

IIM RANCHI REVAMPS ITS CURRICULUM - IN SYNC WITH THE TIMES

Courses on Tribes in India, Tribal Language and Science of Happiness are part of the curriculum

The Indian Institute of Management Ranchi recently completed the process of review of its course curriculum across the undergraduate, postgraduate and doctoral programmes in its Faculty Retreat which was recently held after a long interval. The Institute as a part of its Strategic Plan, 'IIM Ranchi@2030' undertook a detailed review of courses across the programmes. The changes were deep and comprehensive and have been aimed to bring the latest developments in the industry and society to the classroom.

In the post-graduate programmes, the concept of elective courses received a major boost as the second year in all three full-time postgraduate programmes of the institute, has been made completely flexible. Compulsory courses in the three terms of the second year have been completely replaced with elective courses. Students can select electives from across all study areas of the institute in all three terms of the second year. Mid-term examinations have also been made flexible to provide greater academic freedom to faculty members. This development is expected to encourage faculty members to introduce new and innovative courses which cater to industry demands. Students are expected to benefit from these courses and explore new domains and create a unique niche for themselves while increasing their employability quotient at the same time.

The first year of the postgraduate programmes has also undergone a deep change, and existing courses have been replaced with new courses wherever required to reflect the latest developments. Of particular importance is the introduction of a new course titled 'Ethical Issues in AI' in the MBA-Business Analytics Programme, and a course on 'Ethics, Governance and Sustainability' in the Executive MBA

Programme. Such courses are expected to introduce students to up-and-coming developments in the industry and academia.

The Integrated Programme in Management (IPM) has also undergone a comprehensive review process for its courses with the perspective of providing a multidisciplinary programme that also includes courses that could bring a positive change to the lives of the students. Elective courses called 'Enrichment Electives' have been introduced across the first three years of the IPM. These Enrichment Electives would provide a fresh perspective to students through courses like Cinematography, Socratic Dialogues, Water Management, Sports Management, Story Telling, Human Connect, Drama and Theatre, Art and Painting, etc.

The compulsory courses of the undergraduate part of the IPM have also undergone a sea change with new courses like Science of Happiness, Sustainability, Social Work, and Tribes in India, which aim to provide a holistic learning experience of important life skills while also connecting them to the roots. Students also can learn a local tribal language in the language elective course scheduled in the second year.

Considering the focus on Liberal Arts as a part of the comprehensive revamp of the courses, the Institute has also created a new area called Liberal Arts and Sciences through the merger of pre-existing General Management and Humanities and Applied Sciences Areas. The Strategic Management Area has also been renamed Strategy and Entrepreneurship Area to highlight the new focus areas of the Institute. With the new area dedicated to Liberal Arts and Sciences and renewed emphasis on entrepreneurship, the Institute expects to send a deeper message to its students about learning for a better and fulfilling life while sharing a deeper bond with society.