B.Tech Teaching in IITB : A personal perspective

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- 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
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.
Scope for improvement

Administrative Support

1. Arranging extra classes are extremely difficult, rooms alloted 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.
5. Academic dishonesty has increased over the years - Distinct question papers? A course on academic ethics?
Role of TAs

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.
Class rooms

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.
Use of moodle

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.