



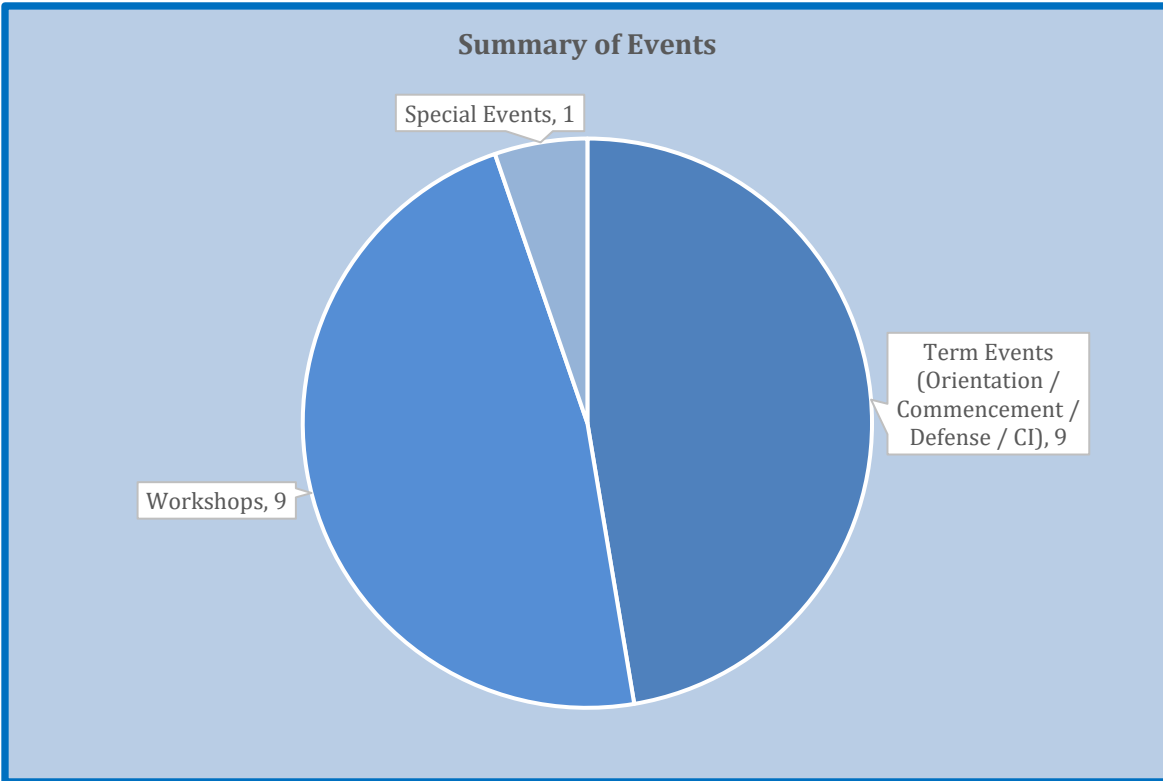
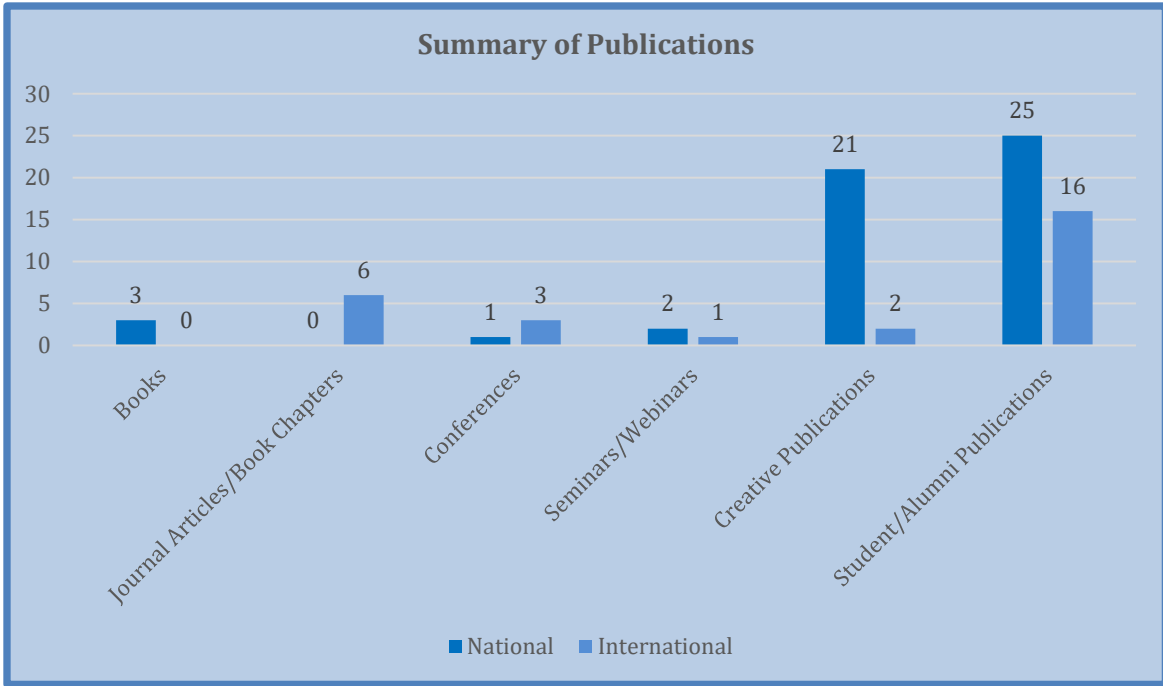
Department of English and Humanities
UNIVERSITY OF LIBERAL ARTS
BANGLADESH

Publications and Events Report

Spring 2024
(January 12, 2024 - May 25, 2024)

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Publications

Books

National

Haq, Kaiser. *The New Frontier & Other Odds and Ends in Verse and Prose*. ULAB Press, 2024.

Rumman, Al Mahmud. *Megher Terracotta*. PrintPukur, February 2024.

Siddiqua, Tanzia. *ধ্বনিতত্ত্ব ও ধ্বনিবিদ্যা (Dhonitatta o Dhonibidda)*. Dhaka: Dipto Publications, February 2024. ISBN: 978-984-97837-9-4.

Journal Articles/Book Chapters

International

Manzoor, S.R., Chong, S.C., **Al-Mahmud, Abdullah.** & Asmawi, A. "The Impacts of a Redefined HEI Image Model on Postgraduate International Students' Satisfaction." *International Journal of Service Science, Management, Engineering, and Technology (IJSSMET)*, vol. 15, no. 1, 2024. DOI: 10.4018/IJSSMET.339885 [**SCOPUS Indexed - Q2**]

Karim, A., Kabilan, M.K., Sultana, S., Amin, E.U., and **Rahman, Mohammad Mosiur.** "Reflecting on Reflections Concerning Critical Incidents in Developing Pre-Service Teachers' Professional Identity: Evidence from a TESOL Education Project." *English Teaching & Learning* vol. 48, pp. 291–318, 2024. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s42321-023-00140-1>. [**Springer**]

Rahman, Mohammad Mosiur, Islam, Md. Shaiful, Karim, Abdul, Singh, Manjet Kaur Mehar and Hu, Guangwei. "Ideologies of Teachers and Students towards Meso-level English-medium Instruction Policy and Translanguaging in the STEM Classroom at a Malaysian University" *Applied Linguistics Review*, 2024. <https://doi.org/10.1515/applirev-2023-0040>. [**De Gruyter**]

Rafi, Abu Saleh Mohammad. "Language Weaponization, Missed Opportunities, and Transformational Spaces in Bangladeshi English Departments: A Biographical Perspective." *The Weaponizing of Language in the Classroom and Beyond*, edited by Kisha C. Bryan and Luis Javier Pentón Herrera. **De Gruyter Mouton**, 2024, pp. 13-34. <https://doi.org/10.1515/9783110799521-002>. [**SCOPUS indexed**]

Atar, Cihat, and **Rafi, Abu Saleh Mohammad.** "Classroom Interaction in an Online Context: A Translanguaging Informed Conversation Analysis Perspective." *International Journal of Educational Development*, vol. 105, 2024. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijedudev.2023.102970>. [**SCOPUS indexed - Q1**]

Manzoor, Shamima Raihan, **Al-Mahmud, Abdullah**, Asmawi, Arnifa, Manzoor, Shahida Raihan. "Advancing Muslim Modest Fashion Clothing: Impact on Consumer Behavior and Challenges for Young Female Muslim Influencers." *Journal of Comparative Asian Development*, vol. 20, no. 1, 2024, pp. 1-26. <http://doi.org/10.4018/JCAD.346369>. [SCOPUS indexed]

Conferences

International

Rumman, Al Mahmud. "Integrating Translanguaging Pedagogies in an Applied Linguistics Classroom at a Bangladeshi University: A Case Study on Students' Uptake." *2nd TESOL BD International Conference*. February 9-10, 2024.

Tahsin, Anika. **Presenter**. "The Representation of Monsoon and Sexual Violence towards Ghetus in the Name of Entertainment in *Ghetu Putro Komolo*." *3rd International Conference (ICEHG 2024)*. Shahjalal University of Science and Technology (SUST), Sylhet, Bangladesh. February 16-17, 2024.

Tajkia, Nusrat. **Presenter**. "Effects of Changing Spaces: An Ecofeminist Reading of Lahiri's *The Lowland*." *3rd International Conference (ICEHG 2024)*. Shahjalal University of Science and Technology (SUST), Sylhet, Bangladesh. February 16-17, 2024.

National

Sun, Oliur Rahman. **Presenter**. "Pedagogical Practices in the Time of Anti-Gender Ideology." *National Conference on Critical-Affective Pedagogy for Bangladesh: Teaching Language, Literature, Cultural Studies and Communication in English Studies*. Jahangirnagar University, Dhaka. May 24-25, 2024.

Seminars/Webinars

International

Tahsin, Anika. **Participant**. "Plastic Tagore: Thinking After Yesterday" (Virtual Course). Institute for South Asia Studies. University of California, Berkeley, USA. April 15-26, 2024.

National

Sun, Oliur Rahman. **Speaker.** "University Education System's Impact on Students' Mental Health" *Students vs Teachers Debate 2024*. Jahangirnagar University Debate Organization, Jahangirnagar University, Dhaka. February 19, 2024.

Sun, Oliur Rahman. **Speaker.** "Seminar on Text and Literature." *Stories for Change Programme*. Pathshala South Asian Media Institute, Dhaka. March 5, 2024.

Non-Academic and Creative Publications

International

Manzoor, Sohana. "[The Miscarriage](#)." Short fiction. *SUSPECT*, a literary journal under *Singapore Unbound*, March 2024.

Manzoor, Sohana. "[Trailing the Red Fox](#)." Memoir. *Eclectica Magazine*. April/May 2024.

National

Mortuza, Shamsad. "[A Prelude to Tomorrow](#)." *The Daily Star*. January 12, 2024.

Mortuza, Shamsad. "[Under the Influence of the Cold Spell](#)." *The Daily Star*. January 19, 2024.

Mortuza, Shamsad. "[The Controversy over the NCTB Textbook](#)." *The Daily Star*. January 29, 2024.

Mortuza, Shamsad. "[The High Cost of Dying](#)." *The Daily Star*. February 2, 2024.

Mortuza, Shamsad. "[How Do You Teach Gen Z?](#)" *The Daily Star*. February 10, 2024.

Mortuza, Shamsad. "[The Dairyman That Won Our Hearts](#)." *The Daily Star*. February 17, 2024.

Mortuza, Shamsad. "[Voices in Captivity](#)." *The Daily Star*. February 24, 2024.

Mortuza, Shamsad. "[Burning Issues](#)." *The Daily Star*. March 1, 2024.

Islam, Syed Manzoorul. "[A Defining Day in History](#)." *Prothom Alo English*. March 7, 2024.

Mortuza, Shamsad. "[Echoes of Appreciation](#)." *The Daily Star*. March 9, 2024.

Mortuza, Shamsad. "[Hold on, Let's Talk about Price Hikes](#)." *The Daily Star*. March 15, 2024.

Mortuza, Shamsad. "[The Shadow Lines of Bangladesh's Birth](#)." *The Daily Star*. March 26, 2024.

Mortuza, Shamsad. "[Dancing with Sycophancy](#)." *The Daily Star*. March 30, 2024.

Mortuza, Shamsad. "[Tax on Private Universities: Must We Make Education More Costly?](#)" *The Daily Star*. April 5, 2024.

- Mortuza, Shamsad. "[Chaitra Sakranti: How Do We Detox Our Social Body?](#)" *The Daily Star*. April 16, 2024.
- Mortuza, Shamsad. "[Kafkaesque Realities of Traffic Rule Enforcement](#)." *The Daily Star*. April 19, 2024.
- Mortuza, Shamsad. "[The Pitfalls of Neutrality](#)." *The Daily Star*. April 27, 2024.
- Mortuza, Shamsad. "[One, Two, Three of Social Deceptions](#)." *The Daily Star*. May 4, 2024.
- Mortuza, Shamsad. "[A Slice of the University Pie](#)." *The Daily Star*. May 11, 2024.
- Mortuza, Shamsad. "[The Aurora Enigma: Science and Myths](#)." *The Daily Star*. May 18, 2024.
- Mortuza, Shamsad. "[Dhaka's Transport Turmoil](#)." *The Daily Star*. May 25, 2024.

Student/Alumni Publications, Presentations, and Achievements

International

- Sirajum Munira Joti. **Presenter.** "Addressing Educational Disparities: A Comprehensive Study on Implementing Learning Zones in Underserved Primary Schools Post-COVID." *2nd TESOLBD International Conference*. February 9-10, 2024.
- Shahriyer Hossain Shetu. "[A Siren's Cry – Humanity's Exploitative Reflection in 'Ibaro'](#)." *Kitaab*. February 27, 2024.
- Rifat Abdullah. **Book Review.** "*Zelaldinus: A Masque*, by Allan Sealy." *L'Histoire*, vol. 2, no. 2, February 2024, pp. 167-171. www.voyagesintothepast.com/volume-2-issue-2.
- Marjuque U. Haque. "Savage Desires: Afghanistan as a site for Othering in *Dharmatma* and *Khuda Gawah*", *Rupkatha Journal on Interdisciplinary Studies in Humanities* vol. 16, no. 1, 2024. pp.1-14. <https://doi.org/10.21659/rupkatha.v16n1.05g>. **[Indexed by Web of Science]**
- Jainab T. Banu. "ChatGPT: Replacement or Pedagogical Tool of Writing Teachers?" *NeMLA Convention 2024*. Boston, MA. March 7-10, 2024.
- Jainab T. Banu. "ChatGPT as a Pedagogical Tool in the Writing Classrooms." *NDSU Research Day*. North Dakota State University. April 10, 2024.
- Israt, Kashfia. "[Gender Deconstruction in Ursula K. Le Guin's *The Left Hand of Darkness*](#)." *Critical Gender Studies Journal*, vol. 1, no. 1, 2024.
- Jainab T. Banu. "What Does Katherina Mean?: Reinterpreting Katherina's Last Monologue in Shakespeare's *The Taming of the Shrew*" *Northern Plains Conference on Early British Literature*. University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, North Dakota. April 12-13, 2024.

Jainab T. Banu. "Chat with It, Don't Copy and Paste: Teaching Ethical Consideration of Using ChatGPT in a Writing Classroom." *MnWE 2024 Conference: New Visions for College Writing*. Normandale College, Bloomington, Minnesota. April 12-13, 2024.

Nusrat Jahan Esa. "[A Letter to You, to Me.](#)" *Borderless Journal*. April 15, 2024.

Jainab T. Banu. "Disability, Gender and The Politics of Recognition: Using Feminist Disability Studies to Read Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*." *Red River Gender Studies Conference 2024: Feminist Visions for the Future*. University of North Dakota. April 20, 2024.

Jainab T. Banu. **Innovation in Teaching Award**. North Dakota State University, Fargo, North Dakota, USA. April 2024

Jainab T. Banu. "'My Hair Lets Me Be Me': Using Mathew A. Cherry's Hair Love to Promote Self-Worth Among Black Children." *Red River Graduate Students Conference 2024: Blurred Boundaries: Composition, Culture and Literary Studies in the Visual-Digital Age*. North Dakota State University. May 17-18, 2024.

Jainab T. Banu. Poem: "Self-Consolation." *Northern Eclecta*, vol.18. NDSU Press. p. 51.

Jainab T. Banu. Poem: "Becoming/ Unbecoming." *Northern Eclecta*, vol.18. NDSU Press. p. 69.

Jainab T. Banu Poem: "I will Disappear." *Northern Eclecta*, vol.18. NDSU Press. p. 156.

National

Sanzida Alam Lisa. "[When Can I Get Off the 'Adulthood' Roller Coaster?](#)" *The Business Standard*. January 16, 2024.

Jainab T. Banu. "[What We Can Learn from Martin Luther King, Jr.](#)" *The Daily Sun*. January 17, 2024.

Jainab T. Banu. "[Let's Talk About Sex, Gender and Sharifa.](#)" *The Daily Sun*. January 25, 2024.

Amreeta Lethe Chowdhury. "[A Solo Exhibition.](#)" *The Daily Star*. January 27, 2024.

Jainab T. Banu. "[Culture Shock Experienced by International Students in the US.](#)" *The Daily Sun*. February 1, 2024.

Jainab T. Banu. "[Valentine's Day and the Consumer Trap](#)". *The Daily Sun*. 14 February 2024.

Amreeta Lethe Chowdhury. "[Tongue.](#)" *The Daily Star*. February 24, 2024.

Jainab T. Banu. "[Menstruation: Still a Taboo?](#)" *The Daily Sun*. February 28, 2024.

Jainab T. Banu. "[A Woman Writer Needs Recognition Too.](#)" *The Daily Sun*. March 5, 2024.

Sanzida Alam. **Scholarship & Research Funding.** "V2V Students and Early Career Researchers". *Vulnerability to Viability Global Partnership supported by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada under its Partnership Grants Program*. March, 2024.

Shahriyer Hossain Shetu. "[Kurimari Winter Field School 2024: Fostering Tomorrow's Researchers.](#)" *The Business Standard*. March 21, 2024.

Sanzida Alam Lisa. "[Are We Missing the Beauty of Life's Little Moments?](#)" *The Financial Express*. March 22, 2024.

Sanzida Alam. **Scholarship & Research Funding.** "Impact of Climate Change on Marital Relationships of Munda Community in Satkhira." LEDARS. March 23, 2024.

Jainab T. Banu. "[Daisy Moudud: The Journey of an Empowered Journalist.](#)" *The Daily Sun*. April 2, 2024.

Kashfia Nahreen. "[Konokbari.](#)" *The Daily Star*. April 6, 2024.

Sanzida Alam Lisa. "[Our Unhealthy Obsession Over Speaking English with an Accent.](#)" *The Business Standard*. May 3, 2024.

Sanzida Alam. V2V Photo of the Week. "Nocturnal Journeys of our Local Fishermen." *V2V Knowledge Resource*. May 8, 2024.

Sanzida Alam. V2V Photo of the Week. "Exploring the Rich Biodiversity of Fisheries During the Monsoon Season." *V2V Knowledge Resource*. May 15, 2024.

Sanzida Alam. "Echoes of the Sea: The Resilience and Magic of Bhatiali Songs." *V2V Commons Twenty-First Edition*. May 15, 2024.

Shahriyer Hossain Shetu. "[Learning to Level Up.](#)" *Dhaka Tribune*. May 15, 2024.

Amreeta Lethe Chowdhury. **Presenter.** "'Death Determines Life': Meditations on Loss, Grief, and Resilience in Ching-Fa Wu's Contemporary Taiwanese Hakka Poetry." *Taiwan Hakka Poetry Conference*, University of Dhaka. May 19, 2024.

Nabiha Mahfuz. **Presenter.** "Critical Affective Pedagogy for Integrating Hijra Identity (third gender) in Bangladeshi Classrooms." *Critical-Affective Pedagogy for Bangladesh: Teaching Language, Literature, Cultural Studies, and Communication in English Studies*. Department of English, Jahangirnagar University. May 24–25, 2024.

Kazi Maliha Islam. **Presenter.** "Online English Speaking Pedagogy: My Journey as an English Champ Teacher across Borders." *Critical-Affective Pedagogy for Bangladesh: Teaching Language, Literature, Cultural Studies, and Communication in English Studies*. Department of English, Jahangirnagar University. May 24–25, 2024.

Marifa Khan. **Presenter.** "The Dynamics of Standard English in EMI education: A postcolonial perspective." *Critical-Affective Pedagogy for Bangladesh: Teaching Language, Literature, Cultural Studies, and Communication in English Studies*. Department of English, Jahangirnagar University. May 24–25, 2024.

Sanzida Alam. **Editor.** "V2V Commons: Bimonthly Newsletter." *Vulnerability to Viability Global Partnership*. May, 2024.

Event Reports

Event 1: Scholars Program Orientation Spring 2024



The Spring 2024 orientation for the BA in English Scholars Program was held on January 13, 2024. The program's mission of academic excellence was shared with the existing and new

students in the program. Students in the Scholars Program are high achievers who seek knowledge through various educational opportunities. The event marked the start of a collective journey, uniting students in their pursuit of success.

Dr. Md. Mahadhi Hasan, the Scholars Program Advisor and Assistant Professor at DEH, spearheaded the orientation, acquainting newly selected students with the intricacies of the program. Emphasizing the ethos of high achievement, Dr. Hasan urged the students of the Scholars Program to embrace opportunities positively for personal development. The orientation also introduced committee members Sheikh Nahiyah and Al Mahmud Rumman, both faculty members at DEH.

Arifa Ghani Rahman, Head of DEH, appreciated the students' enthusiasm to take on challenging projects to improve their academic competencies. She noted that students' participation in this program would prepare them for the job market or higher studies. She emphasized that students must take this opportunity head-on and participate in specialized skill-building workshops, higher-level course audits, guided participation in conferences, and other academic pursuits. The orientation was also attended by Ms. Nadia Rahman, Assistant Professor and Coordinator, MA in English Program, along with Ms. Nusrat Tajkia, Lecturer and Coordinator, BA in English Program.

The session concluded with the Scholar students introducing themselves and articulating their reasons for joining the program. Currently, the Scholars Program boasts a cohort of 10 students: Tahosin Tasnim Hoque (192013038), Rowjatun Jannat (212013013), Nafiur Rahman (203013012), Akbar Fida Ononta (211013035), Fatema Aftab Miah (211013016), Marifa Khan (211013012), Nafisa Tasnim (212013005), Rubaiyat Raiyan (211013015), and Mariam Mardia (221013059). Their active participation in the orientation program reflects their commitment to the Scholars Program and their enthusiasm for academic and personal growth.

Event 2: Spring 2024 Orientation



With high spirits and zeal, ULAB's Department of English and Humanities conducted its Orientation Program to welcome the incoming batches of BA and MA students in Spring 2024 on January 18, 2024. The theme of the event was "Spring to Excellence" and the Orientation Speaker was DEH alumna, Ms. Shamael

Mortuza, an Ontario Certified English Language Teacher with an International Certificate in Teaching English as an Additional Language, currently working as an ESL/EAP instructor for adult learners in the Greater Toronto Area in Canada. Ms. Mortuza has a Masters in English Literature from Queen's University in Kingston, a Masters in English Literature and Cultural Studies from ULAB and a Bachelors in English Literature and Language from ULAB.



The program began with a welcome speech by Ms. Arifa Ghani Rahman, Head and Associate Professor of the Department. She provided the students with some words of advice in utilizing their time at university wisely, and to grow into a person to be proud of. The faculty members then introduced themselves after which Ms. Rahman introduced the students to the other key personnel of the department: the admin officer, the

TAs, and the Supervisor to the English Zone. She ended her speech by expressing her thanks to the teaching assistants, volunteers, performers, and organizing batches of the event for their support in the program.

Professor Kaiser Haq, the Dean of the School of Arts and Humanities, was invited on stage to address the new faces of the department. He brought to attention



the diversity amongst the respected faculty members of DEH, and how the learnings acquired in university always bear real-life applicability.



Then Professor Shamsad Mortuza, Special Advisor to the ULAB Board of Trustees, in his speech, described ULAB as a place for growth and evolution, where the faculty members are diverse yet share a strong bond. He emphasized the beliefs of the university, which include well-rounded knowledge gathered from numerous initiatives that can then be implemented in other aspects of one's journey.

The Orientation Speaker, Ms. Shamael Mortuza, an alumna of the department, then addressed the freshers. Along with being an English Language Instructor in the Greater Toronto Area, Ms. Mortuza is a fiction writer whose works have been included in journals and magazines such as *Kitaab*, *Borderless*, *The Daily Star*, and *World Poetry Today*. Furthermore, she is



also the author of the poetry collection *One Minute Past Midnight*. Ms. Mortuza began her speech by mentioning how she had grown up on different continents but then moved to Bangladesh where her affinity towards literature and linguistics prompted her to apply to ULAB. Through the motivation and inspiration she received from the faculty members, she was able to achieve numerous accolades, such as being on the Dean's Honors List, Vice Chancellor's Honors List, Valedictorian at ULAB's 2021 Convocation, and a gold medal for her MA grades. She acknowledged that, although she chose the traditional route of becoming an educator, students should not narrow their perspectives on what can be achieved through studying English. Detailing her work in Canada with international students and in language centers and programs such as LINC, Ms. Mortuza advised ESL and EFL students never to hesitate to make their voices heard in a classroom. Additionally, she describes university as a place to unlearn certain preconditioned prejudices or biases and focus on bettering oneself as a person. She ended her inspiring speech by wishing the best to all the new students and hoping that ULAB would aid in their pursuit of becoming a better person. A token of appreciation was then handed to her by Professor Kaiser Haq.

Ms. Sirajum Munira Joti, Supervisor of the English Zone, was welcomed on stage where she explained the concept and functionality of the English Zone. This is where students are assisted with their writing and speaking skills by the peer tutoring service. The Zone also conducts various free workshops, guides, and aids that the students were advised to take advantage of.



During the cultural segment, Jannatul Tasnia, a student of Batch 232, graced the stage with a wonderful song performance. This was followed by a captivating dance number by Prity Chanda and Anika Anowar of Batch 233. Rohan Sheikh, a student of Batch 223, then took the stage to perform a lively medley of timeless songs. Following this, Kashfia Israt, from MA Batch 241, was called up

on stage to speak on behalf of the new graduate students. She shared her admiration for the faculty members of the department and her gratitude to be able to learn from them. She described DEH as a platform that allows students to impart on adventures that contribute to the flourishing of their best selves. Abdullah Jubair, from Batch 241, represented the incoming undergraduate students, conveying his thoughts on the beauty of ULAB and its campus, and the university as a place that celebrates individuality and creativity. He elaborated that the faculty members encourage critical thinking and discussions, and the knowledge and skills gained here will go beyond the classroom. He ended his speech by wishing his batch mates a good journey ahead. The performances concluded with a beautiful collage of a song and a recitation by Afifah Farzana of MA Batch 241.



The program was organized by Batches 231, 232, and 233, under the guidance of their Batch Managers, Senior Lecturers Tanzia Siddiqua and Al Mahmud Rumman, and Lecturers Oliur Rahman Sun and Jahanara Tariq. The program was hosted by Sadia Mukarrama (MA Batch 232) and Azeema Anhar (BA Batch 232).





Report by Marifa Khan (211013012)

Event 3: Graduate Student Seminar Spring 2024



The Department of English and Humanities, ULAB, conducted its Graduate Student Seminar of Spring 2024 on February 5, 2024. With faculty members and students in attendance, ten MA in English students, selected by their respective course instructors from the preceding semester, showcased their remarkable papers. The participants presenting their papers represented the three MA tracks: Literature and Cultural Studies, Applied Linguistics and TESOL, and Literature and Creative Writing.

The seminar was inaugurated by Ms. Nadia Rahman, Assistant Professor, DEH, with a warm welcome to the presenters, faculty members, and students. Afterward, she introduced the first participant, Sadia Mukarrama (Batch 232), who presented her paper, "Reconstruction of Shakespeare: From Texts to Screen." In her presentation, Sadia focused on two South Asian adaptations of Shakespeare's plays, namely *Haidar* (an Indian adaptation of *Hamlet*) and *Mandaar* (an Indian-Bengali adaptation of *Macbeth*) while challenging traditional interpretations of his works and the plays' relevance in contemporary society.

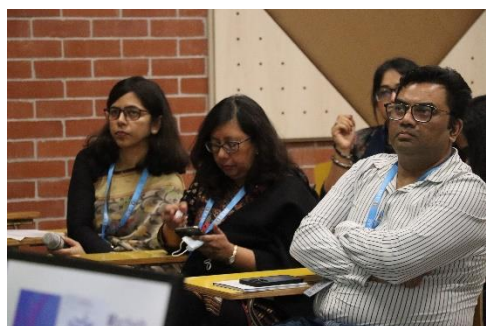


Kaniz Fatema Lamia (Batch 231) was the second presenter and her paper was titled, "Language Situation and Scope of Incorporating Translanguaging Pedagogies in HSC-Level English Classrooms of Bangladeshi Alia Madrassas." Lamia discussed the impact and challenges of implementing translanguaging pedagogies in Bangladeshi Madrassa classrooms, while also sharing her observational findings from conducting this research.

The third presenter was Kashfia Nahreen (Batch 233), whose paper title was "The Essence of Poetry: An Exploration of the Connection between Art and Identity in Tagore's Essay on 'Poet Yeats' and Hughes's Essay 'The Negro Artist and Racial Mountain'." Kashfia embodied

the importance of integrating one's cultural identity into one's works and leaving behind the colonial mentality surrounding the English language through the ideas represented in the essays mentioned in her presentation title.

Next, Quazi Farhina Hassan (Batch 233), presented her paper titled, "Ekphrasis: The Interpretation of Paintings through Modern Poetry," where she highlighted a selection of poems inspired by notable paintings, and how their reception varied from person to person. To further reiterate and elaborate on her point, she brought in survey statistics which gave insight into the variety while providing occasional comic relief.



Farzana Mir's (Batch 232) paper, "Pre-tertiary Education's Medium of Instruction Policies of Bangladesh and India: A Comparative Analysis," delved into the linguistic ecology of Bangladesh and India for pre-tertiary education, and suggested potential areas of reform in the education structure via a curriculum and pedagogical change while showing how far the system has come in as recently as 2020.

Next, "How We Learned and Acquired Language" by Mahjabeen Hassan (Batch 233) exhibited the numerous ways we acquire and learn language through the lens of Noam Chomsky's theories of language acquisition. Her two examples mentioned the theories of Interactionism and Behaviourism, with the addition of personal examples to further illustrate her points.

The seventh presenter, Farhin Younus (Batch 232), also related her topic, "Theories through Bare Eyes" on a personal level, and gave examples from her life where she was made to feel like the subject of the theories and ideas she learned about in class. The aforementioned theories drew ideas from the essays, "The Spectacle of the 'Other'" by Stuart Hall and *Black Skin White Masks* by Frantz Fanon.



Afterwards, Nazmun Nahar (Batch 232) presented her paper, "What Makes a Good Teacher: Insights from the 'Teaching Practicum and Classroom Management' Course and My Perspective," where she highlighted three specific dimensions she believes make the most impact on a teacher - the personal, professional and social aspects. Holding the course from which she was nominated as the sample for this study, she explores how a teacher can better themselves to further encourage and empower their students.

Reya Saha (Batch 232), the ninth presenter, chose "Evaluating the Effectiveness of Assessment Methods in English For Today (IX-X) Book" for her topic, and conducted her

research in a qualitative method for the four language skills - listening, reading, speaking and writing. Her study concluded that the textbook emphasized on developing reading and writing skills, and occasionally, speaking skills, but lacked sufficient materials for students to develop their listening skills.

For the concluding presentation, Ahmed Hossain Sanjid (Batch 223) recited three poems titled, "City Dwellers," "Looming Storm," and "If So" from his collection of poems titled, "Light of the Soul". It was especially interesting as this had been the first time Hossain dabbled in poetry, both writing and reciting.



Hearing the presentations, Professor Shamsad Mortuza, Special Advisor, ULAB Board of Trustees, shared his insights on the essence of the Graduate Student Seminar, and how it is a signature program by DEH to showcase and share the hard work students put into their academic endeavors.

Ms. Arifa Ghani Rahman, Head and Associate Professor, DEH, and Professor Kaiser Haq, Dean, School of Arts and Humanities, DEH, were then cordially invited for the certificate-giving session, where they handed over the much-deserved certificates to the participants. With that, the Graduate Student Seminar of Spring 2024 was brought to a successful closure.







Report by Fatima Tuj Zohra (241055030) and Marifa Khan (211013012)

Event 4: Scholars Program Workshop One: “Abstract Odyssey: Navigate, Write, Conquer”

Department of English and Humanities
UNIVERSITY OF LIBERAL ARTS
BANGLADESH

**SCHOLARS PROGRAM
WORKSHOP**

**Abstract Odyssey: Navigate, Write,
Conquer**

Facilitator

DR. MD. MAHADHI HASAN
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

12:15 PM - 1:15 PM | 8 FEBRUARY 2024 | PD 204



On February 8, 2024, the Department of English and Humanities at ULAB organized an exclusive workshop for the students of the Scholars Program titled “Abstract Odyssey: Navigate, Write, Conquer.” The workshop was conducted by Dr. Md. Mahadhi Hasan, Assistant Professor at DEH.

Ms. Arifa Ghani Rahman, Head of the Department of English and Humanities, provided her insights on the importance of research in the field of English literature and language. She also spoke about the possibilities for the students from the

Scholars Program and how they can benefit from it.

The facilitator of the workshop, Dr. Md. Mahadhi Hasan, asked the participants to take part in a brief practice of how to write an abstract. Dr. Hasan introduced the “BAMFI” method that the students had to apply in writing the abstract section of a research paper. He also explained the importance of having a good abstract.

Mr. Al Mahmud Rumman, Senior Lecturer, DEH, and Mr. Sheikh Nahiyen, Lecturer, DEH, were present at the workshop. The session ended with a brief question and answer session with the students.



Event 5: DEH Picnic



On February 9, 2024, the Department of English and Humanities organized a day-long picnic for its students, alumni, and faculty members at Suvarnagram Amusement Park and Resorts.



Nearly a hundred members of the DEH family attended the picnic and enjoyed a day of fun at the picnic venue which offered different kinds of rides.


The event served to nurture the bond among the DEHians and helped strengthen the ties amongst everyone. Volunteers had an opportunity to enhance their sense of responsibility and organizational skills. They were also required to put into practice their networking and team-building skills. New friends were made and old connections were rejuvenated.


The event committee was headed by Muntasir Mamun, Assistant Professor, DEH.




Event 6: Workshop and Seminar by Dr. Richard Smith and Dr. Maria Villalobos-Buehner







4 QUALITY EDUCATION



16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS




17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



Dr. Richard Smith
Professor of ELT & Applied Linguistics,
University of Warwick, UK

Workshop
Teaching in Difficult Circumstances and the Value of Exploratory Pedagogic Inquiry
Time: 3:00-4:00 pm



Dr. Maria Villalobos-Buehner
Professor of World Languages,
ESL and Bilingual Education, Rider University, USA

Seminar
Exploring the Dynamic Integration of AI as a Support Tool for Inclusive Lesson-Planning
Time: 4:00-5:00 pm

February 11, 2024
3:00 - 5:00PM | PD 110

Organized by the Department of English and Humanities, and the Center for Language Studies, ULAB

On February 11, 2024, the Department of English and Humanities (DEH) and Center for Language Studies, ULAB, organized a workshop and seminar with Dr. Richard Smith, Professor of ELT and Applied Linguistics, University of Warwick, UK, and Dr. Maria Villalobos-Buehner, Professor of World Languages, ESL and Bilingual Education, Rider University, USA. The

seminar by Dr. Smith focused on “Teaching in Difficult Circumstances and the Value of Exploratory Pedagogic Inquiry” while Dr. Villalobos-Buehner’s workshop delved into “Exploring the Dynamic Integration of AI as a Support Tool for Inclusive Lesson Planning.”



Hosted by Ms. Arifa Ghani Rahman, Head of the Department of English and Humanities, the program had commenced with a welcome address by Professor Imran Rahman, Vice Chancellor, ULAB. After the address, Ms. Rahman introduced the first speaker, Dr.



Richard Smith.

Dr. Smith began his seminar with insights on overcoming teaching barriers, drawing on historical perspectives of English teaching in Bengal since 1919. He focused on Michael Philip West’s observations from teaching in India with reference to West’s book *Teaching English in Difficult Circumstances*. Dr. Smith addressed contemporary challenges, such as student fixation on social media and inadequate resources. Solutions included peer correction, engagement strategies, and involving parents, illustrated by success stories from Nepal and Bangladesh. Dr. Smith emphasized the significance of practitioner research, citing examples of different teachers, such as Martha De La Cruz Quintero’s techniques for handling misbehavior. The need for action research in specific classroom settings was underscored as it empowers teachers to drive positive changes in the education system.

Following Dr. Smith’s seminar, Dr. Faheem Hasan Shahed, Director, CLS, introduced Dr. Maria Villalobos-Buehner who conducted a workshop that explored the SAMR Model (Substitution, Augmentation, Modification, Redefinition) and focused on the integration of AI, specifically the AI-powered tool Diffit, for inclusive lesson planning. Dr. Maria engaged participants in an interactive activity where participants worked in groups without using their voices. Each three-member team was tasked with creating something out of the white sheets of paper given to each member, which, together, would make a whole. Some teams communicated using sign language and created interesting interpretations of the project. This task aimed to illustrate the challenges and benefits of inclusive groups. The SAMR model’s stages were discussed, emphasizing how Diffit integrates technology by adapting various materials and creating differentiated activities based on language levels and proficiency. Diffit’s features, including adapting reading passages, generating quizzes, and creating transcripts, were highlighted. Following the workshop, a discussion ensued on the benefits and challenges of incorporating AI into the curriculum.





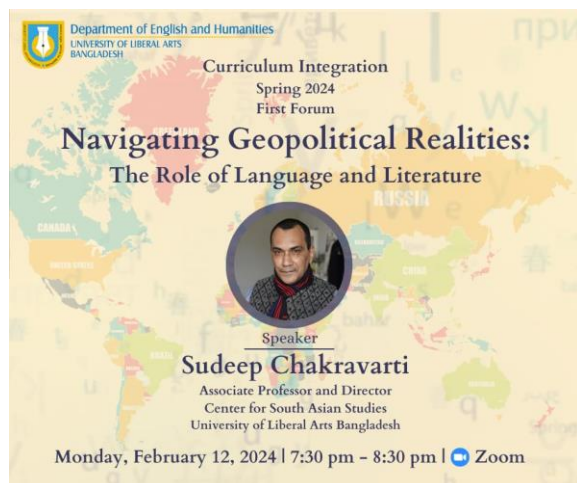
The session concluded with closing remarks from Ms. Arifa Rahman. She expressed gratitude to the guest speakers and presented tokens of appreciation. The workshop and seminar provided a comprehensive exploration of effective teaching strategies in challenging circumstances. They also shed light on the integration of AI for inclusive lesson planning, fostering a valuable exchange of insights among the current and future educators.





Report by Nabila Faiza Islam (201013115)

Event 7: Curriculum Integration Spring 2024: Forum I



On February 12, 2024, the Department of English and Humanities organized the first forum of the 10th DEH Curriculum Integration Program where Mr. Sudeep Chakravarti, Associate Professor and Director, Center for South Asian Studies, was invited as the guest speaker to expound on the theme of the term's

CI program, "Navigating Geopolitical Realities: The Role of Language and Literature." Mr. Chakravarti focused on how language and literature contribute to understanding and maneuvering within geopolitical landscapes.

Hosted by Mr. Golam Kader Zilany, Senior Lecturer, DEH, coordinator of the CI Program this term, the event commenced with a cordial welcome extended to the speaker, faculty members, and attending students. Subsequently, Mr. Zilany delivered a concise overview of the Curriculum Integration's objectives, delineating the term's thematic focus. Additionally, he elucidated the historical and scholarly underpinnings illustrating the role of language and literature in fostering comprehension and navigation within geopolitical contexts.

Mr. Chakravarti commenced an insightful and illuminating discourse by initiating a transfer of significant information from the root question: "What is geopolitics?" He provided the context, historical overview, aspects of geopolitics, and most importantly how it functioned. Mr. Chakravarti also highlighted the main theme of the CI, the crucial act of language, tone, and literature in geopolitics. Maps, the impact of British rule in South Asia, Rohingya issues, and the role of borders were all discussed by Mr. Chakravarti for better understanding of the concept. He also suggested some possible books and movies for more comprehensive study, including his book, *The Bengalis: A Portrait of a Community*.

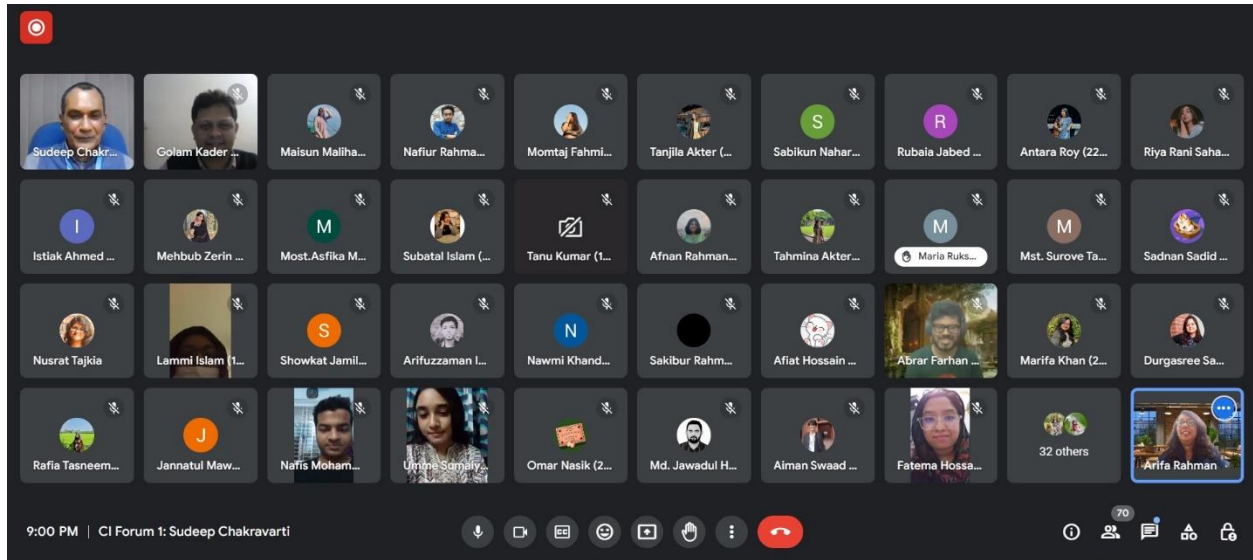


After Mr. Chakravarti's brilliant presentation, Mr. Zilany invited Dr. Shamsad Mortuza, Professor and Special Advisor to the ULAB Board of Trustees, to share some insights and reflections on Mr. Chakravarti's presentation.

The event concluded with a lively question and answer session that were crucial to furthering the understanding of the concept of geopolitics amongst the students.

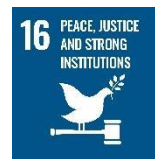
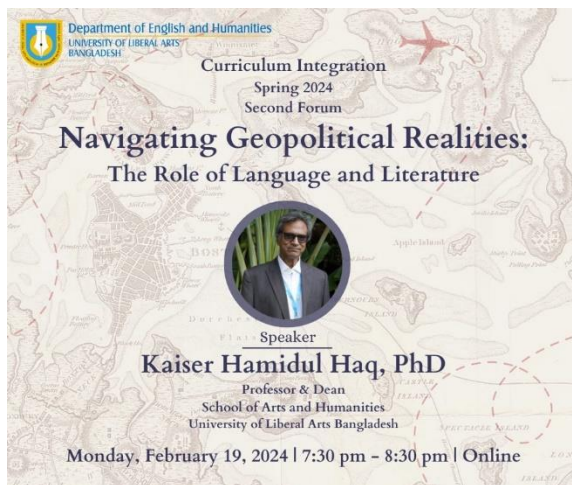
The Department organizes the Curriculum Integration Program every term and focuses on crucial, real-world, concepts that students grapple with to come to a better understanding of the world around them and are able to apply their learning from their courses to explain them.

The forum is available for viewing at the [DEH YouTube Channel](#).



Report by Kazi Bushra Orpy (203013003)

Event 8: Curriculum Integration Spring 2024: Forum II



The Department of English and Humanities at ULAB organized the Second Forum of the 10th Curriculum Integration Program on the theme of “Navigating Geopolitical Realities: The Role of Language and Literature” on February 19, 2024.

The speaker for the forum was Prof. Kaiser Haq, Dean, School of Arts and Humanities, ULAB. The program was conducted specially for the undergraduate students of the English Department.

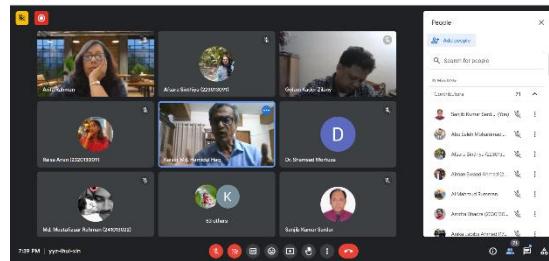
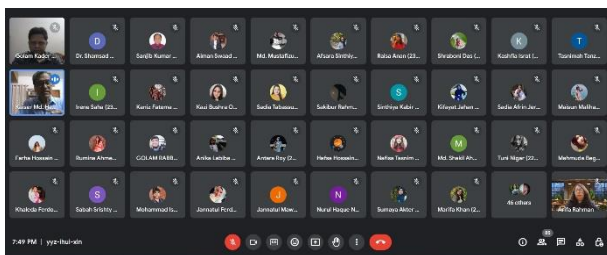
Prof. Haq, Professor and Dean, School of Arts and Humanities, provided insights into how geopolitics was crafted, leading to the formation of new territories and economic

superpowers. He explained the importance of the waters that the Western countries used to excel in their trade and influence the global economy as a whole. Prof. Haq also provided insights into how geopolitics had altered the views towards culture, tradition, language, and literature and formulated a new strategy for producing and redefining language and literature. Using the Eastern classics such as the *Mahabharata*, Bengali authors, and Western literary pieces and authors, Prof. Haq further explored how the geopolitical realities have ultimately been crafted into culture, tradition, language, and literature.



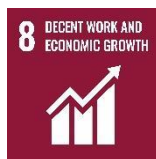
The session proceeded to a question-answer session where the students and faculty members asked several interesting and relevant questions which Professor Haq responded to in great detail. The session finally concluded with a vote of thanks by Arifa Ghani Rahman, Head, Department of English and Humanities. The session was hosted by Golam Kader Zilany, Senior Lecturer, Department of English and Humanities.

The talk is available on the [DEH YouTube Channel](#).

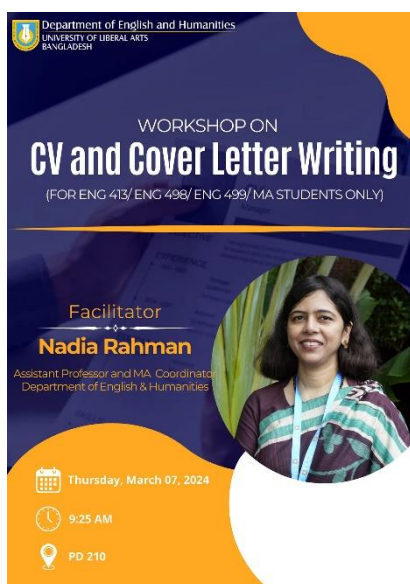


Report by Nafiu Rahman (203013012)

Event 9: Seven Mandatory DEH Final Term Student Workshops



Every term, DEH organizes seven mandatory workshops to prepare final term students for further studies or the job market. The workshops are conducted by DEH faculty members.



Writing CVs and Cover Letters

On March 7, 2024, the Department of English and Humanities (DEH) at the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) organized a workshop titled, “CV and Cover Letter Writing.” The workshop was designed for the students enrolled in ENG 498, ENG 499, and ENG 413 to guide them through the objectives and process of writing CVs and Cover Letters. The session was facilitated by Nadia Rahman, Assistant Professor, DEH.

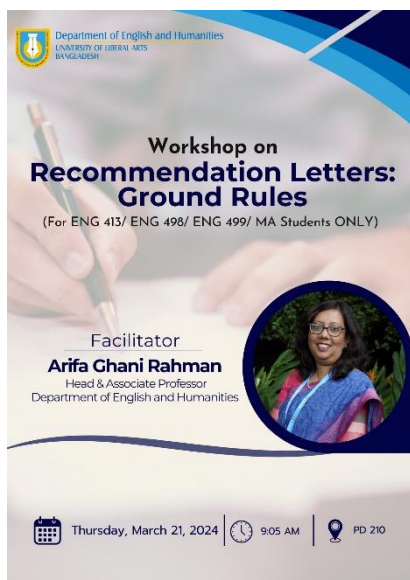
Ms. Rahman initiated the workshop by taking a look at the current CVs of the participating students, while discussing the proper format of categorizing a student’s work experience and extracurricular activities in their CV. She suggested that to describe the activities and relevant job responsibilities in the CV, one must use action verbs and be

precise in description. With a sample, she also emphasized the importance of incorporating all the necessary components in the CV, which included updated Address and Contact Information, Academic History, Relevant Skills, Publications, Achievements, and References.

Lastly, Ms. Rahman briefly discussed cover letters, and how they are different from a CV and Resume. She explained that a CV contains an overall record of one’s work experience, education history, and skills, while a Resume is prepared keeping the new progress in mind. A cover letter, on the other hand, she stressed, should be tailored according to the job description one would be applying for. Furthermore, she added that the letter should demonstrate how one can contribute to the intended company with a compelling one-page story.

Ms. Rahman, thereafter, provided relevant examples of cover letters and concluded the session with an interactive question and answer session.

Report by Isra Tahiya Islam (202013007)



Recommendation Letters - Ground Rules

On March 21, 2024, the Department of English and Humanities at the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh, hosted a workshop titled, "Recommendation Letters: Ground Rules." This workshop aimed to guide undergraduate students enrolled in ENG 498, ENG 499, ENG 413, and graduate students to understand the significance, components, and strategies for requesting recommendation letters that would be required for jobs and higher studies. The facilitator for the session was Arifa Ghani Rahman, Head and Associate Professor, DEH.

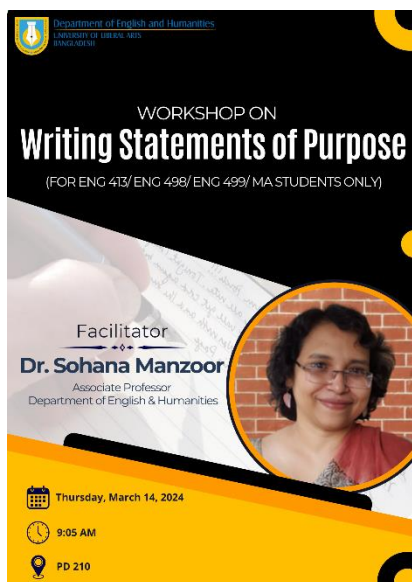
Ms. Rahman began the workshop by explaining the ground rules for requesting a recommendation letter and emphasizing on the necessity of it being professional. She started the session with a brief 5-minute exercise and asked students to draft an email to a possible referee. She then gathered feedback before starting her presentation. In addition, Ms. Rahman provided a comprehensive explanation of what a recommendation letter is and stated that it is a formal document from anyone who can endorse your work. She also explained the importance of selecting our referees wisely as they will not only highlight the student's achievements but also advocate for their character. Furthermore, she talked about the necessity for the recommendation letter to be customized, rather than being generic. For this, it is essential to provide the referee with as many details as possible. She also emphasized the need for confidentiality in recommendation letters. If not, she clarified, there is a chance of influence, and employers and the admissions committee expect an unbiased, objective overview.

Finally, she discussed tactics like building trusting connections with possible referees, giving them context and relevant information, and making sure requests are made ahead of time, and with clear details and deadlines. Authenticity, specificity, and compliance with the recipient's expectations were emphasized. After that, Ms. Rahman corrected the students' mistakes from the draft emails they had constructed at the beginning of the session by showing a few samples of requests for recommendation letters that were sub-par.

The session was then closed with an interactive question-and-answer period.



Report by Farha Hossain (201013001)



Writing Statements of Purpose

On March 14, 2024, the Department of English and Humanities at the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh, hosted a workshop titled, "Writing Statements of Purpose". This workshop aimed to guide undergraduate students enrolled in ENG 498, ENG 499, and ENG 413, as well as graduate students, to understand the goals and steps involved in crafting a Statement of Purpose. The facilitator for the session was Dr. Sohana Manzoor, Associate Professor, DEH.

Dr. Manzoor began the workshop by explaining what a statement of purpose is and emphasizing on the necessity of its being compelling. She talked about the importance of it in both professional and academic applications so that it can effectively convey the applicant's background, goals, and motivations. Moreover, Dr. Manzoor outlined the organizational structure for SoPs which can personalize narratives and illustrate one's qualifications for a specific program. Furthermore, she discussed the role SoPs play in enabling selection committees to determine whether an applicant is suitable for an available position. Here, Dr. Manzoor advised the attending students to summarize their backgrounds, hobbies, and motivations in addition to a brief overview of themselves so that they stand out to the employers or admission committees. She additionally emphasized the significance of incorporating recent extracurricular activities alongside academic achievements. By doing so, applicants can present a holistic portrayal of themselves, further enhancing their opportunity of attaining their desired job or admission.

Finally, Dr. Manzoor advised students to use the pronoun "I" and write the entire statement from the first person perspective. She underscored the importance of relevance, honesty, and clarity. She stressed that writing an SoP is a transformative process that requires introspection, research, and meticulous attention to detail. Additionally, she stated that applicants can greatly improve their chances of success in the competitive environment of admissions by developing a clear narrative and stating their goals. Furthermore, she suggested exploring university websites before drafting their SoP to ensure that it is aligned with the desired institution's objectives.

Thereafter, Dr. Manzoor, provided relevant Statement of Purpose examples and concluded the session with an interactive question and answer session.

Report by Farha Hossain (201013001)



Job Hunting and Networking

On March 28, 2024, the Department of English and Humanities (DEH) at the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) organized a workshop titled “Job Hunting and Networking.” The workshop was designed for the students enrolled in ENG 498, ENG 499, and ENG 413 as well as graduate students to guide them through the process of hunting for jobs and networking. The session was facilitated by Ms. Arifa Ghani Rahman, Head and Associate Professor, Department of English and Humanities.

Ms. Rahman initiated the workshop by asking the students whether they wanted to opt for jobs or higher studies following their graduation. She then explained the complications of the job market and talked about how to be prepared to apply for a job. She asked the students to first

understand their own worth and capabilities. After a self-assessment, it is necessary to identify the company or position they would like to be in in the next ten years as well as the type of industry they would like to work in. She explained the steps for students to prepare for job applications, such as building confidence, updating CVs, and creating a professional profile on sites like LinkedIn, or creating a website to showcase all their achievements that cannot be included in a CV.

Finally, Ms. Rahman stated that one of the important aspects of getting a job is to build a network. Some good ideas to keep in mind are to link with people with similar mindsets or interests, be professional, and also to stay active. She further suggested volunteering as a possible means to build a network and perhaps get a foot in the door of the dream job location. Another positive behavior to build is to keep in touch with past employers and faculty members. Moreover, she mentioned that the students’ minor subject taken at university can play a huge role in helping fresh graduates get into the job market. When students are ready to apply for jobs, they must have a customized CV, a similarly customized cover letter, and letters of recommendation as needed. These should be ready to send when asked for. Ms. Rahman, thereafter, provided relevant resources and websites that can help the outgoing students look for jobs in Bangladesh as fresh graduates.

Report by Khondoker Noor Mohammad (202013030)



Interview Skills

On April 4, 2024, the Department of English and Humanities (DEH) at the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) organized a workshop titled, "Interview Skills." The workshop was designed for the students enrolled in ENG 498, ENG 499, and ENG 413 as well as the MA students to be prepared for any type of interview, either for jobs or higher studies. The workshop was facilitated by Ms. Nadia Rahman, Assistant Professor, Department of English and Humanities.

Ms. Rahman started the session by giving a few important pointers about the interview scenario. She mentioned that interviewees should introduce themselves in such a way that the interviewer can ask them further questions. By doing this, communication is built and the interviewer will also be interested in the works of the interviewee.

Ms. Rahman then moved on to a short question/answer session where she asked the students what they wanted to do in their future, with the majority of students choosing work or higher studies. According to Ms. Rahman, one of the important aspects of anyone wanting to go for an interview is that they should first realize what kind of interview they are appearing for.

The next major part focused on preparing for the interview. Ms. Rahman mentioned that interviewees must always understand their job description, where they are applying, and the philosophy of the institution. By analyzing these aspects, interviewees can create the answers according to the position or organization they are applying to. Furthermore, interviewees must also decide on their strengths, skill areas, and experiences, and with it, compile relevant documents for the interview.

The next part that Ms. Rahman talked about is interviews in the case of cultural exchange programs. A student going to attend one of these programs should be familiar with the history and culture of the other country as well as their own, be willing to participate in the programs they will attend, and be comfortable with the campus life of a different institution. Also, in the case of financial aid, interviewees must portray that they are willing to work in return for the benefits they will receive.

Ms. Rahman then moved on to the next part where she mentioned that it is important to be punctual for an interview. Interviewees must also show confidence through their body language and must speak at a slower pace so that the interviewer understands them. She also gave a very important reminder about connecting the interviewees' past experiences with the current job application to generate an interesting aspect to the conversation. She, however, discouraged students from talking for more than one to two minutes per question.

Lastly, she pointed out how to deal with unfamiliar questions. The correct way to do this is to analyze the questions, break them down into simpler parts, and answer them one by one while also justifying any answer being given.

Ms. Rahman, ended the session with important tips, such as being proficient in Bangla and English so that the interviewee can answer in any language, and being confident and mindful of body language. She also mentioned what to do in case of video interviews; to understand the company policy on video interviews; and to do everything accordingly.

Report by Khondoker Noor Mohammad (202013030)

Presentation Skills



The Department of English and Humanities (DEH) at the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) held a session called "Presentation Skills" on April 18, 2024. The workshop was developed for students enrolled in ENG 498, ENG 499 and ENG 413, as well as students of MA, to enhance their presentation capabilities. The session was led by Ms. Nadia Rahman, Assistant Professor, Department of English and Humanities.

Ms. Rahman started the session with a question to the students about what they should do during a presentation. Upon hearing the responses, she went on to explain the do's and don'ts of presentations, and emphasized on summarizing the contents as well as focusing on the relevant topics. She further talked about the importance of time management, as well as avoiding stage fright, as it is something that many students suffer from. Additionally, she told the students to be mindful of the audience as they can become distracted.

Ms. Rahman mentioned the four P's: plan, prepare, practice, and perform, stating that students will be much better at presenting in front of an audience using these four P's. She also mentioned that there are three messages that every presenter must be mindful about: the physical message, which the presenter conveys through their posture and appearance; the visual message, which is conveyed by the contents of their PowerPoint slides through the use of muted colors and standard fonts because experimenting can often result in the audience not being able to read or understand the slides; and the story message, where the presenter must connect their points with the topic selected to keep it coherent.

Ms. Rahman ended the session by telling the students that they, in turn, must be a good audience member by showing respect to the other presenters and being mindful of the presenters' words. Ms. Rahman wrapped up the session by showing the students some samples about how to prepare their PowerPoint slides as a presenter.

Report by Khondoker Noor Mohammad (202013030)

“So, What’s Next?”



The Department of English and Humanities (DEH) at the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) held a session called "So, What's Next" on April 25, 2024. The workshop was developed for students enrolled in ENG 498, ENG 499, and ENG 413 to walk them through the goals and procedures of higher education and career opportunities. Facilitated by Ms. Arifa Ghani Rahman, Associate Professor and Head of the Department, and Nadia Rahman, Assistant Professor, DEH, the session discussed postgraduate programs abroad as well as what ULAB has to offer in the MA in English program.

Ms. Arifa Rahman opened the workshop by inspiring the students to continue further studies, and in this regard, she enumerated the prerequisites for graduate school applications. Applying abroad necessitates the preparation of several documents, including background research, a list of desired universities, transcripts, certificates, recommendation letters, funds, proficiency tests, updated CVs, SOPs, and other essays, passports, and visa applications, which can take up to a year. She recommended that anyone interested in applying to graduate schools abroad begin the process as soon as possible to secure enrollment in the 2025 session and by this time arrange the necessary elements.



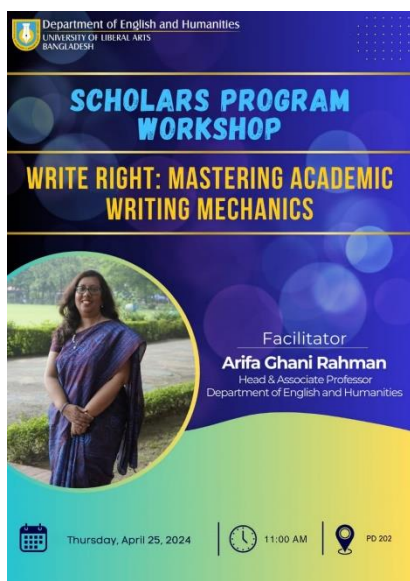
Ms. Nadia Rahman took the lead in the second half and talked about the opportunities that ULAB provides for the students. She also gave details on ULAB's graduate programs and insights on why to choose ULAB. She shared the success stories of the previous students and discussed available offers for ULAB alumni and the female students. She stressed that

students should utilize the time after graduation and instantly get admitted to any of the postgraduate disciplines, whether or not they are interested in studying overseas. Furthermore, she emphasized on how further education is going to enhance the opportunities and contribute to their future careers.

Both facilitators concluded the session with an interactive question-answer session and took some pictures as memories.

Report by Jannatul Ferdose Sanjida (193013019)

Event 10: Scholars Program Workshop Two: “Write Right: Mastering Academic Writing Mechanics”



The Department of English and Humanities at ULAB organized the second DEH Scholars Program workshop on “Write Right: Mastering Academic Writing Mechanics” exclusively for the SP students on April 25, 2024 at the permanent campus. Ms. Arifa Ghani Rahman, Head of the Department of English and Humanities, conducted the workshop with the aim of guiding the SP students to improve their writing skills for research.

During the presentation, the facilitator shared her unique perspectives on the significance of research and studies in the field of English language and literature. In addition to that, she discussed the opportunities available to the students who are participating in the Scholars Program and the ways in which they can benefit from it.

In addition, Ms. Rahman detailed the most typical errors that occur in research and offered advice on how to avoid making them. In addition, she discussed the significance of language, including the need to avoid redundancy and write in a concise manner, both of which can have an effect on the readers. She provided examples of the various ways in which academic writers overlook specific issues including mixing of spellings, inconsistencies in punctuation and capitalization, using blanket statements, and mixing formatting styles.

The session ended with a brief question and answer session with the students. Dr. Md. Mahadhi Hasan, Assistant Professor and Advisor to the Scholars Program, and Mr. Sheikh Nahiyah, Lecturer, Department of English and Humanities (DEH), were also present at the workshop.



Report by Nafiur Rahman (203013012)

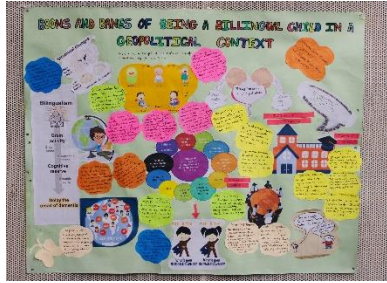
Event 11: Curriculum Integration Final Showcase



On April 25, 2024, the Department of English and Humanities at ULAB concluded its 10th Curriculum Integration Program themed “Navigating Geopolitical Realities: The Role of Language and Literature” with its Final Project Showcase. The aim of the event was to showcase nominated projects before a panel of esteemed judges, which reflected students’ understanding

of the theme in terms of their respective courses.

The showcase took place on the campus of ULAB where judges, faculty members, and students gathered to witness the submissions. The judges for the day were Professor Kaiser Haq, Dean, School of Arts and Humanities, Dr. Abu Saleh Mohammed Rafi, Associate Professor, Department of English and Humanities, and Ms. Nadia Rahman, Assistant Professor, Department of English and Humanities. Prof. Shamsad Mortuza, Special Advisor to the ULAB Board of Trustees, and Ms. Arifa Ghani Rahman, Head of the department, were also present at the event along with other DEH faculty members and students.



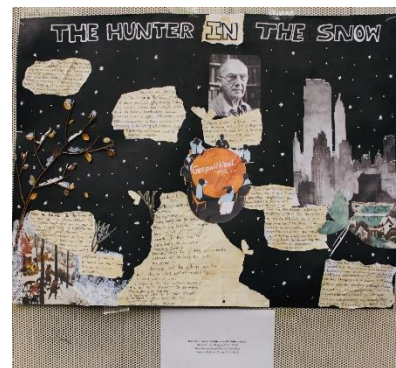
There were an array of projects including poster and magazine making to video presentations. The judges engaged in discussions with the students about their projects and also dissected the video presentations that were curated

by course faculty. After meticulous consideration from the judges, the three winners of the evening were announced.



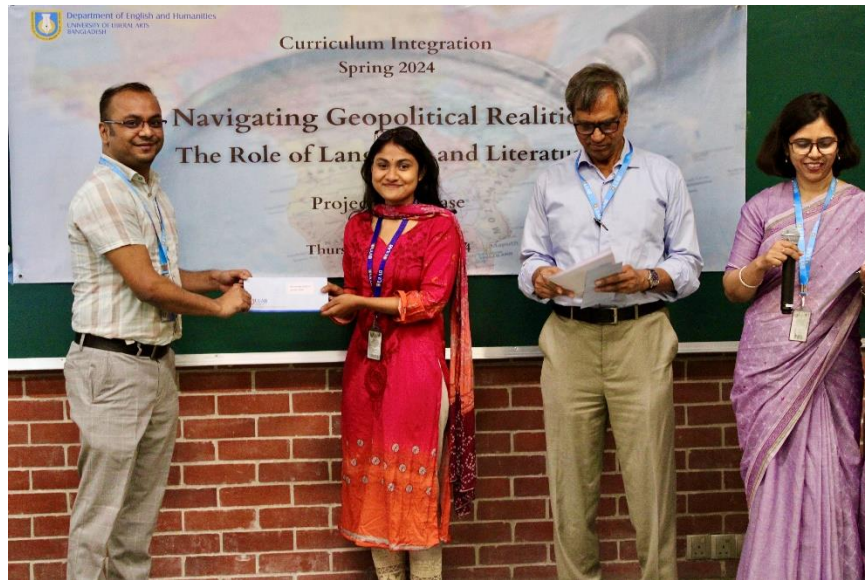
Professor Kaiser Haq declared the winner of the Spring 2024 CI Showcase: the team video presentation from the course ENG 3203 Theories of Second Language Acquisition which addressed the turbulence of the Israel-Palestine conflict. The

winning team included Parisa Saba (211013003), Jeba Tasnin Farin (211013019), Samia Nur Rashid (211013045) and Md. Yousuf Ahmed Tamim (211013024).



Dr. Abu Saleh Mohammad Rafi announced the first runner up, Husnul Jannath (222013034), for her poster titled "The Revolution Spirit in *Ode to the West Wind* - A Geopolitical Analysis" from the course ENG 2204 Romantic Poetry.





Ms. Nadia Rahman declared the second runner up, Mirza Ahmad Nuhash (201013089), for his project “The World of Artificial Intelligence” from the course ENG 4107 Materials Development.



All winners received a cash prize.

After a photography session of the winners with the judges and course faculty, emcee Raisa Anan (232013009) concluded the event.







Report by Fatema Aftab Miah (211013016)

Event 12: Theses Defense and Commencement Spring 2024



After a morning filled with theses defense and presentations, the Department of English and Humanities at ULAB held the Spring 2024 Commencement ceremony for its graduating students of the BA and MA programs on May 4, 2024. The event was themed “Harmony in Change” and the Commencement Speaker was Ms. Sanjida Afrin, Senior Officer of

Child Sponsorship and Resource Mobilization at ActionAid Bangladesh.

Inaugurating the event, DEH Head, Ms. Arifa Ghani Rahman, commended the graduating students on their accomplishments and elaborated on the significance of giving back with the skills and knowledge cultivated during their years at ULAB.



Afterwards, the cultural segment of the event, arranged by Batch 203, commenced with an enthralling poetry recitation and song performance by MA student Afifah Farzana (Batch 241).



Addressing the graduating batch, Professor Kaiser Haq, Dean, School of Arts and Humanities, then emphasized on the virtues of embracing civic responsibilities and wielding the critical thinking skills fostered within the university out in the real world. Emeritus Professor Syed Manzoorul Islam next joined the stage and pointed out the stark contrast between the spheres of academia and the professional world, which is more complex and



demanding. Yet, he affirmed the boundless potential within the graduates to flourish in these circumstances.

In a moment of reflection, Professor Shamsad Mortuza, Special Advisor, ULAB Board of Trustees, contemplated the essence of the English department and its subtle yet profound influence that prepares students to face the world at large. Other faculty members, Ms. Nadia Rahman, Assistant Professor, Ms. Tanzia Siddiqua, Senior Lecturer, and Mr. Md. Muntasir Mamun, Assistant Professor, also imparted valuable advice to the graduates with their good wishes.



Ms. Sanjida Afrin, the Commencement Speaker, initiated her speech with a candid recollection of the uncertainties she had faced after graduating, not knowing what lay ahead. However, her first job at UN Women as a fellow in Gender-Responsive Budgeting, led her to her purpose in life, which included not only finding fulfillment in her own work, but having others benefit from it as well. Delving into the versatility of the English program, she reflected upon the way it prepared her to carry out writing-related tasks in her own career. Presenting this as an example, she emphasized on the conscious and subconscious lessons one

accumulates over the years in university. She ended her speech with good wishes to the graduating students. A token of appreciation was presented to her by Prof. Kaiser Haq.

The next part of the program consisted of an interactive session where the graduates shared their experiences and memorable takeaways from their university lives.

A certificate-giving session for the Scholars Program graduates followed. This term, one Scholars Program student graduated and was presented with her certificate by the Scholars Program Committee, the Dean, the Head of Department, and the Special Advisor to the BoT.



The program ended with a song performance by Jannatul Tasnia (Batch 232) and Alen Henry Costa (Batch 211), and a vote of thanks by Dr. Md. Mahadhi Hasan who was the Batch Manager of the organizing batch.

The program was co-hosted by Tasfiyah Saba (MA Batch 241) and Fatema Aftab Miah (Batch 211).










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