

# **Certificate Course in Intercultural Education**

**A Joint Venture of  
Institute for Oriental Study, Thane  
&  
VPM's  
London Academy of Education and  
Research, London.**

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## **Introduction**

Does culture influence school education? The answer certainly is “yes, it does”. Culture not only affects the decision of what is to be taught but also determines how to teach. Thus, both the syllabus and teacher pupil interaction in the classroom is significantly influenced by the prevailing social and cultural forces. These are the days of globalization and international schooling. A teacher trained in one culture is often expected to teach in another culture. Moreover, a teacher has to deal with students coming from different cultural backgrounds in the schools. With the demands for teachers from abroad and with the fast changing composition of social fabric in Indian metropolis these needs are on the rise continuously. It has, therefore, become necessary that practicing as well as would be teachers are equipped with the techniques of intercultural education. With these views in mind Institute for Oriental Study (IOS), Thane in collaboration with Vidya Prasarak Mandal's (VPM) London Academy of Education & Research, London, has proposed to launch a “Certificate Course in Intercultural Education starting from January 1, 2010.

## **The Course**

The course would be implemented through distance mode. The duration of the course would be six months (January 1 to June 30). It will have four components: 1. Reading Assignments, 2. Project Work, 3. Contact Sessions and 4. Visits Abroad. Salient features of each of these activities are spelt out in detail below.

## **Reading Assignments**

Over a span of six months the candidates will be expected to complete minimum reading assignment. These assignments will pertain to various issues related to Indian as well as British education system. Some of the topics that would be covered are enlisted below:

- Indian Education system: A changing scenario
- Cultural diversity and its influence on Indian Education
- Impact of Voluntary organizations on Indian Education system
- History of British Education
- Role of Museums and Libraries on British education system
- Influx of Immigrants and its influence on British education system

Reading material will be made available either in print or in digital forms. Candidates would also be asked to refer to articles and Power Points made available on the website of the Institute for Oriental Study, Thane ([www.orientalthane.com](http://www.orientalthane.com)) and also on the World Wide Web from time to time.

## **Project Work**

Each candidate is expected to complete a dissertation in order to qualify for the certificate. The candidate can select any one of the topics from the given list.

1. Historical perspectives in Indian and British education systems
2. Role of ICT in two different systems.
3. Importance of moral education in Britain and in India
4. Curriculum framework in two different cultures
5. Classroom management in Europe and in Asia
6. Nature of teacher-pupil interaction.

Each candidate will be assigned to a supervisor from the panel of recognized guides. The candidate will be free to choose the topic of his/her interest in comparative education in consultation with the supervisor. The maximum time allotted for the completion of dissertation would be three months in addition to the duration of the course. For the course starting from January 2010 the dissertation must be submitted before September 30, 2010.

## **Contact Sessions**

Regular contact sessions will be arranged for the candidates at V. N. Bedekar Institute for Management Studies, Thane. These sessions will be used to clarify doubts related to reading assignments. A part of the time will be spent in discussing the progress of the dissertation and in providing concrete guidelines for further work. Group discussions will be arranged for sharing the ideas and opinions with each other. Digital facility will be used profusely to keep virtual contacts with all the candidates. This will enable the candidates to get in touch with supervisors and teachers immediately through e-mail if need arises.

Institute for Oriental Study, Thane has been organizing teachers' exchange programmes for Indian teachers for the last six years. In this scheme five teams of Indian teachers have visited five different Local Education Authorities (LEAs) in England. They had an opportunity to observe British education system from close quarters. Interaction will be arranged with the teachers to acquaint the participants with the nature of curriculum, classroom interaction, issues related to discipline, parental involvement, etc.

Under the Teachers' International Professional Development (TIPD) Programme of the League for the Exchange of Commonwealth Teachers (LECT) British teachers visit Mumbai every year to study Indian education system. Institute for Oriental Study, Thane has been hosting the visit of these teachers for the last seven years. Informal interaction will be arranged between registered participants and the visiting British teachers to facilitate them to know issues related to classroom management, method of assessment, inclusive education, use of ICT (Information and Communication Technology) as practiced in Britain.

## **Visits Abroad**

A 12 day educational tour to Britain will be arranged for all the registered participants in the month of May 2010. This tour will have four components: Seminar on Intercultural education; Interaction with British school inspectors, teachers and students; Excursion to important museums/libraries and Visits to places associated with Indian Revolutionaries in London.

### **Seminar on Intercultural Education**

One day seminar will be arranged in London to acquaint the teachers with the issues of intercultural education. Experts for the seminar will be drawn from the Institute of Education, University of London and VPM's London Academy of Education & Research, London. Teachers will have ample opportunities to share their experiences of teaching to students with multicultural background as practiced in India.

### **Interaction with British School Inspectors, teachers and students**

A Weeklong visit programme will be planned to one of the Local Education Authorities in England, Scotland or Wales. This programme will provide a chance to interact closely with the school inspectors who are responsible for maintaining the standards of school education by providing on-spot guidance to practicing teachers. School visits will be arranged to enable participating teachers to see closely the functioning of British schools in different set ups. They can observe classroom proceedings and talk to teachers as well as with students personally.

### **Excursion to important museum and libraries**

One of the important features of British society is that they give a lot of importance to museums and libraries. Each city or a town has a good collection of artifacts and books. What is notable is the fact that these facilities are made freely available to the general public and are being used skillfully to support school education. Participating teachers will be taken to museums and libraries in the LEA of their visits. In addition, they will be taken to some selected museums and libraries in London.

### **Visits to places associated with Indian Revolutionaries**

A day long London Tour will be arranged to show various places associated with Indian freedom fighters in London. In this tour the teachers will be able to see personally the places associated with freedom fighters like Madanlal Dhingra, Udham Singh, Veer Savarkar, Lokmanya Tilak, Mahatma Gandhi, etc. This tour will not only enable them to pay homage to those great persons but also will facilitate to revise those historical events that took place in the early part of freedom struggle. Journey by London Tube will be an added attraction of the tour.

## **Mode of Assessment**

At the end of the course the registered candidates will be assessed for the total score of 500 marks under three different heads: written examination, project work and participation in group discussion.

### **Written examination**

Candidates will have to appear for three different theory papers carrying 100 marks each. The topics of the papers would be as follows:

1. Comparative study of Indian and British education systems
2. Role of out of school inputs to support school education
3. Issues in Intercultural education

### **Project work**

Project work submitted by the candidate will be assessed critically and marks out of 100 will be assigned to each dissertation. Following criteria will be used for assessment.

- Content Relevance
- Data Collection and analysis
- Presentation style

### **Group Discussion**

Group discussion will be arranged both in India and in England. Behaviour of the candidate will be observed during these discussion sessions. Assessment of the performance will be made based on the understanding of the subject, confidence displayed, language of expression and clarity of thought. Taking into account these parameters marks will be allotted to each candidate out of 100.

### **Certification**

A candidate will be declared successful if he/she scores 60 percent or more marks in each of three assessment heads. Successful candidate will be awarded certificate jointly by the VPM's London Academy of Education & Research, London, and the Institute for Oriental Study, Thane, in the convocation function organized at the VPM's College Campus.

## **Course Fee**

Each candidate will have to pay the fee of **Rs. 1, 30, 000** (Rupees One lakh thirty thousand only) for the entire course. This fee will cover the reading material, contact sessions and 12 day tour to England involving the entire expenditure of travel, stay, food and educational material. The fee can be paid in three equal installments: First installment of Rs. 30, 000 (Rupees thirty thousand only) is to be paid at the time of registration, second installment of Rs. 50, 000 (Rupees fifty thousand only) is to be paid when the course begins (January 1, 2010) and the last installment Rs. 50, 000 (Rupees fifty thousand only) is to be paid after the completion of three months of the course (March 31, 2010).

## **Appeal**

Candidates who wish to join the course should fill the attached Application Form and send it to Dr. Vijay Bedekar, President, Institute for Oriental Study, Thane, along with a demand draft of Rs. 30, 000 (Rupees thirty thousand only) on or before October 31, 2009. Each candidate is urged to obtain a passport and submit photocopies of the first and last pages of the valid passport to the office of IOS by January 1, 2010.

I appeal the teaching fraternity to register for the course in large numbers. Let us work together for the benefit of school and college education in India and abroad. Looking forward to a fruitful academic interaction I remain,

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Vijay Bedekar  
President  
Institute for Oriental Study  
Thane, M. S. India

## Application Form for the Certificate Course in Intercultural Education

To,  
Dr. Vijay Bedekar  
President, Institute for Oriental Study  
Dr. Bedekar Hospital  
Naupada, Thane (M.S.) 400 602

Dear Sir,

I wish to join the "Certificate Course in Intercultural Education" organized jointly by the Institute for Oriental Study, Thane and VPM's London Academy starting from January 1, 2010. I am enclosing a demand draft of Rs. 30, 000 (thirty thousand only) as the first installment of my fee for the course. I am giving below my bio-data for your kind consideration.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

Educational Qualifications \_\_\_\_\_

Teaching Experience \_\_\_\_\_

Special Achievements (if any) \_\_\_\_\_

Address for Correspondence \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Fax Number \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile Number \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

I would be grateful if you could consider my case sympathetically and admit me to the said course. I am ready to undertake all the assignments given as a part of the course. I am also ready to bear all the expenses concerned with the educational tour to England.

Place: \_\_\_\_\_

sincerely yours

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

( \_\_\_\_\_ )

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### For Office Use

Demand Draft No. \_\_\_\_\_ for Rs. \_\_\_\_\_

Drawn on \_\_\_\_\_ Dated \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Receiving Officer with date \_\_\_\_\_