## Online Session on "SWAYAM" Course Offerings November 18, 2024 9:15 A.M. – 10:15 A.M.



A talk on online courses available through SWAYAM was organised by the Computer Department in collaboration with the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) on November 18, 2024. The session was conducted online. The speaker for the event was Dr. Manpreet Singh Manna, Vice Chancellor of Chandigarh University. The audience comprised students, faculty members, and administrators keen to understand the potential of online learning platforms.

The significance of SWAYAM (Study Webs of Active-Learning for Young Aspiring Minds) was highlighted during the talk. The initiatives taken by the Government of India

to promote inclusive and accessible education through this platform were elaborated upon. A detailed explanation of the diverse courses available, spanning disciplines such as computer science, engineering, humanities, and management, was provided.

Dr. Manna emphasised the practical importance of online courses, illustrating how they are not just a means to earn a degree but also a powerful tool for gaining knowledge. Practical examples were shared to demonstrate their relevance. For instance, the story of a housewife pursuing a course on law was cited to showcase how such opportunities could help her learn about women's rights and empowerment. Numerous other examples were provided to underline how SWAYAM could cater to individuals across various walks of life. Challenges faced in adopting online learning, such as digital infrastructure and self-discipline, were also addressed by Dr. Manna.

The event was successfully conducted, and it was suggested that more sessions of a similar nature be organised to further explore the opportunities presented by online education. It was noted that such initiatives would significantly contribute to the academic and professional development of students and faculty members alike.

### **Learning Objectives:**

The participants will be able to learn to:

- 1. Gain knowledge about the SWAYAM platform and its role in promoting inclusive and accessible education.
- 2. Explore and learn about the variety of online courses offered through SWAYAM across different disciplines, such as computer science, engineering, humanities, and management.
- 3. Appreciate how online courses are not only for earning degrees but also for acquiring valuable knowledge and skills.
- 4. Understand the impact of online courses on individuals from diverse backgrounds, including non-traditional learners.
- 5. Recognize the challenges involved in adopting online education, such as infrastructure and self-discipline, and discuss strategies to overcome them.

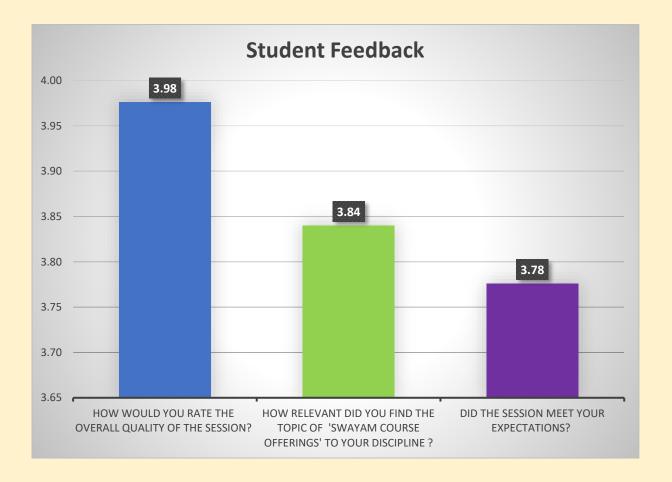
#### **Learning Outcomes:**

At the end of the session, the participants were able to:

- 1. Participants gained a clear understanding of how SWAYAM serves as a platform for accessible education and lifelong learning.
- 2. Participants now know about the wide range of online courses available on SWAYAM across various fields and how to navigate the platform.
- 3. Participants understood how online learning can contribute significantly to personal and professional development, even beyond earning degrees.
- 4. Real-life examples, such as a housewife learning about women's rights, illustrated how online courses can positively affect individuals' lives across different sectors.
- 5. Participants identified the key challenges in adopting online education, such as digital infrastructure and self-discipline, and discussed ways to address these barriers effectively.

**Total Number of Participants: 153** 

**Total Number of Respondents: 124** 



# Talk on Significance of Artificial Intelligence in Social Science November 11, 2024 11:00 A.M. – 12:30 P.M.



The Computer Department of Loreto College, Kolkata, in collaboration with the Internal Quality Assurance Cell, organised a talk on Artificial Intelligence (AI) and its Significance on Social Sciences on November 11, 2024. The session was led by Professor Amlan Chakrabarti, an esteemed AI expert known for his interactive and engaging approach, which encouraged active audience participation.

The event began with a welcome note by Ms. Chandrani Sengupta, Head of the Computer Department, followed by the formal felicitation of Professor Chakrabarti. Beginning with the basics, he introduced AI by discussing the everyday role of computers, establishing an accessible foundation for the audience. From this base, he moved into advanced AI concepts, including Deep Learning and Generative AI, illustrating AI's expansive potential. Professor Chakrabarti emphasised AI's applications across various fields, particularly in the social sciences, where it assists in analysing large datasets to uncover insights in sociology, psychology, and economics. He also highlighted AI's critical role in fields such

as biology, where it supports genetic research and precision surgeries, and agriculture, where it enhances crop management and pest control.

The talk concluded with a discussion on Generative AI, exploring its practical uses and ethical considerations. An interactive session allowed attendees to deepen their understanding, making the talk an enriching experience that underscored AI's transformative role across multiple disciplines.

### **Learning Objectives:**

The participants will be able to learn to:

- 1. Understand the basics of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and how it can be a part of daily life.
- 2. Explore how AI helps in studying and understanding social issues using large amounts of data.
- 3. Discover the role of AI is making a difference in fields such as biology, agriculture, psychology, economics, geography and many more.
- 4. Think about the ethical questions and challenges while using Generative AI platform.
- 5. Participate in discussions and ask questions to deepen their understanding of AI.

### **Learning Outcomes:**

At the end of the session, the participants were able to:

- 1. Examples of AI in daily life were identified, and its role in simplifying tasks and decision-making was understood.
- 2. Insights into how AI uncovers social patterns and trends through data analysis were gained.
- 3. Knowledge of AI's applications in healthcare, agriculture, and environmental science was acquired.
- 4. Ethical challenges of AI, particularly in Generative AI, were critically considered and understood.
- 5. A deeper understanding of AI's transformative role across disciplines was achieved through active participation.
- 6. Curiosity to explore AI further and apply its concepts in academic or real-world scenarios was sparked.

Total Number of Participants: 112 Total Number of Respondents: 74

