

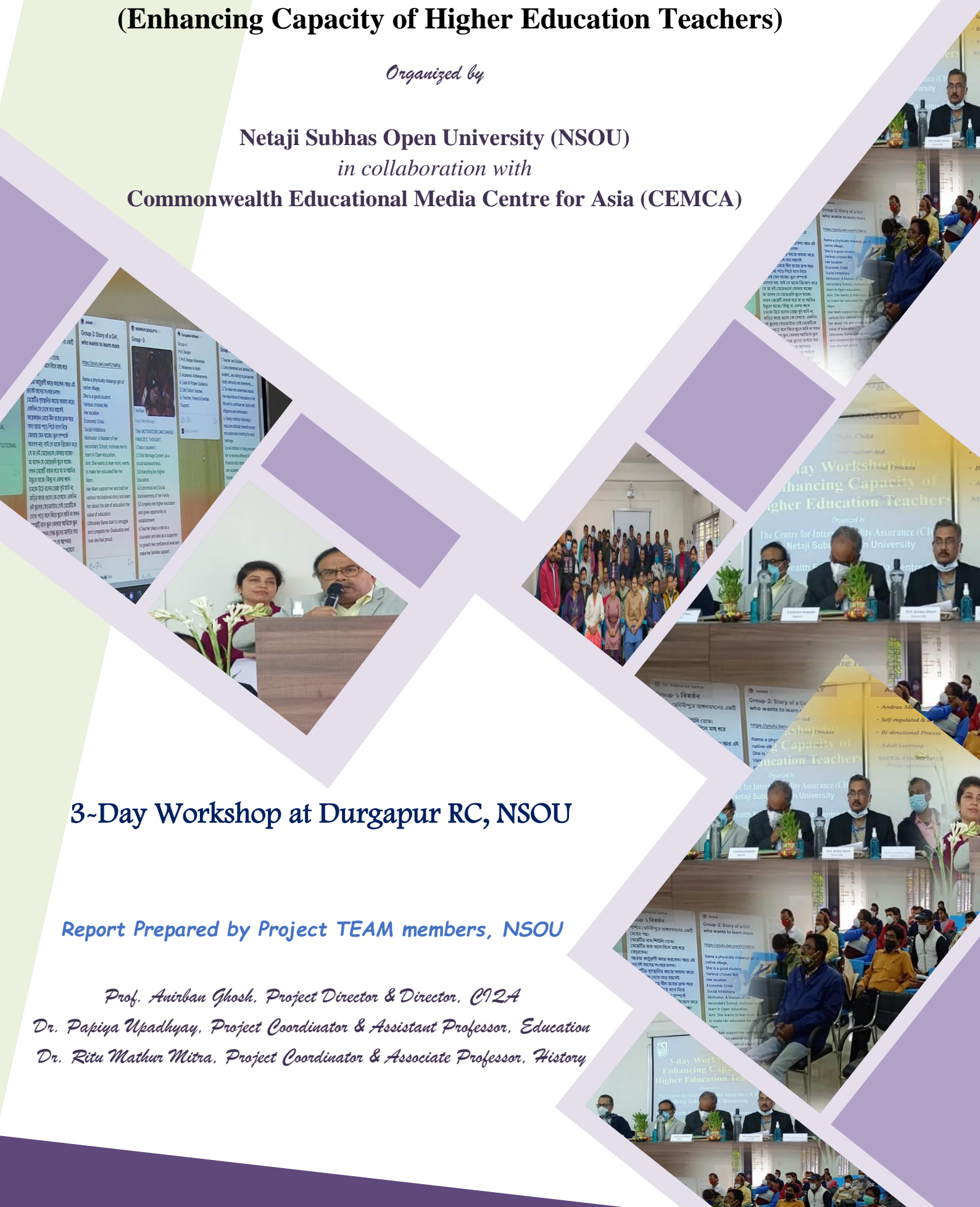
Implementation of Blended Learning in Higher Education Institutions in West Bengal (Enhancing Capacity of Higher Education Teachers)

Organized by

Netaji Subhas Open University (NSOU)

in collaboration with

Commonwealth Educational Media Centre for Asia (CEMCA)



3-Day Workshop at Durgapur RC, NSOU




Report Prepared by Project TEAM members, NSOU

Prof. Anirban Ghosh, Project Director & Director, CETA

Dr. Papiya Upadhyay, Project Coordinator & Assistant Professor, Education

Dr. Ritu Mathur Mitra, Project Coordinator & Associate Professor, History

Workshop File:

-  Date & Time: 17-19 December 2021, 10:00AM-5:00PM
-  Venue: Seminar Hall, Regional Centre, NSOU, Durgapur
-  Participants- 51 higher education teachers (Male-41 Female-10) and academicians from HEIs of West Bengal

Backdrop: The coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic caused not only unprecedented disruption in the provision of education and training but also affect the children, teachers, parents, families, institutions and entire process of teaching learning. The teachers of all levels had to face the challenges of shifting from traditional classroom teaching to online teaching on digital platform. But these challenges have also highlighted that the promising future of learning and the accelerated changes in modes of delivery for quality education. The pandemic has shown us the power of digital platform in every sector including education sector. The increasing use of technology/ digital tool in education is reshaping/ restructuring the entire teaching-learning process. But the availability of technological tool as well as a proper training of teachers is also a big challenge. In a country like ours where the internet connectivity, technological tool and training are the major issues for exclusive online education system. So, depending on the situation, the 'blended learning' may be appropriate for effective learning and teaching. Blended learning is not a mere mix of online and face-to-face mode, but it refers to a well-planned combination of meaningful activities in both the modes. In this context nurturing 5 E's, (Engaging, Equalizing, Enriching, Enabling and Empowering) in the teachers to better equip with emerging technologies in their transaction of classes and creating, designing, developing the online courses for better learning, better employment, better livelihood, better citizen and for better and effective teaching learning processes.

In this backdrop, the first workshop was conducted at Durgapur RC where the college/ University teachers from Purba Bardhaman, Paschim Bardhaman, Bankura, Purulia districts of WB were invited to attend the workshop. 51 (Male--41, Female-10) teachers attended the workshop and actively participated in the programme.

DAY 1 (17 December 2021)

Inaugural Ceremony:

Welcome Address was delivered by Shri. Prosenjit Bhattacharya, Deputy Director, Durgapur RC, NSOU. He warmly welcomed the guests, and all academicians present for the 3-day workshop for 'Enhancing Capacity of Higher Education Teachers'.

Address by Project Director-Professor Anirban Ghosh, Director, Centre for Internal Quality Assurance, NSOU deliberated on the ICT initiatives of the University as one of its missions to 'Reached the Unreached'. He pointed out that even in the helm of the pandemic, the teaching-learning milieu of NSOU did not get disrupted owing to various ICT support

provided to learners. Prof. Ghosh also reinstated that empowering teacher would ensure compounded and multiplier effect on the teaching-learning context of an academia at large.

Keynote Address was delivered by Professor Anupam Basu, Director, National Institute of Technology, Durgapur. Prof. Basu stressed upon the pros and cons of ICT and its bearing on Indian Education scenario. His address was crisp lauded with socio-psychological aspects of learners and intervening factors responsible for blended learning. He spoke on cognitive load and multiple means of representation

The Presidential Address was delivered by C. A. Kishore Sengupta, Registrar, NSOU. He spoke on origin, developments, initiatives, achievements and accomplishments of the University over the years. He also highlighted that NSOU is the first State Open University in India to be awarded ‘A’ grade by NAAC in the Silver Jubilee Year of its foundation.

Vote of Thanks to one and all was proposed by Dr. Ritu Mathur Mitra, Associate Professor & Head, Dept of History, NSOU and Project Coordinator.

Dr. Papiya Upadhyay, Project Coordinator and Assistant Professor, School of Education, NSOU compered the inaugural event.



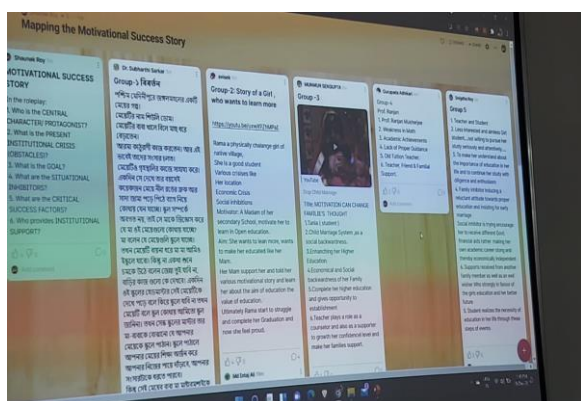
Technical Session commenced with a short presentation by the Project Director, Prof. Anirban Ghosh on ‘Introduction to Blended learning’. A sequence of sessions as scheduled were very effectively carried out in succession along the 3 dedicated days of the workshop.

Session 1: Ice-breakers and Orientation to “Edu-tainment” as a Pedagogical Tool in Blended Learning-The resource persons, Mr. Purandar Sengupta and Dr. Shounak Ray elicited and facilitated the ice-breaking session. The participants were oriented to a new concept called Edu-tainment.

Session 2: Effective Learning Models in Higher Education-The session was remarkably engaging as the participants were introduced to different learning models. These effective models were discussed through various activities. Supplementary learning materials were also shared among the participants for further discourse.

Session 3: Introduction to ICT Tools & its Relevance in Higher Education- In this session, the participants were introduced to various ICT tools like Padlet, Free-mind etc. The resource persons selected these ICT tools because these have relevance in higher education teaching-learning. The participants were very much involved in doing hands-on activities through these tools. Many examples were facilitated by the resource persons to augment the exercise. A collaborative atmosphere was established during this session.

*Session 4: Activity and Hands-on Session-*This session progressed with activities like Role-play on success stories. It was enacted by dividing the participants into 5 groups. Each group was represented by a Team leader. The resource persons purported such motivational success stories if documented properly can prove to be a great method for the empowerment of students in a blended learning environment.



DAY 2 (18 December 2021)

Session 5: Cognitive Behavioural Interventions & its applications in Higher Education- This session was based on levels of technology integration. Mr. Purandar Sengupta and Dr. Shounak Ray diligently characterised the different levels of technology integration levels, like entry, adoption, adaptation, infusion and transformation to facilitate the participants in understanding the applications and interventions.

*Session 6: Use of ICT Tools for creating mind-maps; creating quizzes; gamifying the classroom -*The resource persons delineated the use and technical know-hows of the mind-mapping through ICT tool, like Padlet Gamification, Google forms etc. The participants were also elaborated on the feasibility and contextuality of these.

*Session 7: Activity Sessions-*Extensive group discussions were encouraged to boost the spirit of this session. The resource persons also vouched for creative and analytical exercises and problem-solving games during this session. The participants were engrossed in performing the assigned tasks within the time frame.

Session 8: Activity Sessions (Continued); Administering Presentation Topic for Discussion on Final Day (to be prepared by different participant groups)- The participants had focus group discussion on final presentation topic to be delivered on the third day.

DAY 3 (19 December 2021)

Session 9: Group Presentations were made by each of the five groups by the respective group leaders.

Session 10: This session was marked by Discussion on Program Output. This involved all the participants and the members of the project team-Resource persons, Project Coordinators and Project Directors. The Q &A session was very sincerely dealt by the resource person with a tinge of expertise and also induced reflective thinking among the participants.

Wrapping Up-The sessions were closed with much more aspiration and result oriented hopes in own terms of context, content and process-the beauty of higher education.



Valedictory session: The workshop ended with the valedictory session where the participants shared their views and experiences on the workshop. The project Director and Facilitators also expressed their happiness to organize this workshop. The certificates were handed over to the participants by the project team members. The 3-day workshop was organised and conducted keeping in view and strict adherence to the Covid-19 protocol and health advisory guidelines within the campus.





Implementation of Blended Learning in Higher Education Institutions in West Bengal

(Enhancing Capacity of Higher Education Teachers)

Organized by

Netaji Subhas Open University (NSOU)

in collaboration with

Commonwealth Educational Media Centre for Asia (CEMCA)

Date: 17-19 December 2021

Venue: NSOU Regional Centre Durgapur.

Objectives:

- To improve the knowledge and skills of teachers/academics in higher education to develop and offer Online/Blended Course.
- To enable the staff/faculty members to the process of planning, designing, developing and delivering online courses.
- To adopt appropriate ICT tools and learning platforms as an adjunct to face-to-face teaching and to teach in a full online or distance learning context.
- To find out the prospects and challenges of providing online/blended learning in the context of Higher Education Institutions in West Bengal.

Methodology:

The workshop will be conducted in face-to-face within the mandate of COVID 19 Protocol.

The trainers will follow the following activities during the training:

- Focused Group Discussion
- Role Play
- Story Telling
- Creative & Analytical Exercises
- Problem Solving Games
- Introspection
- Probing & eliciting pent up potential
- Fish Bowl Exercise
- Six Thinking Hats

Learning Inputs:

ICT Tools & Software	Effective Learning Models	Cognitive-Behavioural Interventions
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ PADLET➤ POPPLET➤ FREE MIND	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Successive Approximation Model• Individualized Instruction	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Design Thinking➤ Mind Mapping➤ Affinity Diagram

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ KIALO EDU ➤ MENTIMETER ➤ QUIZZIZ ➤ BOOK CREATOR ➤ VIRTUAL ESCAPE - ROOM 	<p>Model</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Problem Based Learning Model • Discovery Learning Model • Action Learning Model • Collaborative Learning Model • Learning Retention Model • Component Display Model • Elaboration Model • Cognitive Load Reduction • Bloom's Taxonomy & TLO • Generative Learning Model • Backward Design Model 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Venn Diagram ✚ Outcome Mapping ✚ Force Field analysis ✚ Identification of Critical Success Factors in Success Story ✚ Case Analysis & Problem Solving ✚ Logical Sequencing ✚ Logical Framework Analysis
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Programme Schedule

DAY 1 (17.12.2021)

Time	Activities/Sessions
9.30AM–10.00AM	Registration
10.05AM–10:45 AM: Inaugural Ceremony	
10.05 AM	Welcome Address by Shri. Prosenjit Bhattacharya, Deputy Director, Durgapur RC, NSOU
10.10 AM	Address by Professor Anirban Ghosh, Director, Centre for Internal Quality Assurance, NSOU
10.20 AM	Key Note Address by Professor Anupam Basu, Director, National Institute of Technology, Durgapur
10:35 AM	Presidential Address by C. A. Kishore Sengupta, Registrar, NSOU
10:40 AM	Vote of Thanks: Dr. Ritu Mathur Mitra, Associate Professor & Head, Dept of History, NSOU
Comperre: Dr. Papiya Upadhyay, Assistant Professor, School of Education, NSOU	
10:50AM–11.05AM	Tea Break
11.15AM–11.45AM	An introduction on Blended Learning by Project Director
11.45AM-12.15PM	Session 1: Ice-breakers and Orientation to “Edu-tainment” as a Pedagogical Tool in Blended Learning
12.15PM–1.30PM	Session 2: Effective Learning Models in Higher Education
1.30PM–2.00PM	Lunch
2.00PM–3.30PM	Session 3: Introduction to ICT Tools & its Relevance in Higher Education

3.30PM–3.45PM	Tea Break
3.45PM–5.00PM	Session 4: Activity and Hands-on Sessions

DAY 2 (18.12.2021)

Time	Activities/Sessions
10.00AM–11.30AM	Session 5: Cognitive Behavioural Interventions & its Applications in Higher Education
11.30AM–11.45AM	Tea Break
11.45AM–1.30PM	Session 6: Use of ICT Tools for creating mind-maps; creating quizzes; gamifying the classroom
1.30PM–2.00PM	Lunch
2.00PM–3.30PM	Session 7: Activity Sessions
3.30PM–3.45PM	Tea Break
3.45PM–5.00PM	Session 8: Activity Sessions (Continued); Administering Presentation Topic for Discussion on Final Day (to be prepared by different participant groups)

DAY 3 (19.12.2021)

Time	Activities/Sessions
10.00AM–11.30AM	Session 9: Group Presentations
11.30AM–1.00PM	Session 10: Discussion on Program Output, Q &As & Wrapping Up
1.00PM–1.30PM	Closing Ceremony

Resource Persons:

Mr. Purandar Sengupta, Master Trainer & Mentor

Dr. Shaunak Roy, Faculty of Management, St. Xavier's College (Autonomous)

Project Coordinators

Dr. Ritu Mathur Mitra
Associate Professor
History, NSOU

Dr. Papiya Upadhyay
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Three-Day Workshop
on
Enhancing Capacity of Higher Education Teachers

17th -19th December 2021

Venue: Durgapur Regional Centre, NSOU

List of Participants

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