

# SDG4: QUALITY EDUCATION

## Education Initiatives by the Indian Government:

**Right to Education Act (RTE):** The RTE Act ensures free and compulsory education for children aged 6 to 14 years, striving for universal access to quality education.

**Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA):** This program aims to provide quality education for all and bridge educational disparities by improving school infrastructure, teacher training, and curriculum development.

**Midday Meal Scheme:** The government's program offers free, nutritious meals in schools to encourage regular attendance and ensure children's nutritional needs are met.

## UPES University's Commitment to Quality Education:

**Specialized Programs:** UPES provides specialized education programs in various disciplines, offering industry-aligned curricula and fostering practical skills to prepare students for professional careers.

**Scholarship Programs:** The university offers a range of scholarships to deserving students, ensuring that financial constraints do not hinder access to quality education.

**Industry Partnerships:** Collaborations with industry leaders allow UPES to offer courses tailored to industry needs, ensuring students receive updated and practical education in their respective fields.

## Future Goals and Impacts:

UPES's commitment to quality education aligns with the government's initiatives to provide education for all. By continuing to enhance curriculum relevance, expand scholarship programs, and further integrate industry partnerships, UPES can significantly impact the educational landscape, preparing students for successful careers and contributing to national development.

In conclusion, while the Indian government implements various initiatives to ensure education for all, UPES University's dedication to providing specialized and industry-relevant education, along with scholarship programs, stands as a key factor in contributing to quality education, aligning with the national objective of educating all segments of society.

# UPES on Community

<https://upesonline.ac.in/alumni>

## Welcome to the UPES On Community

Share, collaborate, learn and connect with  
our 50,000+ alumni network

### HOW OUR ALUMNI BENEFITS

- Free Access To Additional Programs
- Access to Career Services
- Digital Libraries Privileges
- Attend University Events
- Enjoy Networking Opportunities



#### 1 Free Access To Additional Programs

Enjoy complimentary access to any UPES ON program for a period of five years after successfully completing your enrolled program. Tuition fees are discounted by 35%, ensuring your pursuit of knowledge never ceases.

### JOIN US IN CREATING AN IMPACT

Our university is committed to building strong ties with our valued alumni.

Here's how you can engage:

- Attend and contribute guest lectures
- Contribute to University committees/advisory boards
- Take part in mentorship and intern programs
- Participate in alumni fundraising campaigns
- Volunteer for community-building activities

# Keep yourself Up-To-Date with these Interesting Online Courses

<https://blog.upes.ac.in/keep-yourself-up-to-date-with-these-interesting-online-courses/>

MANSHA DHINGRA · SEPTEMBER 27, 2019



Nowadays, receiving a good quality education with a constant focus on life-long learning has become very important. Thanks to the world wide web, many educational institutes have started adopting the method of online teaching. Online education has become very common now and apart from the regular classroom learning students pursue some courses online as well. This is even for youngsters who have started working and do not have time to go to college regularly. Online certification is an excellent way for students to upgrade their skills. Students pursue some online certification courses which help them in their workplace in the long run.

So first let us understand what is an online certificate? The online certificate allows students to obtain qualifications in a particular field without spending enough time required as compared to a traditional degree. These online programs do not take much time and can be completed in a few months. These courses help students learn new skills, critical thinking, evolve and build understanding. This helps students utilize their free time and enhance their resume.

## Online Courses



Let us have a look at some online certification options for college students:

Digital marketing: Pursuing an online marketing course will really prove beneficial for students in the future. Digital marketing is a booming field in the industrial sector. Students will acquire knowledge about digital marketing skills which will give them an edge over other students.

Content writing: We all know content is the king. A content writing course online will be helpful for students no matter what their field is. It will enhance their writing, listening, comprehending and reading skills. Content writing combines SEO tactics with creative writing skills which will help them in all the spheres like the digital platforms or any other portal.

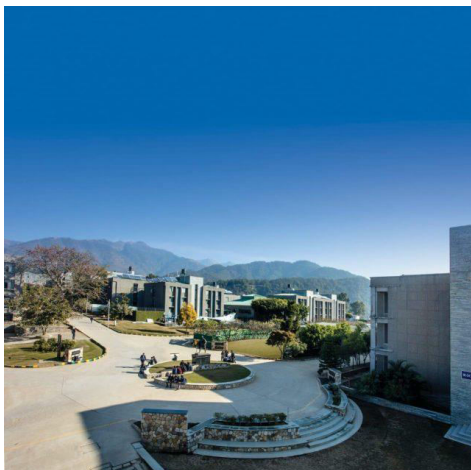
Graphic designing: The need for graphic designers is rising in almost every sector now. With the help of graphics, you can explain anything more conveniently and it becomes appealing as well. Blogs, social media, start-ups and films and many other sectors need graphic designers.

Technological skills: IT is one of the most sought-after courses anyone could do. IT training courses include clear and simple lessons on how to develop and manage your software and maintain vital IT systems across computers and phones. In today's digital world, basic knowledge about technology is extremely important. This will help you upgrade yourself.

The art of effective presentation: Presentation skills are extremely important in all walks of life. The ability to deliver the message efficiently and effectively and in a way, everyone understands presentation is required all the time. In this course, students will learn strategies to master your speaking skills, presentation skills, and communication skills.

## [UPES provides training in online teaching to primary school teachers](https://garhwalpost.in/upes-provides-training-in-online-teaching-to-primary-school-teachers/)

<https://garhwalpost.in/upes-provides-training-in-online-teaching-to-primary-school-teachers/>



### **By Our Staff Reporter**

Dehradun, 11 Jun: The present scenario demands increased technology driven learning and teaching methodologies. To familiarise teachers with the potential of online teaching, UPES under its CSR Project, 'Dronasthali', organised an Online Workshop on "WhatsApp – A Tool for Teaching and Learning" for the elementary school teachers of Rashtriya Prathmic Vidhyalaya – RPV.

Inaugurated by Chief Guest Seema Jaunsari, Director, Academics, Research and Evaluation Directorate of Education, Uttarakhand, the workshop was aimed at educating teachers in the use of

WhatsApp to ensure effective teaching, learning, training, and assessment, in synchronous mode when, both, the teacher and learner are present and in asynchronous mode when learners can work on posted material in their own time. The training was conducted by UPES faculty and was attended by primary teachers of 17 different schools of Dehradun District.

One of the participants, Kanchan Kohli, stated, "It was a well-designed workshop for anyone who wants to enhance their understanding of WhatsApp functionalities and efficient ways to teach online." Another attendee, Arohi Goyal, added, "Training workshops like these help us broaden our outlook and harness the potential of platforms like WhatsApp for effective teaching. The workshop addressed all notable queries that an educator may face regarding the shift of educating young minds virtually."

UPES runs various initiatives through its holistic social impact programme for education, women empowerment, and community development. Some of these initiatives are Utthan (The Smart Village Project); Utkarsh (Overall development of Schools); Dronasthali (Centre for Excellence for Teachers Development through Blended Learning models and Life-skills development) and Protsahan (Fully sponsored higher education opportunity at UPES for underprivileged bright students).

## National Academic Depository (NAD)

<https://www.upes.ac.in/national-academic-depository-nad>

National Academic Depository (NAD) is born out of an initiative to provide an online storehouse of all academic awards. National Academic Depository (NAD) is a 24X7 online storehouse of all academic awards viz. certificates, diplomas, degrees, mark sheets etc. duly digitized and lodged by academic institutions/boards/eligibility assessment bodies. NAD not only ensures easy access to and retrieval of an academic award but also validates and guarantees its authenticity and safe storage.

### How to Register on NAD?

The users of the NAD system are free to select Digi locker as the sole depository for NAD.

The users should select Digi locker as the preferred depository for registering into NAD. The user may click on the link <https://nad.digitallocker.gov.in>, which shall re-direct them to the depository's website. Further details relating to the registration process are available on the website.

For more information about NAD: <https://nad.gov.in/>

### Digi Locker

Digi Locker is a provider of NAD services and aims at the 'Digital Empowerment' of citizens by providing access to authentic digital documents to citizens' digital document wallets. The issued documents in the Digi Locker system are deemed to be at par with original physical documents as per Rule 9A of the Information Technology (Preservation and Retention of Information by Intermediaries Providing Digital Locker Facilities) Rules, 2016.

Maintaining academic awards in an electronic depository would provide benefit to educational institutions, students and employers by enabling online access to academic awards which will eliminate the need for persons to approach educational institutions for obtaining transcripts of such awards for verification. It would also eliminate fraudulent practices such as forging of awards, by

facilitating online verification thereof and maintaining the authenticity, integrity and confidentiality of the award.

## Roles & Responsibilities of Students

Students shall:

- Register on NAD-Digi Locker by providing Aadhar details.
- Avails Digi Locker ID in case of non-availability of Aadhar
- Submits Aadhar / DigiLocker ID to AI for verification and seeding into award data
- Views and accesses all awards online at any time in a single account
- Student can:
- View/download digitally signed awards
- Request a printed copy of the certificate
- Approve/reject the request of any verifier for access to his / her certificate
- Send a copy of the certificate to any verifier

## Benefits for Students:

- Immediate availability of academic awards upon upload by Academic Institution
- Online, permanent record of academic awards
- No risk of losing, spoiling, or damaging the academic awards
- Anytime, anywhere and convenient access to academic awards
- Important Documents Anytime, Anywhere!
- Authentic Documents, Legally at Par with Originals
- Digital Document Exchange with the consent of the student.
- Faster service Delivery- Government Benefits, Employment, Financial Inclusion, Educational admission, Health.

## Guest Lectures

<https://www.upesaapg.org/guest-lectures>

Success is assured when the learning is accompanied by skills and to develop skills, it is important to have an insightful exchange of knowledge and experiences. Keeping the importance of this in mind, UPES AAPG Student Chapter organizes a series of guest lectures delivered by renowned industry experts of the oil and gas domain, to build a realistic platform for the students to bridge the distance between theoretical and practical domains. In the constantly growing world of oil and gas, it is essential to engender a deep understanding of its dimensions and its applications.

## Life @ UPES

<https://upes-production-cvb3e7frghdda0a4.z01.azurefd.net/drupal-data/2023-09/school-of-health-sciences-and-technology-2023.pdf>

- Life at UPES is about creating unforgettable memories. It is about young learners discovering themselves through activities that enrich their understanding of the world.
- There are twenty student chapters – such as the Cloud Security Alliance, the Society of Law and Literature, IEEE Branch and Moot Court Association – and several clubs including National Service Scheme, Vultus and Sanskriti.
- Events such as Uurja, the annual youth festival, and ‘Wow Wednesday’, a mid-week activity for showcasing talent, bring together students from across all the schools on one stage.
- Sports activities at UPES give students the opportunity to compete in a fun, relaxed environment. Students develop skills such as team spirit, patience and resilience.
- From learning to leisure, path-breaking innovations to life-long friendships, life at UPES is a vibrant blend of everything a learner would aspire for. It is a place that brims with artists, explorers, athletes and innovators.



## Seminar on “Recent Innovations in Science and Engineering for Sustainability (RISES)”

<https://research.upes.ac.in/2022/05/10/seminar-on-recent-innovations-in-science-and-engineering-for-sustainability-rises/>

Type of Event: Seminar on Learning with Leaders (Hybrid mode)

Date Time : 29-11-2021 & 30-11-2021, 03: 00 pm to 4:30 pm, 9:30 am to 10:30 am

Venue :Day 1: Vivekananda Auditorium & Day 2: Laboratory Visit

The introductory note was given by Dr. D.K. Avasthi

- Discussed about the lateral thinking and creativity for all the learners which will be approaching in different sectors.
- He discussed about the theory of retaining good and discard remaining by adding a story on graphite

- He explained about the miniaturization by hydrogel. He discussed about the micrometer lens array by dewetting method.
- Usage of array of mirrors can be used to make miniatures. Array of lenses can form multiple images which is called photolithography.
- He discussed about the future of engineers which will be based upon machine learning and artificial intelligence. He explained the challenges which will bring the rise of intelligent machine which will be based upon the cyber- physical and biological components. He discussed about the circle of discovery, invention and innovation.
- He visited CIC lab, Bosch Lab, Energy Lab, Waste to Pencil Lab, Aerospace Lab and reviewed the ongoing DST funded projects in the respective labs.
- He appreciated the work and the facilities developed in the labs and the exposure given to the students and research scholars.

## Science Technology Innovation (STI) based livelihood centric development

<https://research.upes.ac.in/2023/03/06/3307/>

Lecture organized by UPES R&D in association with Applied Science Cluster, UPES under the Learning with Leaders program.

### Details of the event:

- Date: March 7, 2023 (Tuesday)
- Time: 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM
- Title: “Science Technology Innovation (STI) based livelihood centric development”
- Venue: Hubble Trust
- Speaker:
- Dr Debapriya Dutta, Scientist G, Advisor & Head, SEED Division, DST, India

### About Speaker:

Dr. Debapriya Dutta completed his Ph.D from the Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi and joined the National Agricultural Research Service of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR). He served as Scientist in the Central Soil and Water Conservation Research and Training Institute, Dehradun. He joined the Natural Resources Data Management System (NRDMS) Division of the Department of Science & Technology, Government of India in 1994 as Senior Scientific Officer-I and was serving in the same Department as Scientist ‘F’ / Director, till May, 2008. Thereafter, he was appointed as the Counselor (Science and Technology) in the Embassy of India, Washington D.C. during 2008-2012. During September 2012-2015, he assumed the responsibility of Director, Indo-French Centre for the Promotion of Advanced Research (IFCPAR), a bilateral organization to promote



collaborative research between India and France in cutting edge Science and Technology. Currently, he is serving as Head and Adviser/Scientist 'G' in the Science for Equity Empowerment and Development (SEED), State Science and Technology Programme (SSTP) and National Geospatial Programme (NGP) divisions of the Department of Science & Technology, Government of India.



RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT



**UPES R&D In association with Applied Science Cluster, UPES is organizing**

**"Learning with Leaders - by Dr. Debapriya Dutta (Scientist G, Advisor & Head, SEED Division, DST, India)"**



**Dr. Debapriya Dutta**  
(Advisor & Head,  
SEED Division, DST)

**"SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION (STI) BASED LIVELIHOOD CENTRIC DEVELOPMENT"**  
(10:00 AM - 12:00 PM)



**7 March, 2023**

**10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (Hubble Trust)**

## IPR Seminar at UPES on 17th March

<https://research.upes.ac.in/2023/03/20/ipr-seminar-at-upes-on-17th-march/>

- Details of the event:
- Date: March 17, 2023 (Friday)
- Time: 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM
- Title: "Strategies for enhancing IP commercialization from Academic Institution"
- Venue: Room 1006 (Block-1, Bidholi Campus)
- Speaker:
- Mr. Ravi Pandey, Research Establishment Officer (IP & Tech Transfer, IIT Kanpur, India)

### About Speaker:

Mr. Ravi Pandey is currently working as a Research Establishment Officer (Innovation & Incubation) at IIT Kanpur, heading the IPR & Technology Transfer office of the Institute. He is a qualified RTTP (Registered Technology Transfer Professional), and has more than 11 years of experience in IPR Management & Technology transfer including Policy development, Start-up Incubation and handholding support for product development. Mr. Pandey has formulated the Policy framework at IIT Kanpur including the Technology Transfer, Faculty & Staff Entrepreneurship policy. He has also worked as an advisor on IPR issues for the Government of Jharkhand. He was awarded with the

“Outstanding Performance Award” by Startup India for promotion of Innovation related activities & given STEM Impact award by ATTP USA in 2019 and 2022. Mr. Ravi Pandey is currently managing an IPR portfolio of 1000 IPRs at IIT Kanpur and has facilitated 60 technology transfer transactions in his career. He is working as advisor for several Industries as a support in IPR Management viz. Industries at MSME & Startup level; and have been a keynote speaker at several IPR related conferences & seminars at National level.

## Seminar on “Funding Opportunities by DST”

<https://research.upes.ac.in/2022/05/10/seminar-on-funding-opportunities-by-dst/>

Introductory note was given by Dr. D.K. Avasthi

- The talk covers core mandate of DST, introduction of three Umbrella Schemes of DST and glimpse of various schemes under these Umbrellas.
- The talk will focus on Infrastructure Programs of DST like, FIST, PURSE, SAIF and SATHI and provide brief about few programs of Science & Engineering Research Board which is beneficial for the Scientific Community.

### REPORT OF WEBINAR

on

#### Funding Opportunities by DST

<b>Title of the Event</b>	Seminar on “Funding Opportunities by DST”
<b>Organizing Department</b>	R & D Department, UPES
<b>Event Convener</b>	Dr. D.K. Avasthi, Dean R&D, UPES
<b>Event Coordinator</b>	Dr. S.M. Tauseef, Associate Dean Research, UPES.
<b>Type of Event</b>	Webinar on Learning with Leaders (Online mode)
<b>Date</b>	26-06-2021
<b>Time</b>	12:15 pm- 1:15pm IST
<b>Venue</b>	Zoom link
<b>No. of Participant</b>	<a href="https://zoom.us/j/97902231128">https://zoom.us/j/97902231128</a> 40
<b>Brief report of Proceedings</b>	Introductory note was given by Dr. D.K. Avasthi <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ The talk covers core mandate of DST, introduction of three Umbrella Schemes of DST and glimpse of various schemes under these Umbrellas.</li><li>➤ The talk will focus on Infrastructure Programs of DST like, FIST, PURSE, SAIF and SATHI and provide brief about few programs of Science &amp; Engineering Research Board which is beneficial for the Scientific Community.</li></ul>



Webinar  
on

## "Funding opportunities for research by Department of Science & Technology (DST)"

### About the Speaker



**Dr. Pratishtha Pandey**  
Scientist 'F' DST

Dr. Pratishtha Pandey is serving as Scientist 'F' in the Department of Science and Technology. She joined DST in 2008 and working in Science & Technology Infrastructure Programme. Dr. Pandey was awarded a doctoral degree in Experimental Solid-State Physics from the internationally recognized Thin Film Laboratory, Physics Department, IIT Delhi in 2003. Dr. Pratishtha Pandey has received her M.Tech degree in Solid State Materials from Physics Department, IIT Delhi in the year 1996. She is a recipient of the GATE-95 (Graduate Aptitude Test in Engineering) Scholarship for pursuing the M.Tech Program and has qualified National Eligibility Test (NET) conducted by the Council of Scientific Industrial Research (CSIR) in 1999. Dr. Pratishtha Pandey holds R & D experience of about eight years in the Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO). In Solid State Physics Laboratory, she has worked in the Growth and Characterization of III-V Epitaxial Compound Semiconductor heterostructures by Metal-Organic Chemical Vapour Deposition Technique (MOCVD) for growth of MESFETs, Semiconductor Laser Diode structures and Quantum Dots. Dr. Pandey was also involved in Electro-Chemical Capacitance-Voltage Measurement of epitaxial layers. Currently, she is looking after the implementation of the "Fund for Improvement in Science and Technology Infrastructure in Universities and Higher Educational Institutions" scheme in Physical Sciences, Engineering & Technological Sciences, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences area and implementation of Joint Collaborative Research and Development activities between India and Research Council, the UK in different theme areas like Next Generation Communications Technology, Solar Energy and Fuel Cells. She is also involved in the "Promotion of University Research and Scientific Excellence" (PURSE) which is another flagship scheme of the Department of Science and Technology to enhance the academic performance of leading Universities in the country.

**Moderator**  
Dr. D. K Avasthi  
Dean - R&D  
UPES

**Event Details :**  
June 26, 2021 | 12 pm to 1 pm  
| Online Mode (Zoom Link)

## Legal Youth Awareness Campaign

[https://twitter.com/MLJ\\_GoI/status/1699357306935529939](https://twitter.com/MLJ_GoI/status/1699357306935529939)

Under DoJ's NyayaBandhu constituted Pro Bono Club, School of Law, UPES, #Dehradun organized a 5-Day Legal Youth Awareness Campaign from 21Aug'23 to 26Aug'23. PBAs visited different institutions to raise awareness of various socio-legal issues.

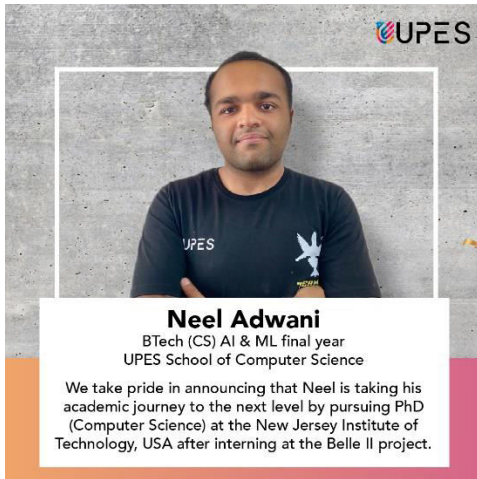


## Belle II Project

<https://twitter.com/UPESDehradun/status/1656343434074914820>

UPES #SchoolOfComputerScience students excel in Belle II project and are recognized by esteemed universities in the USA. We take immense pride in their outstanding achievements and wish them good luck in all their future endeavors!



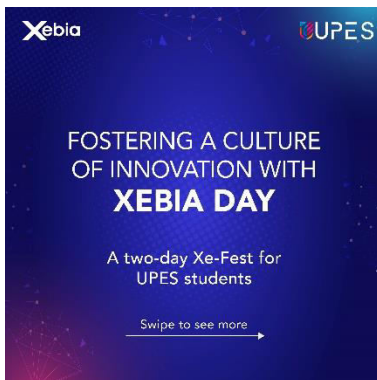


## UPES and Xebia offering co-branded programs - DevOps and Big Data

<https://twitter.com/UPESDehradun/status/1635633416497446912>

UPES students showcased their programming prowess through multiple challenges in XeFest, held over two days. This event was held in honour of UPES and Xebia offering co-branded programs - DevOps and Big Data.

Swipe to see the highlights of the event.



## Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

<https://twitter.com/UPESDehradun/status/1640293987087990786>

Meghna Sabharwal's research has extensively focused on Diversity, Equity & Inclusion. Join her as she discusses the challenges women face in progressing to leadership positions.

Register: <https://bit.ly/3lFEiW6>

 School of Liberal Studies | Lecture Series #2

### Navigating Bias: Examining Barriers to Women's Leadership Advancement

Join us to hear from



**Meghna Sabharwal**  
Professor & Head - public and non-profit management program  
University of Texas, Dallas

Meghna focuses on DE&I in public HR management. She has authored 3 books and 55+ peer-reviewed journal articles, and won 4 best paper awards. Meghna serves on editorial boards of top public administration journals and is an Associate Editor of the Review of Public Personnel Administration and Public Integrity.

31<sup>st</sup> March, 2023 | 7:00 pm IST | Register to join

[Register Now](#)

## Hues of Holi @UPES

<https://blog.upes.ac.in/down-the-memory-lane/>

UPES EDITORIAL TEAM · MARCH 17, 2022



Students celebrating Holi on campus

Students celebrating Holi on campus after two years; Picture credit: Pradeep Jagwan

From splashing colours to dancing their hearts out, UPES students celebrated Holi on campus after two years with full enthusiasm while authorities made sure that it was a happy and safe Holi for every one

One of the most-celebrated festivals in India, Holi marks the end of winter and arrival of spring. The ritual starts by lighting a bonfire prior to the day of Holi, symbolising the triumph of good over evil. The festival of colours was much-awaited by students, who celebrated it on campus after two years. Here's what they had to say about the celebrations on campus:

Kartik Khanna, MBA Logistics and Supply Chain Management student: "This is one festival that students have always looked forward to, planning it well in advance. On the day of Holi, students gather at the UPES hostel ground where everyone merrily plays with colours and water. Students dance on some famous songs as they enjoy celebrating with their friends."



Holi celebrations

Picture credit: Pradeep Jagwan

Jigyasa Pahwa, BA LLB Corporate Law student: "**Covered in colours everyone looks the same, everybody is equal, and strangers readily become friends.** UPES is my home away from home, not to mention that each festival is celebrated at the campus with great enthusiasm and zest. Holi is planned on a large scale at the campus. The authorities always make sure that it is a happy and safe Holi for each one of us. With vibrant colours, water balloons, exotic dishes, rejuvenating drinks, dance and music, we await this delightful festival. I cannot thank UPES enough for all the experiences that it has added to the book of memories of my college life."



Holi celebrations

Picture credit: Pradeep Jagwan

Rebecca Mishra, BA LLB Criminal Law student: “The general perception towards festivals is that they have a predefined ritual. In the context of Holi, it is playing with gulal and eating hot fritters while dancing to rambunctious dhol beats. Well, UPES does all that and more! UPES students celebrate the festival with such gusto that that no one misses their near and dear ones. It is like having a small family away from home.”

## [How co-teaching by international faculty is enhancing diversity at UPES](https://blog.upes.ac.in/how-co-teaching-by-international-faculty-is-enhancing-diversity-at-upes/)

<https://blog.upes.ac.in/how-co-teaching-by-international-faculty-is-enhancing-diversity-at-upes/>

EKTA KASHYAP · FEBRUARY 25, 2022



UPES students get the opportunity to learn from experts hailing from different parts of the world, including Germany, Canada, and the United Kingdom

Instructional delivery plays a crucial role in shaping learners’ perspectives. Inclusive educational practices such as co-teaching can provide a unique learning opportunity for students. It is one of the methods of instruction wherein two or more faculty teach as a team in a classroom. There are different models of co-teaching, including One Teach, One Support; Parallel Teaching; Alternative Teaching; Station Teaching; and Team Teaching.



Co-teaching enables students to learn from distinguished faculty hailing from different parts of the world. According to Dr. Sheetal Khanka, Head, Department of International Affairs, and Associate Professor, Organisation Behaviour at UPES, “Diversity in a university provides a platform for students to explore the world beyond the immediate environment. Having an international faculty is an excellent opportunity to experience a subject in a truly global way. The course curriculum and syllabus remain the same, but an international faculty provides a fresh perspective, thus enhancing the students’ exposure.”

Continuing its pursuit of [providing the best learning experience](#) to its students, UPES has collaborated with several esteemed international faculty. A glimpse at some of the faculty’s notable work:

Jan Bauer is a Hamburg-based animation artist, illustrator, writer, and lecturer. He has worked on various formats over the last 20 years including television series, feature films, commercials, shorts, and educational videos for animation and live-action. His key competence is visual storytelling – the transformation of ideas into pictures. Besides being a storyboard artist, Bauer has experience as an animator, layout artist, director, and character and prop designer. He is also an internationally-recognised comic artist. His graphic novel ‘The Salty River’ has been published in four languages. Bauer has taught at several institutions such as the University of Applied Science, Europe, and Bauhaus University, Weimar.

Vladimir Isailovic is a visual artist, designer, and teacher. Born in Belgrade, Serbia, he pursued his master’s from the Institute for Art in Context, Berlin, Germany, and a Diploma in Fine Arts, from the Academy of Fine Arts of Bologna, Italy. Isailovic specialises in game design, video production, sound design, graphic design, painting, engraving, illustration, and curating. He won the Award for Woodcut, Biennale of Young Artists, Kanagawa, Japan and the Award for Installation: Hommage to Hitchcock, Fondazione Zucchelli, Bologna, Italy.

Manfred Naescher is a visual artist from Berlin, Germany. He has studied design in Canada and has several awards and grants to his name, such as the Cultural Foundation of Liechtenstein: Exhibition Grant. His extensive list of published work includes Still-Ten Watercolours, Faces, and Visiting Shadows, to name a few. Naescher has also conducted several workshops and drawing experiments.

Silvia Perdiguero Romero is well-versed in Spanish, English and Basque, developed throughout a career in, first, international media (BBC in Northern Ireland, EITB and Vocento in Spain, TeleMedia in Hungary, EuroParlTV in Brussels) and then in teaching and facilitation (Theatre of the Oppressed, The Art of Hosting Conversations that Matter). She has delivered workshops on several topics and voluntary work in Northern Ireland, China, Kenya, and Morocco – with programs like Beijing Broads, Active Citizens, ICAN, Grundtvig, and PEACE III.

Basel Naouri is an architect, musician, and designer of immersive spaces and experiences. Originally from Jordan, he is currently based in Berlin, where he is engaged in several projects in the fields of spatial sound, media architecture, and immersive spaces. Naouri’s academic and professional work is focused on the cross-section between sound and architecture. He collaborates with architecture and design firms and museums as well as other artists, musicians, and architects on innovative projects, displaying his work in international design events and performances. Naouri is the founder and lead researcher of Timelab for transmedia design and lecturer and artistic researcher at Masters of Media Spaces at UE-A&D, Berlin, Germany.

Rekesh Raj Pandey, originally from Nepal and currently based out of Germany, is an experienced multidisciplinary designer and co-founder of ‘Archraphix’. He is passionate about telling stories

about brands, products, and companies. He specialises in 2D & 3D animation, VFX, projection mapping to team building and project management.

Bart Kuipers is a professional storyteller, all-round creative writer, teacher and freelance journalist dedicated to creating engaging content for a wide range of audiences. His work includes television screenplays work for children, LGBTQ+ themed short stories, literary critiques, and contributions to political magazines. Kuipers aim is to immerse, inform, and entertain through inventive language, moving narratives, and surprising angles. As an educator, he creates an encouraging environment, a safe space, in which students feel comfortable sharing their thoughts and writings. Kuipers has worked as a Creative Writing Teacher at Boston University and has numerous published works to his credit.

Diversity in education has a direct impact on the students, benefitting them academically and socially. Interactions with faculty from different cultural backgrounds lead to enhanced awareness of the world, improved communication, critical thinking, and thought-processing skills. Students become more empathetic and innovative in their approach to building solutions. UPES will continue to offer an education that is both global and inclusive so students can become better prepared for the complex and pluralistic society.

## Mexico's Carlota to Gambia's Chu Yassa: Campus celebrates diversity with global culinary feast

<https://blog.upes.ac.in/mexicos-carlota-to-gambias-chu-yassa-campus-celebrates-diversity-with-global-culinary-feast/>

DIANA GEORGE · MAY 9, 2023



*One of the many stalls at the International Food Festival at UPES Dehradun*

UPES hosts over 60 exchange students from 27 different countries and the event was organised to celebrate the cultural diversity on campus and help foster unity through the medium of food

In a bid to celebrate the cultural diversity on its campus, UPES recently organised its first international food festival on April 24. Exchange students from countries such as Mexico, Bhutan, Ghana, South Sudan, and Nepal, among others, participated in the event.

Mouth-watering fares included Kewa Datshi and Fried Rice of Bhutan, Wai Wai Sadeko of Nepal, Swahili Buns of Ghana, South Sudan's Cassava Leaves, Cameroon's Ndoleh, Chicken Sauce and Fried Potatoes, Mexico's Carlota and Gambia's Chu Yassa.

Anusha Mirza, an exchange student from UAE in 3rd year Product Design, served delectable Chicken Shawarma and Hummus to the long queue of visitors thronging her stall.

She enjoyed making the dishes, she says. "It's been good fun participating in the international food festival. We all enjoyed making Shawarma and Hummus. We hope to participate in another event soon," she adds.

Jenisha Neupane of Nepal is in the final semester of her LL.M. course at UPES. She served her country's "go-to snack" Wai Wai Sadeko at the festival.



Jenisha Neupane (right) and her batchmates serve staple Nepalese snack Wai Wai Sadeko to visitors

"I would like to thank UPES and the Department of International Affairs for the international food festival," Jenisha says. "Personally, for me it was a bonding opportunity with my Indian friends who volunteered to help me before and during the festival. All the participants had a gala time presenting their dishes. We got to taste numerous different flavours in a day," she adds.

Calling the fiesta a "big hit", Jenisha says that seeing so many different people enjoying local Nepalese food made her very happy. "People loved our food so much that they came for second and third servings," she quips.



PhD scholar Armel M Nganda (right) and his friend treat UPES Chancellor Sunil Rai (centre) to Cameroonian dishes

"It was an enriching experience for us as we could showcase Cameroonian culinary know-how," says PhD scholar Armel M Nganda who prepared two traditional meals Ndoleh and Chicken Sauce with Fried Irish Potatoes. Armel says he was pleasantly surprised to discover the similarities between Indian and Cameroonian food.

His dishes were sold out within minutes and he was elated with the positive feedback he received from students and faculty alike.

According to Dr Sheetal Khanka, Deputy Director, Department of International Affairs (DIA), UPES, the event was intended to be a “showcase of culinary excellence” that would help promote cultural unity on campus.

“It was an opportunity to learn about the cultures and traditions of different countries through the medium of local cuisines,” she added.

The novel idea was floated by some of the 60+ exchange students at UPES who felt that an event like a food festival could help connect different cultures on campus.

The idea immediately found a lot of backers, and a series of meetings and brainstorming sessions later, a plan had been put in place to bring the idea to fruition. With support from different stakeholders at the university, the event was held with much fanfare in the last week of April.

The incredible gala received positive response and earned so many rave reviews that the DIA is now considering making it a biannual event.

“We definitely would like to do this event more often. With the kind of positive feedback we have received, we will organise it two times every year, one in each semester,” Dr Sheetal confirms.

“The event was an amazing bonding platform for all UPES students, staff, faculty, and acknowledged the diversity we have. The international students received encouragement from everyone and their culinary skills were much appreciated. The UPES students got to know more about various cultures. Everyone enjoyed the food, music, songs, and dance celebrations during the event,” she adds before signing off.