

St. Francis Institute of Technology
Department of Basic Science and Humanities
Report on Universal Human Values I sessions 2023-24

As per AICTE's Model Curriculum, Universal Human Values I (UHV) is one of the significant modules covered under The Student Induction Program. This year we had the opportunity to interact with students offline and the difference was evident. A step was taken to ensure reinforcement of UHV I concepts for all potential trainers along with the students. UHV I trainers for each class were accompanied by class coordinator and one more faculty. This facilitated interaction of students with all three faculty involved and aided training of the next set of UHV trainers. As compared to last year, we had more number of trained faculty eligible to conduct UHV sessions for our students. With more faculty taking interest in not only conducting the session but also encouraging students to speak their minds during the sessions, the UHV experience only got better. Trainers were from Department of Basic Science and Humanities, Department of Mechanical Engineering and our NSS Coordinator.

Class	UHV I Trainer	Co-trainer (Full time)	Co-trainer (one hour)
1	Mr Paul Fernandes	Mr. Kannan K.	Ms Varsha Thandassery
2	Ms Deepa Panakkal	Ms Preethi Colaco	Ms Ann Maria
3	Mr. Praveen Kurien	Ms Arti Bhatnagar	Dr C Hariprasad
4	Ms Rekha Ajikumar	Mr Sunil Varghese	Ms. Shyma K.
5	Mr. Yunus Dalal	Mr. Nilesh Gaddapawar	Dr C Hariprasad
6	Mr. Mohammed Faiz	Mr Edmund Thomas	Ms Neha Valse
7	Mr. Byasani Malakondaiah	Ms Garima Singh	Ms. Nargis Khan

Given the delay in admissions process, we conducted UHV sessions throughout Semester I (22 Aug-28 Oct 2023) after the completion of Student Induction Program. For **475** newly admitted First Year Engineering students Universal Human Values session began on 22 August 2023, which included interaction time for them to discuss their concerns/queries based on UHV. The content of UHV was covered for almost all FE classes in a combined total of **126 hours**.

The sessions were facilitated through a shared folder on the UHV Coordinator's drive with day wise allocation of the content, as prescribed by AICTE – NCC-IP, including all daily quizzes and assignments along with final feedback form. This way all trainers had ready access to all essential resources. A WhatsApp group for trainers facilitated discussions and sharing of experience.

Weekly two hours session resulted in better interaction. It aided open discussions, free questioning and building of rapport with all involved. Students noted their experience, ideas and assignments in their UHV I notebook and it has been submitted to respective trainer for inputs. The books will be returned to students so they can reflect on the content and discussions they have had with their trainers. As UHV-I was conducted throughout the semester, the overall attendance decreased over

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time. However, among those who did attend, they engaged sincerely by completing daily quizzes and assignments.

Based on feedback received from students, we believe the impact of UHV was positive and it did address many of their concerns at personal levels as well. Students mentioned that regular meetings and discussions beyond induction would aid better understanding and practice of the aspects discussed. In their feedback, not only have the students expressed affirmation and acceptance to the content but also shown affection and gratitude towards the UHV trainers. Some have mentioned that it was difficult for them to stay focussed for a span of 2 hours at a stretch. They pointed out that it was easier to focus in sessions where more discussions and activities were included. So, the trainers will check the possibility of incorporating discussions and activities that could aid effectiveness of sessions. During their feedback in person, they mentioned relatable instances from personal lives to which they found answers in UHV. Their suggestions and concerns have been noted so we can work on enhancing the effectiveness of sessions.

The trainers have shared their experience as an enriching one and have emphasised the suggestion of regular meetings beyond induction program not only with students but also among trainers. Being a co-explorer helps them grow as well. They also expressed that not compromising on hours of UHV sessions is important when it comes to imparting it effectively. They have observed that on days when UHV sessions were followed by subjects students had difficulty in completing assignments. It has also been mentioned that on the day of feedback parallel events may compromise on the effectiveness of the sharing intended. Few trainers have expressed interest in taking their UHV journey ahead through refresher course and UHV II FDPs to enhance their understanding of the concepts.

As the UHV I Coordinator, I appreciate the support received from our college, department and each member involved in this purposeful cause. We as a college believe in this initiative of AICTE and we look forward to making positive impact by reaching out through UHV.

D. W. Panakkal

Ms Deepa Panakkal
UHV I Coordinator