



**Telangana Social Welfare and Tribal Welfare  
Residential Institutions-SCOUT sponsored  
Summer International Summer School  
Program, University of Glasgow**



**Post-event Report**

**Duration of the program:** 14 Days

**Date of program:** 27/03/2023 to 09/04/2023

**Hosting University:** Department of Humanities, University of Glasgow, Glasgow, Scotland

**Scholarship:** Scholarship for Outstanding Undergraduate Talent

**Name of the course:** International summer school program, “How to be more rational?”

**Discipline:** Humanities (Philosophy)

**Credits:** 10

**Level:** Level 1 (SCQF level 7)

**Course Coordinator:** Ms. Katherine Howes

**Tutor:** Mr. Matthew Kinakin (Matthew.Kinakin@glasgow.ac.uk)

**Participating student number:** 06 students from TSWRDC’S and 04 students from TTWRDC

**Accompanying Faculty:** Dr. N. Himaja, Lecturer in Microbiology, TSWRDC (W), Nalgonda

## **SCOUT Scholarship**

British council in association with Telangana state government has taken up the **Scholarship for outstanding Undergraduate talent (SCOUT) program** for providing exposure and skills to talented young graduate students who have limited means to access or experience to international education and inspire them towards world-class innovation and research

As part of this program, 15 Undergraduate level students along with two faculty members from Telangana state were hosted by University of Glasgow from March 27<sup>th</sup> 2023 to April 8<sup>th</sup> 2023. There was a two week summer school program on **“How to be more Rational: Critical thinking, Logic and Reasoning”**.

This short course helped the students achieve interdisciplinary knowledge through new pedagogical methods. The activity enabled the students to impact their own local community, institutions and future workplaces through their learning.

The program was funded by the GREAT campaign by British council and the Telangana Social and Tribal Welfare Residential Education society. The expenses for the accommodation, food were covered by the British council whereas the air fare and other expenses were met by the Telangana Social and Tribal Welfare Residential Education society

### **Short Description about the course offered:**

What does it mean to be more rational? What tools and techniques can be employed to become more rational? This course addressed these and related questions by teaching students how to think logically and to reason clearly and methodically about any subject matter. In daily talks, discussions and learning activities, students were introduced to foundational concepts and techniques in logic and reasoning, including: the structure of arguments, deduction, induction, rational persuasiveness, logical fallacies, and cognitive biases.

### **Course Aims**

This course aims to:

- Introduce some of the basic methods required to think logically
- Provide techniques for reasoning clearly and methodically about any subject matter
- Examine foundational concepts in logic and reasoning

### **Intended Learning Outcomes of Course**

By the end of this course students were able to:

- Explain key concepts from logic such as induction, deduction, and rational persuasiveness
- Apply these concepts to their own arguments and those of other people
- Employ basic techniques of argument reconstruction and evaluation

### **Assessment**

1. An argument reconstruction exercise (up to 1,500 words) (75%)

Students will reconstruct into standard form and then evaluate the arguments to be found in a selected passage, identifying any rhetorical ploys and fallacies. In addition, students will be asked to answer a small number of short explanatory questions about basic logical concepts.

2. An online multiple-choice quiz on basic concepts employed in the course (25%)

## **A brief report on the program**

### **Day 1: March 27, 2023**

Day 1 started with breakfast at James McUrne Smith Study center (JMS) by 8 am. Later the students gathered at the University gardens building in room number 208 by 9am for their introductory class. The course coordinator Ms. Katherine Howes introduced the course and the objectives of the course to the students. Later the students were taken on a campus tour around University of Glasgow till 11 am. Later in the afternoon from 1 pm-3 pm the session started with discussion on the “Biased thinking” and the basics of critical thinking. From 3 pm onwards the students started their IT sessions in the Library of the University of Glasgow where they learnt to log into the moodle and go through the contents of the course. Then they had hands on experience in handling the PPT’s of the course work. The day ended with dinner at James Mc Urne Smith center by 5pm





## Day 2: March 28, 2023

The day started off with the lecture by Mr. Matthew Kinakin on Propositions, Assertions and unsupported assertions. The students were taught about the important aspects of argument construction and eliminating rhetorics. Later that afternoon, the students were assigned with a worksheet on which they were asked to practice the reconstruction of arguments using the principles they have learnt theoretically. The students then left for the IT session in the Library and went through the study material from moodle and completed their worksheet





### **Day 3: March 29, 2023**

The lecture began with a brief recap about the reconstruction of arguments and discussion about the worksheet A. Later further aspects of argument reconstruction like conditionals, validity of arguments and soundness of the arguments. While the lecture was on the students were encouraged to frame few arguments and try to test the validity and soundness of them using the principles learnt from the previous classes. Later in the afternoon session worksheet B was assigned to the students where students worked as groups to solve the worksheet B. Later they moved to the Library for further IT training of moodle and to solve the worksheet B.





**Day 4: March 30, 2023**

### **Visit to Scottish Parliament**

The day was totally dedicated for visiting the Scottish parliament which was located in the capital city of Glasgow called Edinburg. Students reached Edinburg by 10 am and had the opportunity to look around the parliament building. Later they were allowed to have a glimpse into the parliamentary session. The students could witness the famous **“First Minister Question”** event which is quite a prestigious event where the elected minister Mr. Humraz Yousaf was available for answering the questions asked by the public. The visit for parliament culminated with a virtual quiz by the course coordinator Ms. Katherine Howes while travelling back from the capital city to Glasgow.



### **Day 5: March 31, 2023**

The students had a brief recap of the previous sessions along with the discussion of the work sheet B and doubts raised by the students were clarified by the tutor. Introduction of reconstructing arguments was initiated. Afternoon was dedicated for the assessment test 1 which contributed for the 25 percentage of the credits awarded for the course. The students aced the test and V. Kavya from Telangana Social Welfare Armed Forces Preparatory Degree College, Bibinagar topped the exam with 20 marks out of 22 marks. Other students have also done reasonably well with good average class percentage.

The assessment was followed by discussion of the question paper with the students and the questions which were incorrect for most of the class were explained to the students. The doubts were clarified and the marks were shared with the accompanying faculty.



### **Day 6: April 1, 2023**

The students were taken out for shopping and excursion to Edinburg castle on Day 6. The journey towards Edinburg started by 8 am and they reached the capital city by 10 am. The students and faculty visited the local shops and reached the historical Edinburg castle by 11 am. The castle tour went for about two hours where the students caught a glimpse of Scottish history through the exhibits that were exhibited in the museum.





### **Day 7: April 2, 2023**

The excursion to Loch Lomund was planned on this day. The two hour trip to the Loch Lomund was thoroughly enjoyed by the students and faculty. The meadows and the natural beauty that met us all on the way was breath taking and feast for the eyes making it one of the best vacations ever.



### **Day 8: April 3, 2023**

The morning session kicked off with continuation of argument reconstruction and proceeded towards identification of rhetorical ploys. The afternoon session was dedicated for the work sheets C and D. The students worked on them in teams and faculty also joined them out of enthusiasm towards the subject. The worksheets were completed and discussed for any doubts.

The students were taken to the Hunterian art gallery to appreciate the modern art in Glasgow University campus.



### **Day 9: April 4, 2023**

The classes focused on argument reconstruction, identification of rhetorical plays, concept of fallacies was introduced to the students. The students were assigned with worksheet E for practicing the theoretical concepts in the afternoon and they were encouraged to work on the

final assignment that has to be submitted for the completion of the course in the IT department during late afternoons. Their doubts were regularly clarified by the faculty and the tutor.



### **Day 10: April 5, 2023**

The day started with the lecture on induction and later proceeded towards the concepts of knowledge, truth. Special focus was extended towards group argument reconstruction. Afternoon session was dedicated for worksheet F and the students were encouraged to complete the final assignment to be submitted by the end of the week



### **Day 11: April 6, 2023**

The day started with lecture on empirical knowledge and the concepts of a priori and a posteriori was introduced among the students with examples. Later in the afternoon the students were assigned the work sheet F for practice and working on the final assignment continued in the IT department. The doubts if raised by the students were clarified by the course coordinators and the tutor along with the accompanying faculty



### **Day 12: April 7, 2023**

The day was completely about the recap of all sessions dealt previously followed by the doubt clarification session. Later the last topic of the course “The replication crisis” was dealt with quite a few examples and the session concluded with students proposing many valid arguments and identification of fallacies and rhetorics in paragraphs

The afternoon was dedicated for the completion of the final assignment which was contributing for the 75 percent of the credits



**Day 13: April 8, 2023**

The course concluded and the students started back to India





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