

5.

Best Practices

The UGC HRDC AMU has introduced some special features integrated with the courses to bring about the holistic development of the course participants and give them an enriched experience.

1. Distribution of reading material

- Higher Education Book
- Booklet: Food for Thought
- Compilation of lecture notes in a CD
- Booklet on UGC Funding/Schemes

2. Library and reading room – reading and use of library is encouraged by rewarding the participants who borrow maximum books from Library.

3. Fitness and Entertainment

- **Outdoor games**
 1. Badminton
 2. Cricket
 3. Volleyball
- **Indoor games**
 1. Carom
 2. Chess
 3. Ludo
 4. Disaster management drill
 5. TV in the lounge with cable connection

4. Home visits

The participants of the OP and SRC living away from their homes for several weeks are often home-sick. Also having come from various parts of the country and belonging to a different culture they are curious about the culture and people of their host institution. In order to improve cross cultural understanding and develop appreciation for the plurality of the country, 'Home Visits' to the homes of senior AMU faculty are organised.

- In batches of six to eight, the participants are sent to the homes of the faculty member where they interact with the family members and enjoy a cup of tea with them.
- In the past four years since this novel practice has been introduced at the UGC HRDC, AMU it has been hugely popular with the course participants. This unique and unprecedented practice goes a long way in improving the inter-communal ties between the various peoples of this diverse nation and reiterates our strength in diversity and multiculturalism.
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5. Language Classes

Free and optional language classes in the evening for general proficiency in

1. English
 2. Hindi
 3. Urdu
- At the special request of participants, Arabic and Persian classes have also been organised.
 - At the special request of participants English Calligraphy classes were also undertaken.

6. Literary and Cultural evenings

- **Cultural evenings**
 1. *Sham-e Ghazal*
- **State Cultural evenings**
 1. Assam
 2. Maharashtra
 3. Karnataka
 4. Kerala
- **Literary evenings (Urdu/Hindi)**
 1. *Kahani ki sham* (Story reading from eminent writers)
 1. *Sahityik sandhya* (Mix of literary performances from participants and eminent Hindi writers)
 2. Self composed poetry reading
 3. Multi-lingual literary evening and book release functions

7. Educational visits

- AMU Campus
- Maulana Azad Central Library
- Heritage Museum
- State of the Art Science Lab
- Social Science Cyber Library
- Biodiversity Landscape
- Orphanage
- Specialized research facilities during the relevant subject refresher courses, such as the Centre for Quran Studies and Centre for Persian Research for the participants of SRC Oriental Studies, Biotechnology Lab for the participants of SRC Agricultural Studies and the AMU Solar Power Plant for the participants of SRC Environmental Studies.