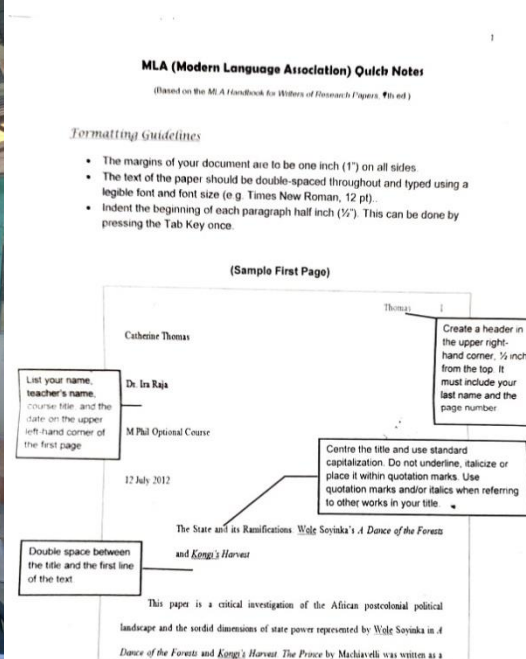




Session- 2022-2023

WORKSHOP ON THE MLA-STYLE SHEET

On the 14th and 15th of October 2022, the Department of English, St. Bede's College, Shimla, organised a workshop for their M.A. students on the MLA style sheet. Our faculty, Ms Annette James, conducted the workshop and focused on academic writing, format and citing sources according to the MLA Handbook (9th edition). The MLA Handbook, released by the Modern Language Association, helps researchers present their work in a standard and understandable design while allowing researchers to indulge in their research flexibly. The PG students were given handouts with tips for following the style sheet and academic writing. They were guided step-by-step to cite sources, make references, etc. They were encouraged to adopt the format to write their assignments to prepare them well for research writing when pursuing further studies.





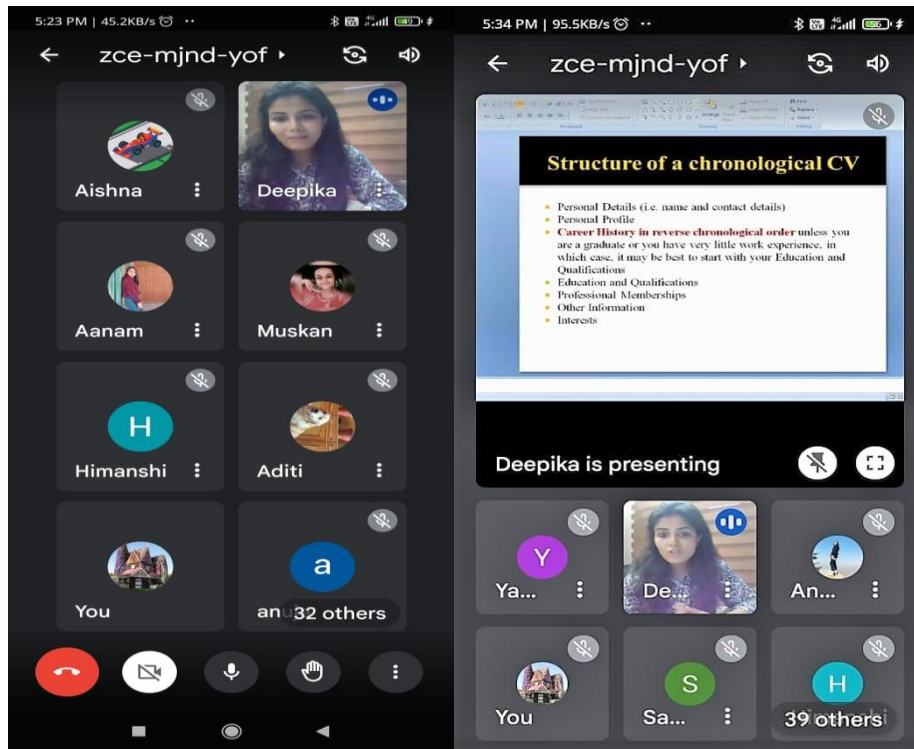
TO THE THEATRE! - DOCTOR FAUSTUS AT GAIETY THEATRE

On 16th October 2022, the students and teachers from the Department of English, St. Bede's College, Shimla, visited the historic Gaiety Theatre to watch an adapted production of *Doctor Faustus* by the Gaiety Theatre Repertory. This tragic play, written by the Renaissance playwright Christopher Marlowe, was translated into Hindi by Late Sh. Badri Singh Bhatt, and adapted onto the stage by the Gaiety Dramatic Society under the direction of Kedar Thakur. A roaring success, the play was an enriching event for the students as the play while being a part of both UG and PG syllabi, was an opportunity for the students to experience live the various facets of a tragedy, from Greek tragic elements like catharsis to the aspects of English Morality plays as the seven deadly sins paraded on stage. It was also a lesson in effective translation between languages and from a text to the stage.



HOW TO BUILD AN AMAZING RESUME/CV

On October 19, 2022, the Department of English St. Bede's College organised an online presentation on "How to Build an Amazing Resume/ CV". The resource person was Dr. Deepika Pant, Assistant Professor, Department of English Kumaun University, Nainital, Uttarakhand. She gave a lucid and informative presentation on how the students could build an effective Resume/ Curriculum Vitae. In her presentation she told the students how they could customize their Resumes/ CVs according to the requirements of different countries and job profiles. The students gained insights after clarifying their queries at the end of the session.



MEETING WITH THE ELTAI – SHIMLA CHAPTER

An on-line meeting of the office bearers of the ELTAI Shimla Chapter and Department of English, St. Bede's College was held on 04.11.2022. The main agenda for the meeting was for holding an interdisciplinary Conference jointly by ELTAI Shimla Chapter and St. Bede's College. Welcoming the participants, Dr Anita Sharma, Convenor of ELTAI Shimla Chapter set the tone for the meeting. Dr. Geetanjali from St. Bede's College introduced the faculty of English Department of the college. A broad view was taken on various activities that would be required for organizing the Conference successfully. It was agreed that the logistic arrangements for the Conference would be seen by St. Bede's College. The designing and printing of the brochure and banners for the Conference would be the responsibly of ELTAI. The formulation of concept note, and formation of academic committee would also be undertaken by ELTAI. Regarding funding of the Conference, it was decided that the participation fees would be kept slightly on the higher side. It was suggested that same should be kept around Rs 3000/- per delegate. The fees for ELTAI members and faculty members from St Bede's College would be on the lower side. It was decided that an off-line meeting in this regard would be organized shortly in St Bede's College, the date of which would be decided later. It was also agreed that resource persons for the Conference, plenary session, concept note, master theme, sub-themes and final dates for the Conference would also be decided during the off-line meeting.



*Department of English
St. Bede's College, Shimla*

COLLABORATION BETWEEN ST. BEDE'S COLLEGE AND NEWLIMITS LEARNING, INDIA

The English Department of St. Bede's College took the initiative in collaborating with Newlimits Learning to offer English language training to its students in order to improve their English proficiency. Newlimits Learning represents LSI Portsmouth which is an English language school for adults above 18 years of age.

On 28th November, 2022, Mr. Gagan Aggarwal, India Associate, NPTC Group of Colleges, and Mr. James Llewellyn, Head of International Operations, NPTC Group of Colleges, interacted with our first year and final year students. They talked about the various courses offered by LSI to suit their abilities, needs and ambitions. As many as 69 students of St. Bede's College enrolled in an online English language course with LSI and its Online English Training Provider Partner, Sensations English





LET US TALK RESEARCH! – AT THE INDIAN INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED STUDY

On 30th November 2022, the Department of English, St. Bede's College, Shimla, ventured into the historical site of the Indian Institute of Advanced Study to meet with Dr Siddharth Satpathy. Dr Satpathy is an Assistant Professor at the University of Hyderabad and is currently a Fellow at the Indian Institute of Advanced Study. His research interests include South Asian Studies and Postcolonial thought. Dr Satpathy was our host for the day as the students from UG and PG courses and the teachers of St. Bede's College, Shimla, were led through a guided tour of well-chronicled sites within the Indian Institute of Advanced Studies. Dr Satpathy, the students, and the teachers gathered for an interactive session after the tour. The session, led by Dr Satpathy, highlighted the need for research, providing the students with various tips and guidance on beginning their research quest. He spoke about the Odia autobiographies he is currently working on and encouraged the students to find their niches while balancing with the current trends in literature. The students' questions on finding their research interests, pursuing further studies in research-oriented universities, etc., were all addressed. Overall, it was a fruitful and enlightening session that the students enjoyed.



*Department of English
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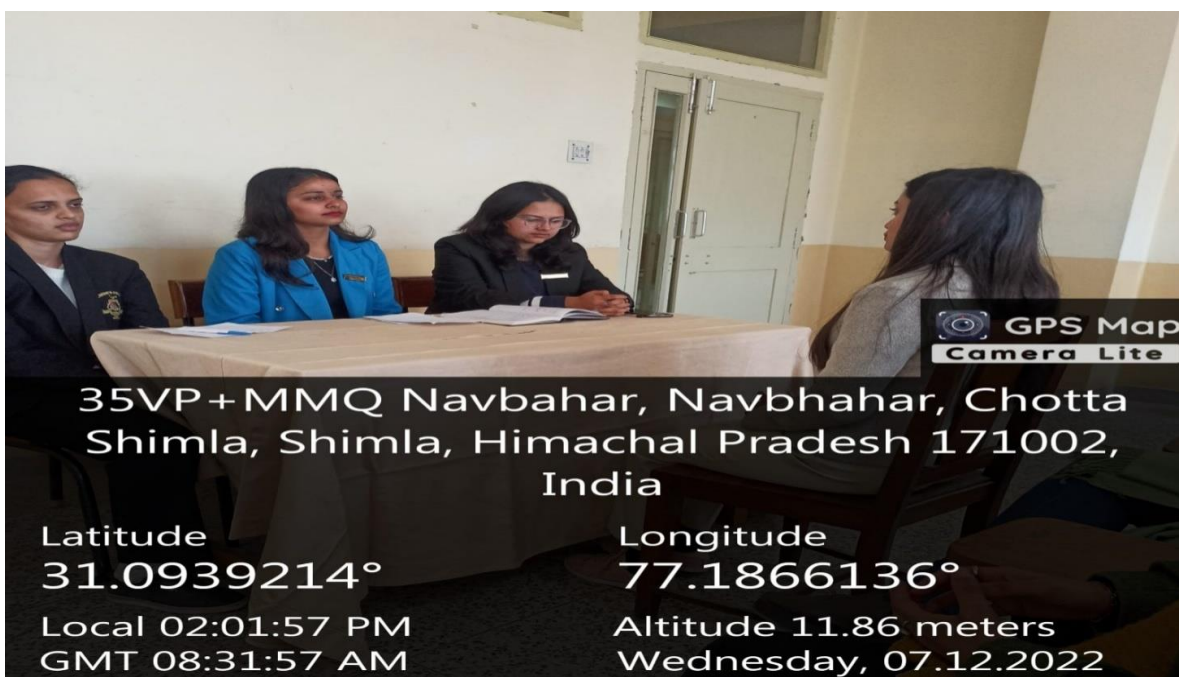




Department of English
St. Bede's College, Shimla

MOCK INTERVIEW SESSION

A mock interview session was organised by the English Department of St. Bede's College on the 7th day of December, 2022. The session aimed at enhancing the interview skills of students, by making them aware about the do's and don'ts that one must keep in mind during an interview. It was a highly insightful session where the students learned while enjoying themselves.





CULTURAL REPRESENTATION DEPICTING UNITY IN DIVERSITY

On the 8th day of December, 2022, the English Department of St. Bede's College organised an event: 'Cultural Representation Depicting Unity in Diversity', wherein the students and faculty were dressed to represent the various cultures across the country. Conducted in the courtyard, the small celebration began 10:30 am onwards and saw the participation of students from B.A. English Honours years I, II, III.

This was an initiative under the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav. Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav is an initiative of the Government of India to celebrate and commemorate 75 years of independence and the glorious history of its people, culture and achievements.

This Mahotsav is dedicated to the people of India who have not only been instrumental in bringing India thus far in its evolutionary journey but also hold within them the power and potential to enable Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of activating India 2.0, fuelled by the spirit of Aatmanirbhar Bharat.

Clothing is an expression, image and personality of a culture, because clothing can reflect the norms and cultural values of a nation. Clothing tends to be inseparable from the culture of society, because it is influenced by habits, customs that exist in society. The students through their divergent outfits embodied the spirit of India.





Department of English
St. Bede's College, Shimla





*Department of English
St. Bede's College, Shimla*

THEATRE SHORTS! – THE ONLINE INTER-COLLEGE MONOLOGUE COMPETITION

On 12th December 2022, The Theatre Club, St. Bede's College, in collaboration with the Department of English, invited colleges across Himachal Pradesh to send entries for an Online Inter-College Monologue Competition – Theatre Shorts! The entries were welcomed throughout the winter break as students from across colleges sent 3-5 minutes video entries reciting a monologue from any English Drama.

On 16th February 2023, the Theatre Club and the Department of English organised a screening of the entries for college students and faculty in the Seminar Room. The videos, consisting mainly of Shakespearean monologues, were an educational and enthralling experience for the student audience, who appreciated the various college entries, including St. Bede's College, RKMV, College of Excellence, Sanjauli, etc.

On 22nd February 2023, our esteemed judge for the event, Ms Vandana Bhagra, Publisher and Editor at *Keekli: An Ode to Innocence*, shared the results of the competition after close contemplation of all the entries. The winners were as follows:

First Prize: Nikita Thakur, St. Bede's College, Shimla.

Second Prize: Pranshu Aaditya, College of Excellence, Sanjauli.

Third Prize: Shefali Rapta, St. Bede's College, Shimla.

The winning entries were uploaded to the Department of English's Instagram Page.





*Department of English
St. Bede's College, Shimla*





BOOK COVER PAINTING COMPETITION ON WOMEN'S WRITING

A Book Cover Painting Competition was organized by the Fine Arts Society in collaboration with the English Department on 9th of March 2023 on the occasion of International Women's Day.

The competition was held in the college auditorium and the participants made paintings with great enthusiasm and creativity. Each painting depicted a Book Cover or a scene from an English novel/poem. The students made beautiful paintings which held a lot of meaning. Each of them chose a work written by well-known female authors like Jane Austen, Christina Rossetti, Ira Mukhoty, etc.

On International Women's Day, the students participated in appreciating various female writers and acknowledged them.

The paintings were judged by Mrs Sangeeta Sharma from the Music Department and Ms Charu Mukherjee from the English Department.

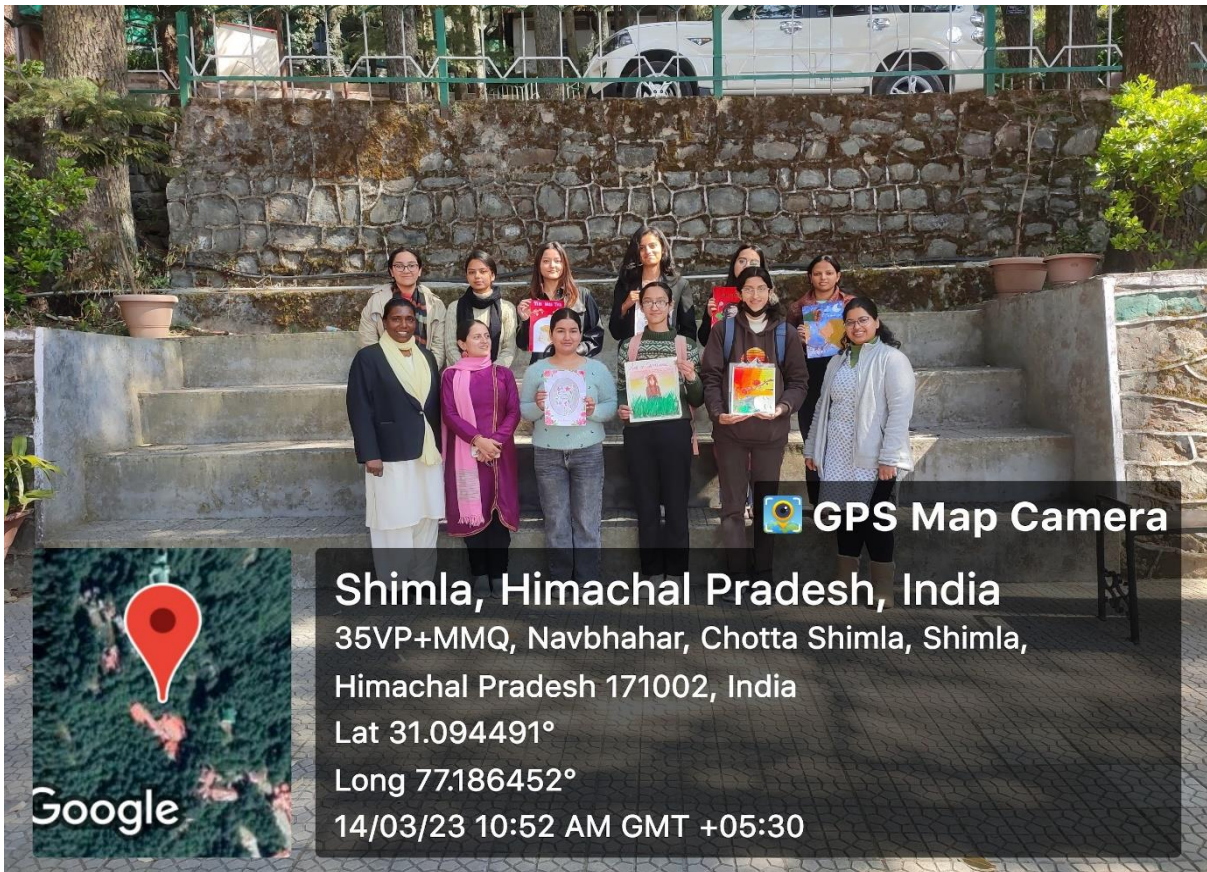
The winners of the competition were:

- Jyoti Verma (*Stones of the Jingwei Bird* – QiuJin) - 1st Prize
- Pragya Sharma (“The Goblin Market” – Christina Rossetti) - 2nd Prize
- Roopali Diltia (*The Vegetarian* – Han Kang) - 3rd Prize





*Department of English
St. Bede's College, Shimla*





ENGLISH LITERARY MEET

The Department of English, St. Bede's College, organised an English Literary Meet on 28th March 2023 where students from St. Bede's College and The College of Excellence, Sanjauli, interacted with each other. The discussion centred around the intersections between society and philosophy. Philosophers ranging from Rousseau to Alan Walker were discussed.





A WORKSHOP ON THE STRUCTURE OF LANGUAGE

On the 14th and 15th of April 2023, the Department of English, St. Bede's College, Shimla, organised a workshop on the Structure of Language for our first-year PG students. The resource person was Dr Paroma Sanyal, an Associate Professor of Linguistics at the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences at the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi. The workshop focused on the basics of linguistics, which included phonetics and morphology.

On the first day, Dr Sanyal helped the students to understand how sounds are made from our bodies, especially speech sounds. She then familiarised our students with the IPA chart used for phonemic transcriptions. The students learnt about the various sounds of consonants, vowels, aspirations, etc. The students then tried their hand at the phonetic transcription of words in English and their mother tongues. They were also taught the importance, semantic differences and markings for stress and tone in speech.

The second day included a revision of phonetics, and then the students moved on to understanding the basics of grammar. This part had a quick introduction to syntax and morphology. The students learnt to identify the morphological structure of words and tried their hand at the task. The workshop ended with the students understanding linguistic structures and how to use them through practice.



A WORKSHOP ON MODERN EUROPEAN DRAMA

On the 14th and 15th of April 2023, the Department of English, St. Bede's College, Shimla, organised a workshop on Modern European Drama for our second-year PG students. Our resource person for the event was Mr Jobin Thomas, an Assistant Professor in the Department of English at Jesus and Mary College, University of Delhi.

On the workshop's first day, we engaged our students in an in-depth review of the significant historical moments, trends, writers and works. The students understood literary and social movements like Neo-classicism, Naturalism, Realism, Nihilism, Marxism, Existentialism, etc., that informed the plays written during the late 19th century and the early 20th century. The discussion ranged from the works of Emile Zola to Henrik Ibsen. The talks on *Therese Raquin* led our students to the questions of morality that plagued the 19th century. They were given copies of two theatre productions: Anton Chekov's *The Cherry Orchard* and Henrik Ibsen's *Ghosts*, and they were asked to watch either one of the plays along with the text. The first day ended with the students holistically understanding the philosophies backing modern European drama.

The second day began with musings on what constitutes a modern tragedy. The students were encouraged to jot down the features of classic Greek tragedies and Renaissance tragedies and then asked to compare them to the play they watched. The students came up with many differences, but the one common conclusion they all agreed with was that the modern tragedy does not think of death as the ultimate end but instead sees death as an escape from a life capable of being much crueller. Mr Thomas then led our students through Freytag's Pyramid on dramatic structure, which led to a deeper understanding of the various stages of drama. Our students also role-played some characters like Regina for Ibsen's *Ghosts* or Estragon from Beckett's *Waiting for Godot*. The workshop ended with an in-depth analysis of *The Cherry Orchard* and *Ghosts*.



Department of English
St. Bede's College, Shimla

