



Uka Tarsadia University

Department of Humanities



Orientation Week

(17th- 22nd July 2023)

The Department of Humanities, Uka Tarsadia University organized a 7-day Orientation program for the first-year students of the BA Journalism and Mass Communication and BA Psychology. The program was held from the 17th to the 22nd of July 2023 and included a variety of activities and sessions designed by the senior students of BA Journalism and Mass Communication and BA Psychology. The aim of the program was to welcome the new students, create a friendly environment that helps them to build connections with each other, and adapt faster to their specific programs as well as the university as a whole.

Schedule of the Orientation

Date	Event	Person-in charge
17-7-23	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introduction (freshers, seniors and faculty)• Face-off Brainstorming• Dumb charades• Treasure hunt	Sakshi
18-7-23	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Session on Communication skills (Amita Rathod)• Group debate• Reel making (Naitri Santoki)	Garvisha
19-7-23	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Session on 'Bharat Ka Bhavisyia' (Kajal Hidustani)• Session on 'Relegion' (Paras Pandhi)	
20-7-23	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Movie-based learning (Shwet Kamal)• Games: Housey and Sociometry	Dhriti and Ashavan
21-7-23	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Session on teamwork and team management (Parth Parmar)• Singing and Dancing Session	Sharmila and Amit
22-7-23	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Session on Google news initiative (Mrs Rashmi Verma)• Session on Art therapy (Ms Heta Shukla)• Review (By freshers, seniors, faculties)	

Day-1 (17th July)

Venue- FDP room

Time- 9:00 am to 2:00 pm

It was an incredible start with a lamp-lighting ceremony and prayer to seek blessings and invoke positive energy for the upcoming orientation program which was attended by all the faculty members and students of the Department of Humanities. The orientation program began with University Anthem to promote a sense of identity and pride in being part of the university community.

The first session of the program was an introduction session. All the faculty members, new students, and seniors introduced themselves one by one. Each of the students also shared their hobbies which allowed them to discover commonalities and shared interests. Some students also showcased their talents such as singing

and dancing. Overall, the purpose of the session was to encourage connections among seniors, freshers, and the faculties.

The introduction session was followed by a face-off brainstorming session where all the students including both the freshers and seniors divided themselves into two groups and discussed the topic 'Strategies to promote responsible use of technology and digital wellbeing'. The purpose of the session was to encourage them to think about ideas. The face-off session was further followed by dumb charades which served as an icebreaker activity.

The second half of the orientation program was a treasure hunt that was conducted on the university campus. As the treasure hunt requires students to find clues by navigating to specific locations, the idea was to make them familiar with their surroundings. This activity helped them to gain knowledge about the campus specifically places such as the UTU Head office, Nursing department, Architecture department, Playground, and Selfie point. The orientation program ended at 2 pm.

Day-2 (18th July)

Venue- FDP room and Activity room

Time- 9:00 am TO 3:00 pm

Guest speaker- Mrs. Amrita Rathod

The second day of the orientation began with an enthusiastic debate round. The topics of the debate were: 'Should the minimum legal drinking age be lowered or raised?', 'Is social media doing more harm than good to society?' and 'Books Vs Movies- Which is a better form of Storytelling?'. Both teams discussed their point of view on the respective topic where one team spoke in favour and the other in opposition. The goal of the session was to develop their critical thinking skills and build the framework for productive teamwork.

The debate was followed by an expert lecture on 'Communication Skills' by **Mrs. Amrita Rathod** who has 20 years of experience in academics and is an assistant professor in the department of English. She is also an official Government IELTS trainer. She provided valuable guidance and training to the students on various aspects of effective communication. She designed various activities for the students to enhance their abilities in effective communication such as students were asked to give their self-introduction in a creative and impressive manner; students were asked to describe each other in two words by observing them; students were provided with the half-written story and were given the task of completing it.

The expert session was further followed by Reel making which was conducted in and around the Department of Humanities. The idea behind the reel-making was to motivate students to learn the skills of video-making and also to showcase and promote the Department of Humanities. Naitri Santoki, a student of UTU was called to judge the reels.

Day-3 (19th July)

Time- 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm

Venue- Pushpam Auditorium

Guest Speaker- Kajal Hindustani and Paras Pandhi

The third day of the orientation began with a game called 'Pictionary' in which one student had to draw a picture on the board and other students had to guess the word.

It was followed by a grand event organized by the Department of Humanities at Pushpam Auditorium which attracted the attention of thousands of people eager to listen to the esteemed guest speaker 'Kajal Hindustani' who is a political leader and an orator and motivational speaker 'Paras Pandhi'. Not only the students of Uka Tarsadia University but also the students of Umrakh college and Tapor college of Bardoli attended the event. The event began at 12 pm with the singing of the UTU anthem.

The event followed the promotion of 'I am Human Charitable Trust', a foundation based in Bardoli, with the motto "Help ever, hurt never" and the belief that "Humanity is the only religion". The organization is active in a variety of sectors, with a primary focus on the environment, animal welfare, health, and medical services. The organization shared its entire journey and showed video clips of its services such as offering free medical services to people who cannot afford them; the "Roti Bank" initiative that distributes food to people in need; animal welfare includes rescuing and caring for stray animals; the trust also provided ration to people during the time of lockdown, etc.

It was followed by the powerful speech of '**Kajal Hindustani**' on 'Bharat ka Bhavisya' that intended to instil pride and patriotism in every Indian. Her speech covered a wide range of topics related to Indian culture, heritage, and history, emphasizing the need of embracing and protecting these treasures for future generations. She talked about the difference in the education systems between the West and India. She emphasized the importance of preserving India's historic education system, which featured Gurukuls. She spoke about Ayurveda and Yoga, two ancient Indian sciences. She urged the audiences to embrace the rich culture and heritage of Hindu temples and monuments. rich culture and beauty. She emphasized their historical relevance as well as the importance of protecting and preserving these architectural marvels for future generations. She advocated for promoting the use of Hindu languages and regional languages over English. She also discussed how films influence public opinion and promote religious ideals. She emphasized the significance of Hindu festivals. She discussed historical events and stories that were possibly misrepresented or omitted in textbooks. She advocated for a more truthful portrayal of Indian history to ensure that future generations learn about great Hindu rulers. She advised the students to use social media platforms such as reels to post stories and content that promote pride in being Hindu and Indian. These platforms can be powerful tools for spreading unity among citizens. Finally, she ended the speech with a very inspiring poem.

The event ended with another impactful speech by '**Paras Pandhi**' that mainly focused on Hindutva. He also spoke about the significance of religion and culture in shaping the identities and values of individuals and communities. He shared inspiring stories and teachings from Krishna's life to impart valuable life lessons. He also shared his opinions on the definition of Love and Attraction. Overall, he aspired to inspire, encourage, and empower others to reach their full potential and live purposeful lives.

The event ended at 3 pm when everyone stood united and sang the national anthem. Patriotism filled the room. The overall event was a great success.

Day-4 (20th July)

Venue- FDP room

Time- 9:00 am to 3:30 pm

The fourth day of the orientation began with listening to a melodious song by Lata Mangeshkar which was followed by 'movie-based learning'. The students were shown 'Rocketry-The Nambi Effect' which is a biographical drama film based on the life of Indian scientist Nambi Narayanan. The idea behind selecting this movie was that it teaches significant life lessons and creates a sense of national pride. In the end, each of the students shared their learnings such as one should be dedicated to their aims, follow the path of truth and humanity, and never give up. The movie also showed the importance of family as a support system in our life.

The second part of the program was a 'game session' such as 'Housie' and 'Sociometry' in which both students and faculty participated. The purpose of the session was to build rapport with the students and make them feel relaxed and comfortable. The purpose of the game Sociometry was to teach them the psychological method of studying and measuring interpersonal relationships in a group of people.

Day- 5 (21st July)

Venue- FDP room and Activity room

Time- 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Guest speaker- Parth Parmar

The fifth day of the orientation began with an expert session on Teamwork and Team management by **Mr. Parth Parmar** who is an assistant professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering at Chotubhai Goaplbhai Patel Institute of Technology and is also a Public Relation Officer at Uka Tarsadia University. The students were provided with valuable knowledge and skills to work effectively as part of a team. Students were given an interesting activity of building a tower using newspapers in which they were divided into groups that were not of their choice. The idea was to make them aware of the realities of diverse workplaces where they might have to work with people they don't necessarily get along with and to help them develop essential interpersonal skills. He urged on the importance of knowing about the qualities of their team partners and appreciating each other's strengths and weaknesses. He also emphasized on the importance of proper planning with the team before doing any activity.

The second part of the program was dedicated to entertainment which included singing and dancing to create a fun and positive atmosphere, breaking the shyness of the students and promoting bonding among them.

Day 6 (22nd July)

Venue- FDP room

Time- 9:00 am to 2:30 pm

Guest speaker- Mrs. Rashmi Verma and Ms. Heta Shukla

The last day of the orientation began with an expert session on 'Google News Initiative' which is an initiative by Google that works with publishers and journalists to fight misinformation, share resources, and build a diverse and innovative news environment. The session was taken by an esteemed guest speaker **Mrs. Rashmi Verma** who is a senior assistant professor in the discipline of Journalism and Mass Communication since 2010 in the Central University of Jharkhand, Ranchi. She is also a Google News Initiative India Training Network Trainer. The session was conducted in an online mode through Google Meet. The talk mainly focused on the topic 'Visual Content Verification' and 'Fact-Checking'. She discussed how information on social media can be shared quickly without verification, leading to misinformation and disinformation. She emphasized on the importance of verifying information before sharing it. Students were taught techniques of how they can carefully observe the visual information and identify if they were real or fake. To demonstrate this concept, manipulated and morphed visuals that were widely spread over social media were shown to the students. Students were also taught the practical use of various fact-check techniques for investigating visual content such as Google fact check explorer, PIB fact check, Yandex, and InVid. Through the session, students gained the necessary skills and knowledge to properly evaluate visual content and use fact-checking techniques in the digital era. In the end, each student shared their valuable feedback through the link provided by the expert.

The second session was on 'Art therapy' by **Ms. Heta Shukla** who is an assistant professor in the discipline of Business administration in UTU. She is also a certified art therapist. The session focused mainly on 'Psychology of colours', 'visualization art' and 'Mandala Art'. She explained about psychology of colours to the students and how colours affects one's psychology and thought processes. She also conducted some activities for students like visualisation art in which students has to visualise happiest life moments and draw mandala forms according to it. Overall, the session aimed to foster self-expression, mindfulness, and self-awareness. In the end, she gave mandala design art as a gift to everyone.

The orientation program concluded with a reflective review session where freshers, seniors and faculty members shared their invaluable experiences of the 7-day event. Mehek Patel, first year BA Psychology student was given a trophy of the performer of the week.

Glimpse of the Orientation

