



VIT[®]
Vellore Institute of Technology
(Deemed to be University under section 3 of UGC Act, 1956)

Two-Day Virtual Conference On

ONLINE UNIVERSITY EDUCATION
AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING:
SCOPE AND CHALLENGES

November 13-14, 2020

Dr. S. Rukmini,
Senior Assistant Professor,
Department of English,
School of Social Sciences and Languages,
Vellore Institute of Technology, Vellore,
Tamil Nadu, India PIN: 632014
Mobile: +91-8790984172, +91-7981247113
Email: onlineng.edu@gmail.com

Scope of Conference

The COVID19 pandemic has affected and disrupted all aspects of life globally. Along with other sectors, higher education sector has also been severely impacted. Due to this, the traditional Teaching-Learning methodologies and student-teacher interactive experience has been replaced with online education. Though not a permanent replacement to the traditional classroom teaching, online education will be the mode of teaching and learning until the vaccine is invented. Governments and health experts have advised Universities, Colleges and Schools to commence classes with a combination of online and tradition teaching. Further, virtual and online education is being advocated and to some extent made mandatory at least by some higher education institutes for the next academic year. With the lack of any foreseeable medical solution in the immediate future for this pandemic, the higher education institutes are left with no other option but to shift to online education to minimize health risk of students and staff. Two decades ago, technology was not optimal for online education, however, the latest technology of internet, telecommunications etc., have paved the way for online education and virtual classrooms connecting student-teacher across the globe with a few limitations. Since there is a sudden shift from traditional education to online education, there is a need to understand online education methodologies, to measure its effectiveness, as well as to prepare a shift to a new system. There is a need to examine Teaching-Learning approaches, evaluation and assessment methodologies and educational experience for students and attitude change among teachers.

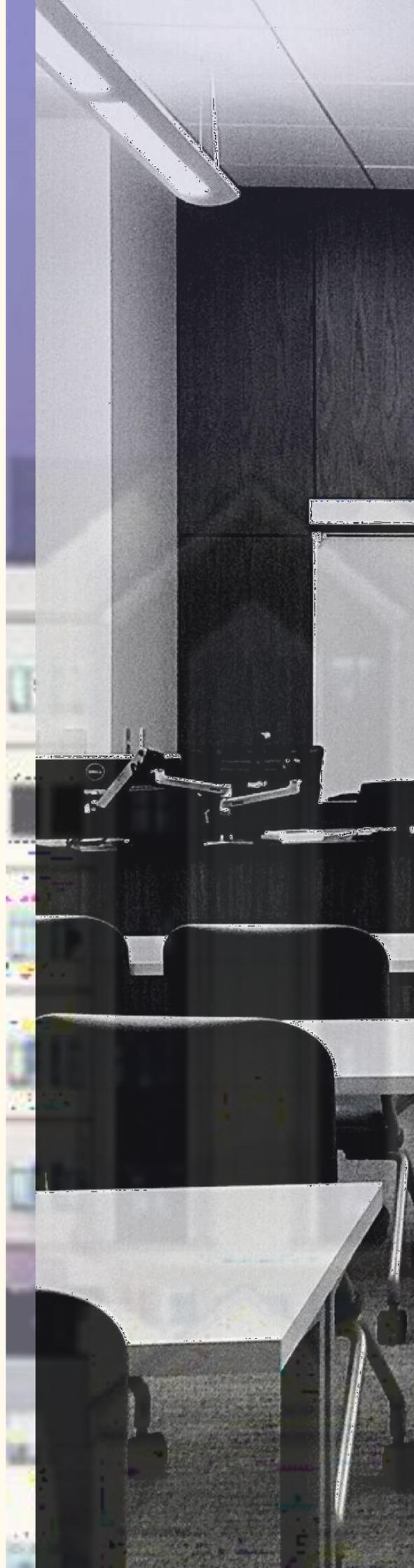
Unlike other disciplines, online English Teaching and Learning poses serious challenges and needs a paradigm shift. The focus of research till now has been in a traditional classroom, but online classroom has opened a new chapter in the field of English Literature and Language research. Furthermore, motivating students to learn English through online is another challenge.



In spite of these challenges and issues, online education can provide learning opportunities due to effective teaching methodologies of English Literature and Language optimizing the audio-visual aids, Internet technologies, social media and other virtual platforms when compared to traditional classroom teaching.

Though online learning of English Literature and Language has better scope and development, it is important to understand the issues like teaching-learning methodologies, specific approaches and adaptations for various courses like teaching text, prose, poetry, drama, novel for literature and communication skills and language skills. Further, there is also a need to come up with novel evaluation assessment procedures and motivate student-teacher to prepare for online education ecosystem. The onus is on English Literature and Language Teachers to take up this challenge of online education due to the COVID 19 pandemic for effective and holistic learning experience for both teachers and students. There is an urgent need to address these issues especially for engineering and management education. Against this background, the Two-day Virtual Conference on **Online University Education and English Language Teaching: Scope and Challenges** brings together researchers, teachers and professionals of English Literature and Language in India and abroad to come up with innovative teaching-learning methodologies, evaluation and assessment techniques, effective and holistic student-teacher learning experience and policy guidelines for Online Education of English Literature and Language across Universities.

We invite scholarly papers on online teaching of English Literature and Language courses from higher education institutes with special focus on technology enabled pedagogy and methodologies, student engagement and motivation, novel assignments and evaluation approaches, teacher motivation and policy issues.



TWO-DAY VIRTUAL CONFERENCE ON ONLINE UNIVERSITY

EDUCATION AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING: SCOPE AND CHALLENGES will discuss following themes and sub-themes, but are not limited to

1. Online Education for English Literature: Methodologies and Innovative Teaching Practices
2. Online Education for English Language Teaching: Methods, Approaches and Techniques.
3. Online Education - Assessment and Evaluation for Literature and Language Courses.
4. Online Education for Innovative Technologies, Audio-visual aids Social Media for Literature and language Teaching
5. Online Education effective and holistic Teaching-learning experience: Teacher-Student Motivation, Engagement and Satisfaction

Important Dates and Deadlines

Abstract Submission	September 30, 2020.
Notification of Abstract Acceptance	October 10, 2020.
Registration Opens	October 1, 2020.
Registration Ends	October 31, 2020.
Submission of Full Paper	November 5, 2020.

PUBLICATION

Selected papers from the conference will be published in conference proceedings with ISBN. Further information will be shared in due course of time.

SUBMISSION

Abstracts of about 500-700 words on the above mentioned themes should be emailed to onlineng.edu@gmail.com on or before September 30, 2020. The abstracts, typed in MS Word (Times New Roman, 12, double space) should contain the title, name and affiliation of the author, and email address. M.L.A style to be followed for citing the references in the full paper.

NOTE

A registration link is provided on the last page of this brochure.
Registration is free.

Registered presenters will be provided with the link for virtual presentation.

Details regarding the link to the virtual conference and password will be communicated to the registered email address by November 10, 2020.

The conference organizers will issue e-certificates to all the registered participants who attend a minimum of four sessions.



Keynote Speaker:

Prof. Shyam B. Menon, Professor of Education, Central Institute of Education, University of Delhi, Delhi.
Former Vice Chancellor, Ambedkar University, Delhi.

Shyam Menon is a Professor at the Central Institute of Education, University of Delhi since 1994. He was the Founding Vice Chancellor of the Ambedkar University Delhi, during 2008-2018, in which capacity he led a team of scholars and professionals in building from its very inception this public university dedicated to the Social Sciences and Humanities. He had been Dean, Faculty of Education and the Proctor of the University of Delhi (2000-05) and earlier Director, School of Education, Indira Gandhi National Open University (1996-98) and Professor at the Central Institute of Educational Technology, NCERT (1993-94). He began his teaching career in 1982 at the M.S. University of Baroda where he taught for several years. His education was at the University of Kerala and at the M.S. University of Baroda. He was later at the University of Wisconsin, Madison as a Fulbright Post-Doctoral Fellow. His work has mainly been in Curriculum Studies, Higher Education and Teacher Education. He edited the journal, Perspectives in Education, for many years. He has been on the international advisory board of the journal, Comparative Education. He had served on the Task Force on Access and Equity in Higher Education constituted by the International Association of Universities. He has been on the boards and academic councils of several institutions and universities.





Plenary Speaker:

Dr. Rabia Hos, USA

Assistant Professor, School of Education, University of Rhode Island, USA

Dr. Rabia Hos is currently an Assistant Professor of TESOL/Bilingual-Dual Language Education at the University of Rhode Island. Having been born and raised in Turkey, she used her experiences as a young immigrant to committing herself to enhancing educational opportunities of immigrant and refugee English Learners in secondary schools. Dr. Hos have taught English in New York Public schools for over a decade before she started teaching at the university level. She was a faculty member at a university in Turkey as well as at Illinois State University. Dr. Hos' research focuses on experiences of English Learners in U.S. schools as well as refugee language learners, and professional development of teachers of English.





Plenary Speaker:

Prof. Dr. Shahab Yar Khan
(Associate professor of English literature,
University of Sarajevo, Bosnia Herzegovina).

Prof. Dr. Shahab Yar Khan is a leading South-East European expert of English Renaissance and Shakespearean studies from University of Sarajevo, Bosnia Herzegovina. In 1997, Prof. Khan left his homeland, Lahore (popular Subcontinental city in Pakistan where he was born in 1967) for Sarajevo University, where now he is settled with his family. He has dedicated life time in promoting Shakespearean Drama in Particular and English literature in general during the last two decades in the region. He is founder of Shakespeare Drama Club, Sarajevo University and since 2000, as a versatile stage actor and director, has led the club in mounting on stage freshly interpreted Shakespearean plays annually. He is writer of eight critical books on various aspects of his fields of expertise so far, two of them were best sellers in Bosnia in 2013. He has around a hundred scientific research papers to his credit in various local and international literary journals, many of his articles are available for students' and research scholars' benefit free online. He has toured worldwide, across Europe, South Asia and North America to share his genuine theories on the nature of Renaissance (he is creator of terms like, Genissance and Premissance) and Shakespearean art (lay out of a matriarchal system based on Shakespeare's works is one of his major contributions). He has written extensively on the art of teaching and in the midst of the crises of 2020 pandemic his views have gained currency among students and academics. Recently, he has been working on various academic and theatrical projects among them his under-process novella (Job of an Interpreter) based on true accounts related to the refugee crisis in Europe is expected to give a new dimension to the stereotypical approach towards the largest wave of migration in human history.



Plenary Speaker:

Mian Md. Naushaad Kabir is Assistant Professor of English Language at the Institute of Modern Languages, University of Dhaka.

He has a PhD in English Language Education from The English and Foreign Languages University (EFLU), Hyderabad. Currently, he is the Vice President of Bangladesh English Language Teachers Association (BELTA), and the Founder Executive Editor of BELTA Journal. He has co-edited The Routledge Handbook of English Language Education in Bangladesh, UK: Routledge (in press). He works in the areas of curriculum, materials, assessment, and multilingualism.



Plenary Speaker

Prof. G. Damodar, Vice Chancellor, Chaitanya (Deemed to be University) and former Professor English, Kakatiya University, Warangal, Telangana, India.

During his 42 years of teaching and administrative experience, Prof. Damodar held various administrative and academic leadership positions. He has 54 books and 74 articles published to his credit. He has delivered keynote addresses and plenary sessions in several conferences, seminars and workshops. He has guided 27 theses for M.Phil and Ph.D. He has visited 21 countries across the globe. He has received 6 distinguished awards i.e. Best Teacher Award by Govt of AP, Multiple Committed Lion Award, English Forum Award, Bhavnagar, Gujarat, Telugu Tejam Award, New Delhi, Pothana Award, Warangal. He was the Visitor's Nominee for Dr HS Central University, Sagar, MP, during 2015-2018. More details at www.chaitanya.edu.in





Plenary Speaker:

Dr. Deba Priya Bose, Assistant Professor in English at the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Guwahati, India.

Her primary work is in Renaissance English women's writing. Her other interest is Digital Humanities, particularly digital scholarly editing. She has taught in the Postgraduate Diploma Course in Digital Humanities and Cultural Informatics offered by the School of Cultural Texts and Records (SCTR), Jadavpur University, India. She was Project Supervisor in the 'Bichitra Tagore Online Variorum' (a documentary variorum digital edition of Nobel Laureate Rabindranath Tagore's manuscript and printed writings in Bengali and English available at www.bichitra.jdvu.ac.in) and is a contributor in *Bichitra: The Making of an Online Tagore Variorum* (Springer, 2015), edited by Sukanta Chaudhuri. Her current work involves creating an electronic edition of the works of the English Protestant martyr Anne Askew (www.anne-askew.humanities.uva.nl), funded by an Erasmus Mundus fellowship to the University of Amsterdam and supported by IIT Guwahati. She has contributed to the University of Edinburgh Institute of Advanced Studies in the Humanities' 'Dangerous Women' project (<http://dangerouswomenproject.org/2016/09/16/anne-askew-2/>) and was recipient of the 2018 Moore Institute Fellowship at the National University of Ireland Galway.





Plenary Speaker:

Dr. Vridhachalem Pillay Subramaniam., Educational Management Consultant, Chennai.

V.Prof. Dr. Vridhachalem Pillay Subramaniam, did his Ph.D from Deccan College, Pune and worked on Historiography and Ethno linguistics during his stint with Professor R.E. Asher at the University of Edinburgh, Scotland, during the autumn semester in 1978. Prof. Subramaniam taught several years English and Linguistics and guided a number of research scholars obtain their M.Phil. and Ph. D. degrees comfortably. As a Teacher Trainer he did research on techniques of MICRO_TEACHING and TEAM_TEACHING which was greatly appreciated by the Central Institute of English and Foreign Languages, Hyderabad. A number of articles have been published by him in the National and International Journals. (<http://www.academia.edu> for more details). Pro Subramaniam edited a book of essays written by Comparativist Professor K. Chellappan, "Literature Beyond Walls" which was released at The Liverpool Hope University in 2018. Prof. Subramaniam is quite passionate about deciphering the Indus Script, eschewing polemics.





Plenary Speaker:

Dr.K.R.Rama Mohan, School of Human Sciences, Dean, Sikkim, Central University, Sikkim.

Dean, School of Human Sciences, Sikkim (Central University), has twenty-five years of teaching and research experience. Dr. Mohan was formerly faculty for London School of Economics, University of London at Singapore, Asmara University and Florida Technical College USA. Dr. Mohan has published many research papers in peer reviewed and high impact factor journals in the fields of Tribal education, Developmental studies, Social inequities etc. and has done major and minor research projects funded by UGC, ICSSR as well as consultancy projects.



About VIT

VIT, one of the premier institutes in Tamil Nadu, was established in 1984. It is a major, comprehensive, student centred research university dedicated to excellence in teaching, research, and service. VIT today comprises various schools and interdisciplinary research centres offering undergraduate, postgraduate and research programs in various disciplines. The institute was established to provide quality higher education at par with international standards. The campus has a cosmopolitan atmosphere with students from all corners of the globe. Presently the student's strength has crossed 25,000. Our Memoranda of Understanding with various international universities are our major strength. The mission of VIT is to educate students from all over India, including those from the local and rural areas and from other countries, so that they can become enlightened individuals, improving the living standards of their families, industries and society. VIT provides individual attention, world-class quality education, and takes care of character building. There are student and faculty exchange programmes, to encourage joint research projects for mutual benefit. VIT Vellore obtained grade "A" for all the programmes offered by the University during the re-accreditation processes in February 2015. The University was recently ranked No.1 Private Engineering Institution by MHRD, Govt. of India. VIT – Recognised as Institution of Eminence (IoE) by the Government of India.

About the Department of English

The Department of English is part of the School of Social Sciences and Languages. The school offers language courses at basic and intermediate levels for UG and PG programmes in a diverse set of disciplines that come under science, technology, commerce and management to enable all learners to avail opportunities across the globe. The department aims to build communicative competence and confidence in students of engineering and other streams. In addition to teaching communicative English, the faculty members carry out research in different areas in literature and the humanities.



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Contact

Dr. S. Rukmini,
Senior Assistant Professor
Department of English
School of Social Sciences and Languages
Vellore Institute of Technology (VIT)
Vellore, Tamil Nadu, India PIN: 632014
Mobile: +91-8790984172, +91-7981247113
Email: onlineng.edu@gmail.com

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