

Report on Swayam Online Course: Orientation and Exam

SWAYAM is a program initiated by Government of India and designed to achieve the three fundamental principles of Education Policy i.e., Access, Equity and Quality. The objective of this effort is to take the best teaching learning resources to all, including the most disadvantaged. SWAYAM seeks to bridge the digital divide for students who have so far remained uninfluenced by the digital revolution. All the courses, available on the portal can be accessed by anyone, anywhere at any time. All the courses are interactive, prepared by the best teachers in the country and are available, free of cost to everyone. The courses on this platform are authentic, approved by the Government and are legible for credit transfer.

Swayam was introduced to the class by Dr. Bijoy Thomas, who gave a detailed and thorough orientation about the platform, the different courses available and their usefulness to the teaching profession. **ICT Skills in Education** was one particular course was emphasised upon, as it was relevant to the context and helpful to prospective teachers. The primary objective of this course was to incorporate awareness about the importance and need of integrating modern ICT Skills in education. Dr. Bijoy diligently motivated the class to go through with this course, there were several sessions of discussion that were done in the class regarding the internal assignments. The duration of the course was for twelve weeks, there were video lectures, an online discussion forum and notes on the portal and it mandated internal assignments to be submitted. There was an external multiple choice based examination after the completion of the duration of the course. The results we announced on their portal, the marksheet and the certificate were hence uploaded on the portal as well.

I took up this course seriously and regularly submitted the internal assignments from time to time guided by Dr. Bijoy followed by registering for the exam. The primary preparation and study for the exam included the material posted on the portal. The exam was a multiple choice based online exam. Soon after, the results were announced and I successfully passed the exam with a consolidated score of 75% (Reg. No.: 403274).

This course has definitely helped me understand about the application of ICT in teaching learning, made me aware of different new trends in the field of education, about IT education in India, and the use of instructional media in classrooms. This course has expanded my understanding with respect to use the media effectively in classroom and bring about an effective learning in the students. On the flip side, I am more aware about the challenges as a teacher in the digital era and how to overcome those challenges. I feel courses such as these are really helpful to keep us teachers updated and running with the current trends in the field of education.

- Jenia Pereira