

## **Library Orientation Programmes for Freshers 2023-2024**

At the beginning of each academic session, the Central Library of Loreto College organizes Orientation Programmes for newly admitted First semester Undergraduate students with the aim of familiarizing freshers with the library's resources, services, and facilities. Orientation programmes are conducted for First semester B.Ed. and Post Graduate (English) students as well. In the year 2023-2024, orientation for Undergraduate, B.Ed. and PG (English) students were held on September 22, November 24 and 29, 2023 respectively. These sessions play a crucial role in helping students make effective use of the library from the outset of their academic journey. It enhances their confidence in navigating information resources and sets a strong foundation for their academic and research work. The orientation is usually organized within first two to three weeks of commencement of the academic session. The session includes lecture cum demonstration on introduction to library resources, services, rules and staff of the library, familiarizing with DDC system of arrangement, evaluation of web resources, and ethical use of information, live demonstration on the use of library catalogue and databases, and also to introduce students to several library activities conducted through the Library Society like Book Clubs, visit to notable libraries within our city, celebration of National Library Week and International Mother Language Day, and also interactive Q&A session where students can ask questions and clarify doubts about using library services. Students are also brought to the library in multiple batches from various departments where guided tours are conducted to familiarize all students with the physical structure of the library and its resources. Hands-on sessions are conducted on how to access e-resources, search the catalog, and use library websites and databases.

### **Objectives of the Orientation:**

- To introduce students to the physical layout and digital infrastructure of the library.
- To explain the rules, policies, and procedures related to borrowing, returning, and accessing library materials.
- To provide guidance on using the Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC), digital databases, e-journals, and e-books.
- To promote awareness of research tools, and encourage students to develop independent learning and research skills.
- Create awareness about library events and the Library Society activities conducted to promote reading habits for academic excellence and personal enrichment.

### **Learning outcomes:**

- Enhanced familiarity with Library facilities - Students are able to navigate the library layout and locate key areas such as circulation desk, reference section, digital zone, and reading areas.
- Improved ability to access resources - Participants gain confidence in using the library catalogue (OPAC), online databases, and e-resources for academic or research purposes.
- Understanding of library rules and policies - Students understand borrowing policies, membership rules, overdue fines, and the ethical use of information.

- Increased awareness of support services-Students become aware of assistance available from library staff, including help with referencing, research, and resource discovery.
- Development of information literacy skills- Students learn to identify, evaluate, and use appropriate information sources critically and responsibly.
- Motivation to engage with library activities - Students show interest in participating in book clubs, reading challenges, workshops, or library-led academic programmes.
- Increased library usage - There is a measurable rise in the frequency and quality of library visits and resource usage by students.
- Fostering lifelong learning habits - Participants demonstrate a positive attitude toward continuous learning and reading beyond curriculum requirements.





