This report provides an overview of the Open Educational Resources (OER) developed by faculty members at Manav Rachna University in collaboration with UNESCO. The project aimed to create high-quality, accessible, and reusable educational materials that align with UNESCO's goals of promoting quality education for all.

Aims and Objectives of the Project:

- To develop OER that addresses global educational challenges.
- To enhance the quality and accessibility of education worldwide.
- To empower educators and learners through open educational practices.
- To contribute to UNESCO's mission of building peace through education.

SOP of OER Development Process

The OER development process involved the following steps:

- 1. Needs Assessment:
 - Identified global educational needs and gaps.
 - Analyzed existing OER to determine areas for improvement.
 - Consulted with UNESCO experts and stakeholders to refine the focus areas.
- 2. Content Creation:
 - Faculty members collaborated to create a variety of OER, including:
 - Textbooks and course materials
 - Multimedia resources (videos, animations, simulations)
 - Interactive learning activities
 - Assessment tools
 - Adhered to open licensing standards (e.g., Creative Commons) to ensure reusability and remixing.
- 3. Quality Assurance:
 - Implemented rigorous quality assurance processes to ensure:
 - Accuracy and relevance of content
 - Accessibility for learners with diverse needs
 - Technical compatibility and interoperability
 - Alignment with UNESCO's educational frameworks and standards
- 4. Pilot Testing and Feedback:
 - Conducted pilot tests in various educational settings to gather feedback from users.
 - Incorporated feedback to refine the OER and improve their effectiveness.

- 5. Publication and Dissemination:
 - Published the OER on UNESCO's OER repository and other relevant platforms.
 - Promoted the OER through various channels, including social media, email, and workshops.

Impact and Outcomes

The faculty-led OER development project has had a significant impact on:

- Global Education:
 - Provided high-quality, accessible educational resources to learners worldwide.
 - Reduced the cost of education and increased access to learning opportunities.
 - Promoted innovative teaching and learning practices.
- Faculty Development:
 - Enhanced faculty members' digital literacy and pedagogical skills.
 - Fostered collaboration and knowledge sharing among educators.
 - Recognized faculty contributions to global education.
- Institutional Reputation:
 - Elevated the institution's reputation as a leader in open education.
 - Strengthened partnerships with UNESCO and other international organizations.

Details of OERs Developed so far:

Name of the Course	Name of Developer/	Year of
	Mentor	Development
Constructivism in online learning	Dr. Savita Sharma	2022
Literacy on Mental Health Issues	Dr. Rashee Singh	2023
Among Children		
Measuring Emotional Intelligence	Dr. Ritu Sharma	2023
"Nurturing Entrepreneurship	Dr. Savita Sharma	2023
Mindset: Making the Best of School		
Experiences",		

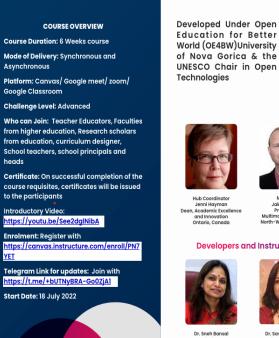
Note: Planning to increase the number to 10+ by the next academic year 2023- 24. Glimpses of the Courses developed so far:



ABOUT THE COURSE

The transition from in-classroom instruction to online instruction is a complex one involving specialized training in the technical aspects of delivering quality learning environment to the students and specialized training in how to foster the students' engagement within this new environment. Three schools of thoughts have been widely used and explored to provide guidance for instructional practice: behaviourism, cognitive psychology and constructivism. However of the three, constructivism has been identified as the most suitable one for online learning environment. Without proper pedagogical training and online experience, teachers will continue to replicate their best existing practices on to the online medium. This divergence between what works in the traditional classroom within stable cohort of learners communicating synchronously F2F is qualitatively different from an online asynchronous one. The course will enable you to design and execute your teaching in an online environment effectively based on constructivism strategies which will foster the students' engagements. This course shall be useful for teachers, trainers, and all persons interested in design and delivery of instruction in an online mode effectively with constructivist perspective.





Developers and Instructors

Dr. Sneh Bansal Principal, Chandigarh College of Education Мо

ENROL FOR FREE STARTS JULY 18

for a BETTER WORLD	UNESCO
To whom it may concern	Date: 13 th June 2023
CONFIRMATIO	N LETTER
We confirm that Anjaneya Sharma , from San accepted to the »Open Education for a Better organized by University of Nova Gorica and UNI Educational Resources (OER) and Open Learning	Norld« 2023 mentoring program, which is SCO Chair on Open Technologies for Open
Anjaneya Sharma developed an Open Edu Entrepreneurship Mindset: Making the Best of under the mentorship of Dr. Robert Schuwer, Ac Dolina and Dr. Savita Sharma from School of I University, Faridabad, India in a Hub Yo Consultant - Associate to the Jožef Stefan Institu	School Experiences", Three weeks MOOC j. Prof. from Nova Gorica University Rožna ducation and Humanities, Manav Rachna uth coordinated by Dr. Ervin Pfeifer,
Open Education for a Better World is a tup participants from all background, regions and c employ Open Educational Resources to solve large relation to today's global landscape. It involves with experts who act as their mentors for the hal	ontinents with the potential and desire to e scale and relevant problems important in uccessful applicants that have been paired
Yours sincerely,	
Anja Polajnar	
in the name of OE4BW organising team	

Conclusion

The faculty-led OER development project has been a valuable initiative that has contributed to UNESCO's mission of promoting quality education for all. By creating high-quality, accessible, and reusable educational resources, the project has empowered learners and educators worldwide. This project is continued in every academic cycle to reach-out to the maximum number of needful audiences.

GENERAL ACCESS TO THE STUDY MATERIAL

Introduction

In an era where information is the cornerstone of development, providing free and easy access to study materials online is pivotal. This initiative not only supports the democratization of knowledge but also fosters a culture of lifelong learning. By making educational resources accessible to a wider audience, institutions can bridge educational gaps, promote inclusivity, and contribute to the collective intellectual growth of society.

Objectives

Enhancing Accessibility: Ensure that educational resources are available to anyone with an internet connection, regardless of geographical or socio-economic barriers.

Promoting Lifelong Learning: Encourage individuals to continue learning and developing new skills throughout their lives.

Supporting Diverse Learning Needs: Cater to a wide range of learning preferences and needs through various formats of study materials.

Implementation Steps (SOPs OF UPLOADING CONTENT)

Content Selection and Creation:

- Identify key study materials that are beneficial for a broad audience. These could include lecture notes, textbooks, research articles, multimedia presentations, and interactive learning modules.
- Collaborate with subject matter experts to ensure the content is accurate, up-todate, and engaging.

Digitalization and Formatting:

• Convert physical materials into digital formats such as PDFs, eBooks, videos, and podcasts.

• Ensure all content is properly formatted for online use, including clear headings, readable fonts, and user-friendly layouts.

Legal and Ethical Considerations:

- Obtain necessary permissions and licenses for all copyrighted materials.
- Use open-access resources and Creative Commons licenses where possible to avoid legal issues.

Website Development and Design

- Develop a user-friendly website that is easy to navigate and search.
- Ensure the website is accessible to individuals with disabilities by following web accessibility standards (e.g., providing alt text for images, using accessible color schemes).

Content Upload and Organization

- Upload the study materials to the website, organizing them into categories and subcategories for easy navigation.
- Use metadata and tags to enhance the searchability of the content.

Promotion and Engagement

- Promote the website through social media, educational forums, and partnerships with other educational institutions.
- Encourage user engagement through interactive features such as comment sections, discussion forums, and feedback forms.

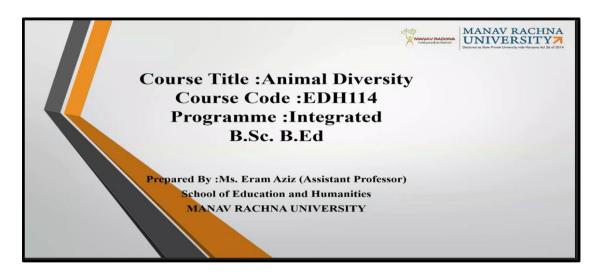
Maintenance and Updates

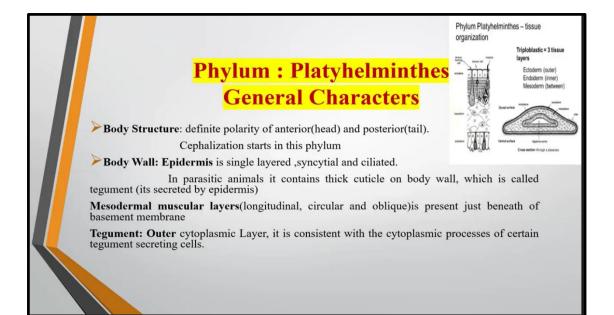
- Regularly update the content to keep it current and relevant.
- Monitor website performance and user feedback to make necessary improvements.

Conclusion

Uploading study materials on a website for general access is a significant step towards democratizing education and fostering a culture of continuous learning. By providing high-quality, accessible, and engaging resources, educational institutions can support the intellectual and personal growth of individuals worldwide. This initiative by the university not only benefited the learners but also enhanced the institution's role as a leader in the dissemination of knowledge.

Screenshots of the uploaded material:









AUTHORITARIAN

obediance, punishment over discipline

