

B.Tech Teaching in IITB : A personal perspective

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Views on teaching, planning & learning

- Willingness to learn
- Punctuality-respect everybody's time
- Motivate students & respect them as co-learners
- Try to discourage rote learning
- Encourage independent thinking
- Preparedness while going to a class
- Encourage student- teacher interaction in class
- Complete transparency in evaluation
- Use communication skills to the best

What has changed over the years in B.Tech. teaching ?

- 1 Number of students in classes
- 2 The Role of TA
- 3 The Class Rooms
- 4 Use of moodle

Number of students

Teaching philosophy hasn't changed with number of students.

Additional steps - Conscious efforts

- Organisation of lecture slides.
- Use of easily accessible teaching resources.
- repeatedly asking students to note down important points, do problems in the class.
- Arrive early, stay late - use this time to interact with students.
- Biometric attendance - not really successful, though it helps.
- Random attendance - effective.

As a teacher, always worried about...

- do the students use gadgets in classes ?
- not knowing the students personally.
- some of the students not paying proper attention in large classes.

Administrative Support

- 1 Arranging extra classes are extremely difficult, rooms allotted to different departments.
- 2 Backloggers taking up courses not in the allotted semester - causing slot clashes for classes, examinations.
- 3 More efficient administrative support staff - from the department & main building.

Examinations

- 1 New halls are not well-designed for conducting examinations.
- 2 Online quizzes and exams ?
- 3 Question cum answer books - JEE, JAM pattern.
- 4 Give away end sem answer books. Administrative support for scanning and retaining soft copies of answer books.
- 5 Academic dishonesty has increased over the years - Distinct question papers? A course on academic ethics?

TA's role is becoming increasingly important.

Current practice

- 1 TA training session
- 2 Effective interaction of TA's and students - Some of the TA's of our course are already participating & contributing effectively by creating google/ facebook student groups and having academic interactions with them outside the regular class hours.
- 3 TA empowerment - In MA 108, we have requested the TA's to award 10 marks to their respective students, giving them complete autonomy.

Scope for improvements

- 1 Compulsory teaching evaluation for TA's.
- 2 Encourage TA's by constituting teaching awards for TA's - Reward the sincere and hard working TA's.

Improvements over the years

- 1 The new class rooms in IIT for UG students are well-designed.
- 2 Ample space, lighting & air-conditioning in the class rooms.
- 3 Better support and cooperation from PA system staff.

Scope for improvement

- 1 Vertical sliding black-boards.
- 2 Larger white boards, writing pens & dusters for white board.
- 3 Servicing of projectors, audio systems regularly.

Current MA 106 & MA 108 batch

- Uploading of lecture slides.
- Question paper, answer keys are uploaded - transparency in evaluation. The answer keys are frozen after receiving comments from students regarding alternate solutions & partial marking. This drastically reduces the number of cribs by the students.
- Queries, doubts in moodle benefit larger number of students.

Scope for improvement

- 1 Moodle interaction to be made more effective.
- 2 Train first year students on using moodle effectively for academic purposes.