

Report on the Workshop on Critical Reading & Academic Writing

Date: 18 July 2024

Venue: St. Edmund's College, Shillong

Time: 10:00 am - 3:35 pm

The Department of English NEHU, in collaboration with the English Department SEC and SFES hosted a successful workshop on Critical Reading & Academic Writing (AEC 220/AEC 221/ AEC 222) on the 18th of July, 2024. The event saw a total of 46 registered faculty members from various colleges.

The workshop provided valuable training and orientation on critical reading and academic writing, equipping the participants with the necessary skills to teach these courses effectively in the upcoming 3rd Semester under the FYUG (NEP) program. The feedback from the participants was overwhelmingly positive, highlighting the relevance and quality of the sessions. Certificates were provided at the end of the workshop.

09:30 – 10:00 am: Arrival and Registration of Attendees

The attendees arrived and completed their registration between 09:30 and 10:00 am.

10:00 – 10:45 am: Inaugural Session

The inaugural session commenced at 10:00 am with Dr. Jenniefer Dkhar as the Master of Ceremonies. The session included several key addresses:

- **Welcome Address:** Prof. M. B Tariang, Head, Department of English, St. Edmund's College, extended a warm welcome to all the participants and provided an overview of the workshop's objectives.
- **Introduction to the Workshop:** Dr Jenniefer Dkhar provided an outline of the day's activities and emphasised the importance of critical reading and academic writing in the context of the academic curriculum of NEP 2020.
- **Vote of Thanks:** Ms. Theadora War expressed gratitude to all the attendees and speakers for their participation and contributions.

The inaugural session was followed by tea and snacks.

Session 1: 11:00 am to 1:30 pm - Orientation on Critical Reading

Prof. (Dr.) Sukalpa Bhattacharjee conducted the first session, focusing on critical reading techniques and strategies. She provided participants with valuable tips and tricks to cultivate a critical reading mindset in students. Key topics such as interpretation, evaluation, and the importance of critical reading were discussed in depth. Dr. Bhattacharjee also provided an overview of the prescribed syllabus and shared insights on effectively reading the prescribed texts. Additionally, the materials on these were distributed via WhatsApp, ensuring participants had access to the resources needed to implement the strategies discussed. The session

concluded with an invigorating Q&A round, where the participants voiced out their questions and doubts to the resource person.

Lunch Break: 1:30 pm – 2.00 pm

A lunch break provided an opportunity for participants to network and discuss the morning session informally.

Session 2: 2:10 pm – 3:30 pm - Orientation on Academic Writing

The afternoon session was led by Prof. (Dr.) T.K. Bamon and centred on academic writing. Participants were guided through the ABCs of good writing: accuracy, brevity, and clarity. They were also instructed on the kinds of writing, the process of writing and structuring arguments. The session was well-received, with many participants noting the practical advice and insights shared by the resource person.

3.30 pm – 3:35 pm: Vote of Thanks

The workshop concluded with a vote of thanks by Megan D. Nonglait, who expressed appreciation to the resource persons, the organizing committee, and all the participants for making the workshop a success.

