



Miranda House UNIVERSITY OF DELHI

Departmental Annual Report - 3

Departmental Activities: Curriculum and Beyond

Department: POLITICAL SCIENCE

Year: 2016-17

Department Society and its Office Bearers: PREETI KUMARI, TITAKSHA VASHISHT

Staff Advisors: Dr. JAYASHREE PILLAI



Department of Political Science- Report of Activities 2016-17

The Students' Union of 2016-17 which was elected on the 12th of April 2016 organized the Farewell for the graduating class of 2015-16, bidding them goodbye and wishing them success ahead. The farewell ceremony began with an address by the Teacher-in-Charge, Dr. Jayashree Pillai, followed by cultural performances and Valedictory speeches by students of the graduating class.

The orientation programme for the Fresher's (2016-17) in the presence of the faculty members and the Students' Union was held on 18th July to welcome students to the Miranda House Community. A cultural event to formally welcome the students and foster the spirit of collective learning across the students of the department was held on 26th August, 2016.

A session on U.S. Presidential Elections: From Primaries to Polling Day by Mr. Jonathan Kessler was held on the 19th of August 2016. The lecture comprehensively explored the U.S. election process and looked at different facets of the election process. The students raised interesting questions about the domestic politics in the US, the same was satisfactorily addressed by the speaker.



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The Department organized a Seminar Course on “Fundamentals of Law” from the 26th of September to 6th of October to train the students of Miranda House in the basics of law to become conscious citizens aware of the rights and duties accorded to them by the Indian Constitution. The Seminar was conducted by Mr. Apurv Mishra, Guest Faculty at Ashoka University and Editor-in Chief, India Law Journal.

A learning session on “Lenin’s theory of Imperialism”, conducted by Dr. Namrata Singh, Faculty, Department of Political Science, Miranda House was organized on 22nd September, 2016. The session was weaved around Vladimir Lenin’s book “Imperialism: The highest stage of Capitalism”. The session had a number of interactive activities like role plays for students to understand the present relevance of the theory. The Department organized a session on “Significance of Elections for the Youth in India and Career Opportunities in Election Management” with Ms. Shubhrastha, Political Entrepreneur and Fellow, India Foundation on October 5th. An Alumni of Miranda House, the speaker reminisced the thorough training in critical thinking she received at Miranda House and explored the role of the Youth in the Electoral Process. Through her own experiences of working in campaign management with political parties across the ideological spectrum, she brought to light this emerging career opportunity and ways to successfully pursue the same.

An interactive session with Mr. Ashish Joshi on the topic “Aligning Career Goals to meet the Emerging Challenges of the 21st Century” was organized on 7th of October in collaboration with the Placement Cell. The speaker inspired the audience to pursue innovation in education and emphasized on the role of research in academic training. He shared his vision for the 21st century and encouraged students to align their career goals with the goal of solving emergent problems of our time.

In collaboration with School for Democracy, the department organized a Public Lecture on “Religion, Power and Politics” by Prof. Ram Puniyani on the 26th of October. Through mythological stories central to different religions, the speaker brought forth the problem of different interpretations and narratives creating an artificial divide between communities. He looked at the problem of Communalism in Indian Society and discussed various facets of it in light of his work.

An interactive session with General Syed Ata Hasnain was conducted on 28th October, 2016 on “India Security Interest: A Strategic Perspective”. The event laid stress on the border security, peace and conflict resolution of India and its neighboring countries.

The Vigilance Awareness Week 2016 in the first week of November offered many opportunities to the students. The theme was “Public Participation in Promoting Integrity and Eradicating Corruption”. Firstly, an upbeat seminar with Justice Dhingra was conducted on 1st November, 2016. It threw light upon how judiciary handles corruption and remains a transparent edifice. The event also included elocution competition and street play in which the students actively participated. The highlight of the event was the Anti – corruption oath taken by all participants.

The Vigilance Awareness celebration was followed by a student study circle organized on “History and Contemporary Relevance of Sedition in India”, and conducted by Rashmi Gopi, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science. It made students aware of the sedition laws in India and gave a wider understanding of the issue.

January 2017 began with the two-day UGC National Seminar on "Language, Ethics and Governance: Decoding Logic, Argumentation and Rhetoric in Indian Politics" coordinated by Dr. Jayashree Pillai and Ms. Sonali Chitalkar with academic deliberations and active participation of students. The Seminar was marked



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by the presence of Dr. Radhakrishnan Pillai as our Keynote Speaker who explored the multiple dimensions of Indian Political Thought, a special lecture by Hon'ble Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman deliberating on the issue of "Ethics & Governance in Indian Politics" and the Valedictory Address by Yogendra Yadav, Chaired by Prof. Ujjwal Singh. The sessions brought forth new research and enriching discourses on Indian Politics, Nationalism and Governance in an interdisciplinary framework. The workshop on Writing skills and Logical thinking witnessed great participation from students across several disciplines and colleges.

The department presently plans to organize the Inaugural Lecture for Ecclesia 2017 on 16th February followed by competitive events by the end of this month. The department is also working on creating an interactive and informative forum for the students online, with a website of its own. The website shall have details related to academics, student activities, past year question papers, repository of articles, e-books relevant to the students.

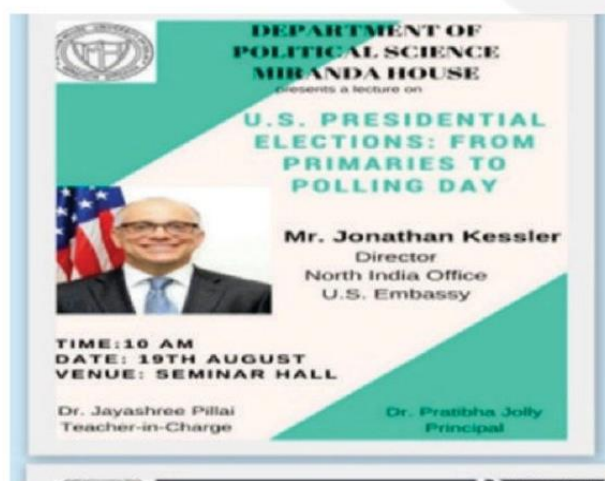
Part B.1

Seminars/conferences/workshops conducted by the Department

A Session on U.S. Presidential Elections was held on 19th August, 2016. Mr. Jonathan Kessler, (Director North India office US Embassy) was invited as Speaker for the day.

Session on U.S. Presidential Elections

By Mr. Jonathan Kessler
(19 August 2016)



The lecture comprehensively explored the U.S. election process and looked at different facets of the election process.

The students raised interesting questions about the domestic politics in the US, the same was satisfactorily addressed by the speaker.

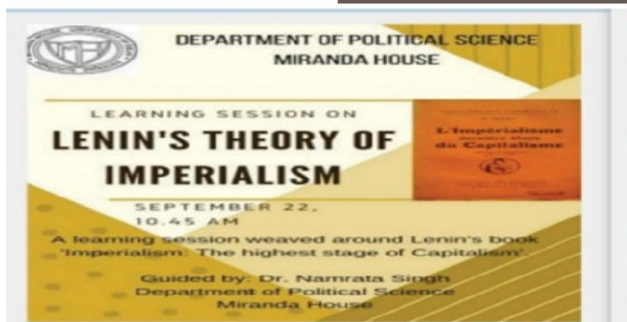




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A Talk was organized on 22nd September 2016 on “Lenin’s theory of Imperialism”. Dr Namrata Singh was the Speaker for the day.

session on ‘Lenin’s theory of Imperialism’
Speaker - Dr. Namrata Singh
Date : 22nd Sept 2016



The session was weaved around Vladimir Lenin’s book ‘Imperialism: The highest stage of Capitalism’. The session had a number of interactive activities like role plays for students to understand the present relevance of the theory.

A talk was organized on 5th October 2016 on the topic ‘Significance of Elections for the Youth in India and Career Opportunities in Election Management’. Ms. Shubhrastha was invited as speaker.

Session on ‘Significance of Elections for the Youth in India and Career Opportunities in Election Management’
Speaker : Ms. Shubhrastha
Date : 5th Oct 2016



An Alumni of Miranda House, the speaker reminisced the thorough training in critical thinking she received at Miranda House and explored the role of the Youth in the Electoral Process. Through her own experiences of working in campaign management with political parties across the ideological spectrum, she brought to light this emerging career opportunity and ways to successfully pursue the same.

A session was held on 7th October 2016 on the topic ‘Aligning Career Goals to meet the Emerging Challenges of the 21st Century. Mr Ashish Joshi was invited as speaker.

Lecture on ‘Religion, Power and Politics’ held on 26th October 2016. Prof. Ram Puniyani was invited as speaker.



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Session on “Aligning Career Goals to meet the Emerging Challenges of the 21st Century”

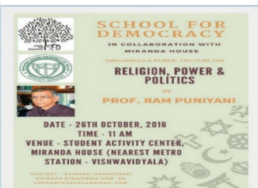
Speaker : Mr. Ashish Joshi
Date : 7th oct 2016



An interactive session with Mr. Ashish Joshi on the topic “Aligning Career Goals to meet the Emerging Challenges of the 21st Century” was organized on 7th of October in collaboration with the Placement Cell. The speaker inspired the audience to pursue innovation in education and emphasized on the role of research in academic training. He shared his vision for the 21st century and encouraged students to align their career goals with the goal of solving emergent problems of our time.

Lecture on ‘Religion, Power and Politics

SPEAKER : PROF. RAM PUNIYANI
DATE : 26 OCT 2016



In collaboration with School for Democracy, the department organized a Public Lecture on ‘Religion, Power and Politics’ by Prof. Ram Puniyani on the 26th of October. Through mythological stories central to different religions, the speaker brought forth the problem of different interpretations and narratives creating an artificial divide between communities. He looked at the problem of Communism in Indian Society and discussed various facets of it in light of his work.

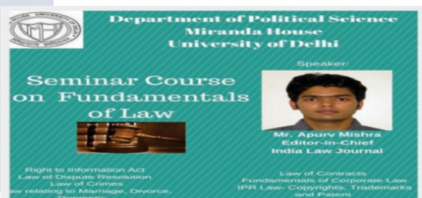
Lecture was held on 28th October 2016 on the topic ‘Session on India Security Interest: A Strategic Perspective’. General Syed Ata Hasnain was invited as speaker.

Seminar on ‘Fundamentals of Law’ was held on 26th September 2016. Mr. Apurv Mishra was invited as speaker for the event.

Session on India Security Interest: A Strategic Perspective”

Speaker : General Syed Ata Hasnain
Date : 28 Oct 2016

An interactive session with General Syed Ata Hasnain was conducted on 28th October, 2016 on “India Security Interest: A Strategic Perspective”. The event laid stress on the border security, peace and conflict resolution of India and its neighboring countries.



Seminar Course on ‘Fundamentals of Law

SPEAKER: MR. APURV MISHRA
DATE : 26 SEPT 2016- 6 OCT 2016

The Department organized a Seminar Course on ‘Fundamentals of Law’ from the 26th of September to 6th of October to train the students of Miranda House in the basics of law to become conscious citizens aware of the rights and duties accorded to them by the Indian Constitution. The Seminar was conducted by Mr. Apurv Mishra, Guest Faculty at Ashoka University and Editor-in-Chief, India Law Journal.

Webinar was held on the theme ‘Public Participation in Promoting Integrity and Eradicating Corruption’ on 1st-8th November 2016. Justice Dhingra was invited as speaker for the event.



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Study was held on 1st-8 November 2016 on the topic ‘History and Contemporary Relevance of Sedition of India. Dr. Rashmi Gopi was invited as speaker for the event.

Vigilance Awareness Week 2016

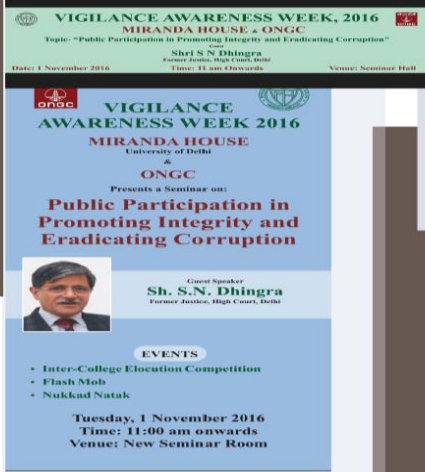
THEME : PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN PROMOTING INTEGRITY AND ERADICATING CORRUPTION".

SUB EVENT :
UPBEAT WEBINAR

Speaker : Justice Dhingra

Date : 1-8 nov 2016

It threw light upon how judiciary handles corruption and remains a transparent edifice. The event also included elocution competition and street play in which the students actively participated. The highlight of the event was the Anti – corruption oath taken by all participants.



Student study circle

Speaker: Ms. Rashmi Gopi
Date: 1-8 Nov 2016

Topic : History and Contemporary Relevance of Sedition in India"

The Vigilance Awareness celebration was followed by a student study circle organized on "History and Contemporary Relevance of Sedition in India", an conducted by Rashmi Gopi Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science. It made student aware of the sedition law in India and gave a wide understanding of the issue.

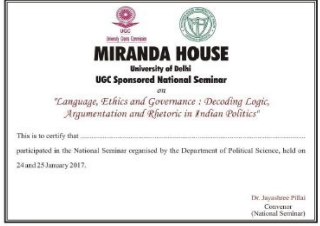
UGC sponsored seminar was held on January 2017 on the topic ‘ Language, Ethics and Governance: Decoding Logic, Argumentation and Rhetoric in Indian Politics. Hon’ble Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitaraman was guest of honour. Dr. Radhakrishnan Pillai and Prof. Ujjwal Singh delivered lecture on the event.

Ecclesia was organized by the Department of Political Science on 16th February 2017. Inaugural lecture was given by Prof. Madhulika Banerjee on the theme ‘Policy, Governance & Citizenship: Structuring a truly Democratic Leadership’.

UGC National Seminar (January 2017)

Topic : "Language, Ethics and Governance: Decoding Logic, Argumentation and Rhetoric in Indian Politics"

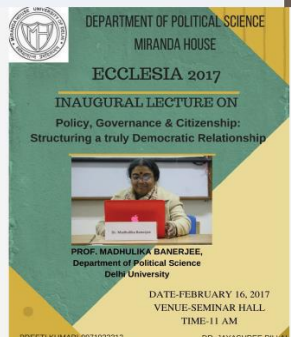
Coordinator : Dr. Jayashree Pillai and Ms. Sonali Chitalkar



Ecclesia 2017

DATE : 16 FEBRUARY 2017

The Seminar was marked by the presence of Dr. Radhakrishnan Pillai as our Keynote Speaker who explored the multiple dimensions of Indian Political Thought, a special lecture by Hon’ble Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitaraman deliberating on the issue of ‘Ethics & Governance in Indian Politics’ and the Valedictory Address by Yogendra Yadav, Chaired by Prof. Ujjwal Singh. The sessions brought forth new research and enriching discourses on Indian Politics, Nationalism and Governance in an interdisciplinary framework. The workshop on Writing skills and Logical thinking witnessed great participation from students across several disciplines and colleges.



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Part B.2

Extension Activities organized

FAREWELL 2016

The Students' Union 2016-17 elected on the 12th of April 2016 organized the Farewell for the graduating class of 2015-16 bidding them goodbye and wishing them success ahead.

The farewell ceremony began with an address by the Teacher-in-Charge, Dr. Jayashree Pillai, followed by cultural performances and Valedictory speeches by students of the graduating class.



II YEAR



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FRESHERS 2016-17

The orientation programme for the Freshers (2016-17) in the presence of the faculty members and the Students' Union was held on 18th July to welcome students to the Miranda House Community.

FORMAL WELCOME OF STUDENTS

A cultural event to formally welcome the students and foster the spirit of collective learning across the students of the department was held on 26th August, 2016.

Farewell was organized by the Students Union on 12th April 2016. It was addressed by Dr. Jayashree Pillai, Teacher-in-Charge followed by cultural programmes and Validictory speeches by students of the graduating class.



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Formal Welcome of students was held on 26th August, 2016 followed by cultural event to impart the spirit of collective learning across the students.

Freshers party was organized by the Students Union on 18th July 2016 in the presence of faculty members.