

Department of English

Pemraj Sarda College, Ahmednagar

Profile

The journey: One of the oldest departments in the college, the Department of English was established in 1962. Since then, it has seen a legacy of renowned teachers and accomplished alumni. The Bachelor of Arts programme of three years' duration has been its staple, but it was transformed into a full-fledged department with induction of the self-financed Post Graduate Course, Masters of Arts in 2007. Today both the programmes are run as per the guidelines and norms set by the SPPU under the New Education Policy.

Objectives: The Department believes in shaping its students into critically thinking citizens. It works towards this objective not only in teaching but also through its activities and everyday practices. Thus it strives to go beyond improving cognitive and research skills, and linguistic and literary competence of students. The attempt becomes evident in the resources, inputs, skills and exposure that students receive during departmental activities and through its practices. Considering the impact of globalisation on every aspect of life these days, students are encouraged to pursue careers in education, research, government, business, and corporate sectors.

Teaching and Learning Facilities: The Department has strewn ICT in its daily teaching and evaluation tasks with students made to watch and appreciate several films, documentaries and video lectures. The Covid-19 pandemic accelerated the pace of E learning. The department owns a digital language lab and its library and rich collection of E Books provide an additional asset to students. Additionally, the proximity of the playground and college canteen ease out the process of learning, making the student life more enjoyable. The students receive notices and necessary information on various WhatsApp groups. The Alumni of the department also have online presence on a separate and dedicated WhatsApp group. The department has a YouTube account titled as English Dept. PSC, started on 18th December 2021 which facilitates broadcasting some curricular events live. It has 285 subscribers and eleven uploaded videos and has earned views up to the range of 9,734 till October 2023. The department has continued in hybrid mode of teaching post the Covid-19 pandemic.

The department can be contacted on the following email address: englishdept.psc@gmail.com

Activities: Several programmes and recurring activities get spread over the academic annual life of the department. Named as Departmental Initiatives for Quality Sustenance & Enhancement, they usually are of the following categories:

- Seminars / Conferences / Symposiums
- Certificate Course in Communicative English
- Soft Skill Development Programme
- Avishkar Research Competition
- Parent Meetings / Welcome and Farewell functions
- Remedial Coaching
- Online / Offline Guest Lectures / Tea Time Talks

- Screenings
- Picnics / English Day Celebrations / Dabba parties / Annual Day Food stalls

Some of the mentionable co-curricular activities regularly conducted in the department include the informal talk series called Tea Time Talks, participation in the SPPU research project competition, running of a film club, communicative English courses etc. Other academically significant activities performed recently (in 2023-24) include the performance of Chitrakathi, a dying folk art form, and a symposium on the topic - Contextualising Research: Necessity and Constraints.

Academic profile: Well qualified and resourceful faculty members are always the strength of any academic department and the department of English stands privileged regarding this aspect. It has three full professors and an Assistant Professor on contractual basis:



1. **Dr. Madhuri Dixit** (MA, Ph.D, SET)

Designation: Professor and Head

Email ID: mmd_pune@yahoo.com

Contact No: 9423586348

Experience: 21 Years

Academic interests and expertise: Cultural Studies, Gender and Caste Discourse, Theatre and Drama, Children's Literature, Indian handicrafts.

Dr Dixit likes to devote her time to translation, travel, hiking, reading, watching films and listening to old Hindi songs. Apart from her academic publications, her social contribution involves writing articles in newspapers and magazines, providing resources and expertise to various causes, and questioning norms.



2. Dr. Swati Rokade

[MA(English),SET, M.Phil, Ph.D, CLTA, M.A.(Sociology)]

Designation: Professor

Email ID: swatipawar7392@rediffmail.com

Contact No: 9209690727

Experience: 24 Years

Academic interests and expertise: Linguistics, Gender studies

Professor Dr. Swati Rokade is an accomplished academic with a profound interest in linguistics, and gender studies. Her academic journey includes MPhil and PhD in Gender Studies and linguistics, showcasing her commitment to understanding and advocating for gender equality. Recently, she completed her MA in Sociology, further expanding her interdisciplinary expertise. Professor Rokade's work revolves around advocating for gender equality and exploring societal structures through her writings and extension work.



3. Dr. Satyajit Patil

[MA, Ph.D., NET(JRF), SET]

Designation: Professor

Email ID: satyajitpatil76@gmail.com

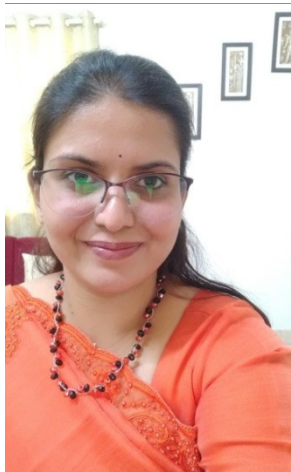
Contact No: 9890113797

Experience: 19 Years

Academic interests and expertise:

Literary Criticism & Critical Theory, Graphic Novels, Autobiographical Writing

Dr. Satyajit utilises his spare time singing songs, playing cricket, and pencil drawing. He is proudly associated with UNISEF and *Snehalaya* as monthly donor. He also delivers lectures on Soft Skills and Personality Development as Expert Speaker for NiE (Newspaper in Education), a *Daily Sakal* initiative.



4. Ms. Mrinmayee Gune [M A, TESOL, Ph. D. (Pursuing)]

Designation: Assistant Professor (Clock-hour basis)

Email ID: mrinmayeegune@gmail.com

Contact No: 7768970301

Experience: 7 Years

Academic interests and expertise: Literary History & Linguistics, Pragmatics, Memoir writing, Psychoanalysis, Trauma studies

Mrinmayee Gune, is also a Senior Content Editor and Trainer at Yashmi Industries and Pvt. Ltd, Ireland. She is a multifaceted individual with a passion for singing and painting, showcasing her artistic talents. She is a member of Lacanian Group of studies, Australia. A unique blend of skills and interests defines her remarkable journey.

SWOC Analysis of the Department:

1. Strengths:

- Good Team Spirit and rapport among members of the departmental academic community
- Experienced Faculty, full professors and research supervisors
- Significant Research output
- Good Results

2. Weaknesses:

- Less no of admissions
- Absence of student-teacher exchanges with eminent institutes
- No Linkages with Industry or placement agencies
- Weak library
- Financial constraints

3. Opportunities:

- Commencement of professional add on courses for revenue generation
- Preparation of out-reach programmes for community enrichment

4. Challenges:

- Increase Student Strength
- Reduce Fear of English among students
- Change conventional outlook of parents about Non-Professional courses
- Improve low level placements

Future Plans:

The department looks forward to running a Research Centre for doctoral students to strengthen its research aspect. Considering the need of the hour and to attract a wider community, it reflects on introducing need-based certificate courses in future. The fact that the current student community in the department comes from a semi-urban and low income section of society the department would like to be useful to them by mentoring of students to a fuller extent.

Thank you for your interest!