



Department of English and Humanities

**UNIVERSITY OF LIBERAL ARTS
BANGLADESH**

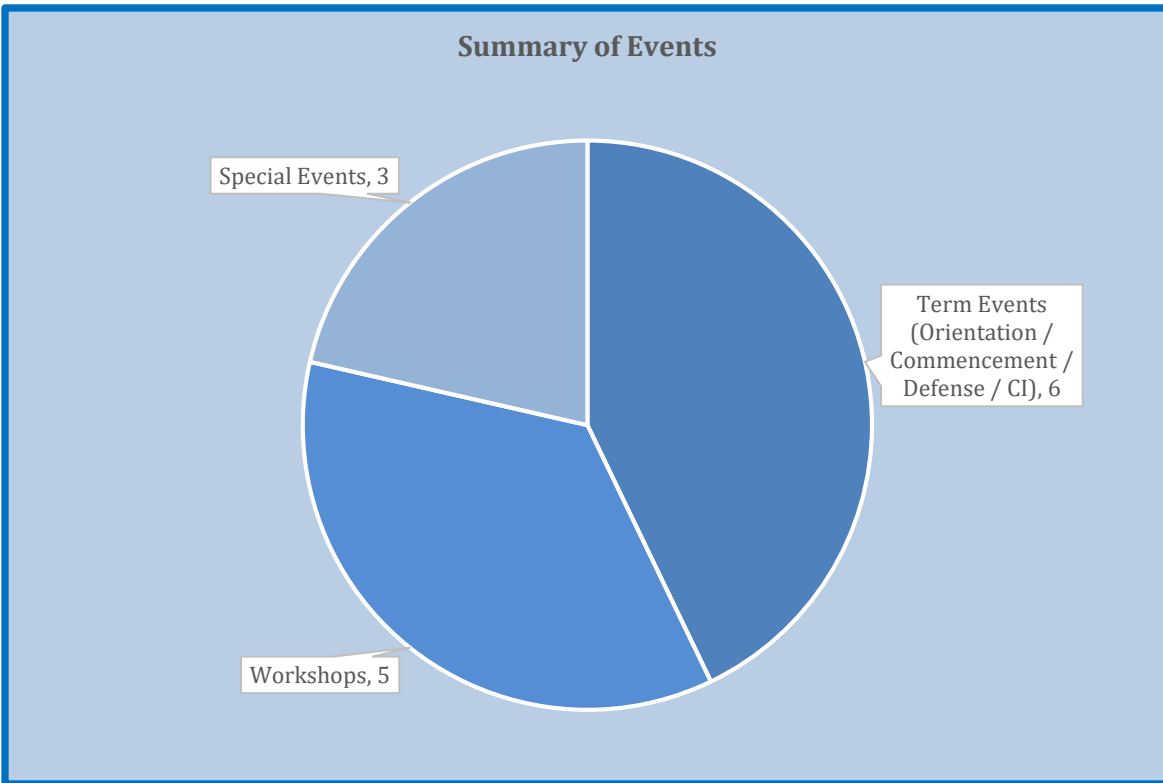
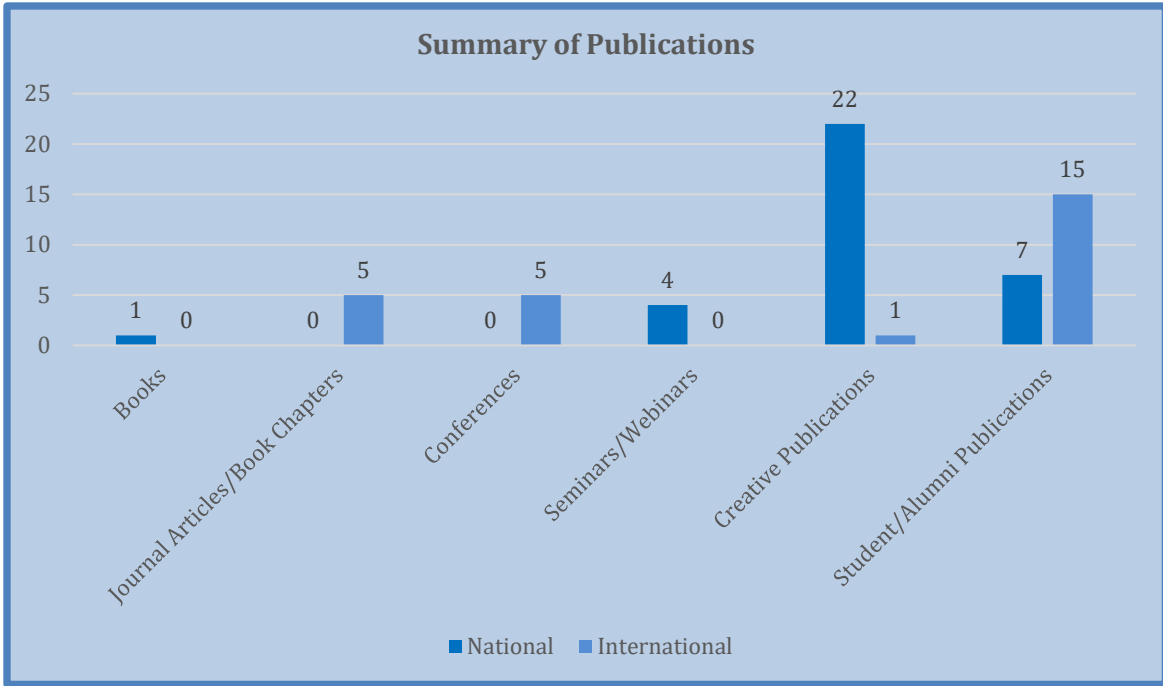
Publications and Events Report

Summer 2024

(May 26, 2024 - October 13, 2024)

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Publications

Books

National

Siddiqua, Tanzia. *IPA Workbook: The Sounds of English*. Dipto Publications, July 2024. ISBN: 978-984-98839-3-7.

Journal Articles/Book Chapters

International

Haq, Kaiser. "Hasan Shahid Suhrawardy." *The Literary Encyclopedia*. 19 July 2024. <https://www.litencyc.com/php/speople.php?rec=true&UID=4283>.

Mortuza, Shamsad. "Rabindranath Tagore's Ecology of Education: From Ideation to Implementation." *Rabindranath Tagore's Journey as an Educator: Critical Perspectives on His Poetics and Praxis*. Edited by Mohammad A. Quayum. Routledge, 2023 [received in 2024].

Mortuza, Shamsad. **Book Review**. "Mohammad A. Quayum and Md. Mahmudul Hasan (ed.), *Bangladeshi Literature in English: Critical Essays and Interviews*." *Asiatic: IIUM Journal of English Language and Literature*, vol. 18, no. 1, 2024, pp. 143-148. <https://doi.org/10.31436/asiatic.v18i1.3218>. [SCOPUS indexed]

Mortuza, Shamsad. "The Changing Shakespearescape in Bangladesh." *Borrowers and Lenders: The Journal of Shakespeare and Appropriation*, vol. 16, no. 1, 2024. <https://doi.org/10.18274/y0jw2g63>.

Kabilan, M. K., Karim, A., Sultana, S., & **Rahman, Mohammad Mosiur**. "Preservice Teachers' Reflecting on Reflections of Critical Incidents: Effects on Professional Development and Identity Construction." *Journal of Teacher Education*, 2024. <https://doi.org/10.1177/00224871241286088>. [SCOPUS indexed]

Conferences

International

Rafi, Abu Saleh Mohammad. **Presenter**. "Starting Young: Early Years Languages Learning in Australia." *21st AILA World Congress 2024*, Malaysia. August 11-16, 2024.

Rafi, Abu Saleh Mohammad. **Keynote Speaker**. "Transforming Assessments for Bilingual Students: Creativity, Criticality, and Translanguaging," *11th International Conference*

on Language and Literacy Education, University of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa. September 13-15, 2024.

Rahman, Nadia. **Presenter.** "The Ecology of Land and Sea in Tahmima Anam's *The Bones of Grace.*" *Echoes of the Earth: Interplay of Literature and Landscape.* Kathmandu University, Nepal. September 27-29, 2024.

Tian, Zhongfeng, and **Abu Saleh Mohammad Rafi. Speaker.** "From Classroom Interventions to Teacher Education: Experiences and Insights from Buddying Scholars of Translanguaging Pedagogies." University of Brasilia. October 10, 2024.

Sun, Oliur Rahman. **Participant.** "Block and Transform" Strategy Convening 2024. *Noor Network*, Nairobi, Kenya. October 8-10, 2024.

Seminars/Webinars

National

Zilany, Golam Kader. **Training Facilitator.** Teachers Training Workshop for Secondary Level English Educators. Robertson Ganj High School and College, Rangpur. May 24-25, 2024.

Zilany, Golam Kader. **Training Facilitator.** Effective Assessment Design and Integration in Teaching. Center for Excellent in Teaching & Learning (CETL), University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB). May 30, 2024.

Hasan, Md. Mahadhi. **Facilitator.** "The Art of Connection: Mastering Communication Skills." Rabindra University, Bangladesh. October 3, 2024.

Hasan, Md. Mahadhi. **Facilitator.** "Public Speaking: Win the Stage and Wow Your Audience." Rabindra University, Bangladesh. October 4, 2024.

Non-Academic and Creative Publications

International

Sun, Oliur. "[We Need to Dismantle the Dictatorship in Bangladesh.](#)" *New Internationalist*, August 1, 2024.

National

Sun, Oliur. "[Unsanctioned Ink: Graffiti Power and Public Memory.](#)" *New Age*, October 10, 2024.

Mortuza, Shamsad. "[Spare Us the Hypocrisy.](#)" *The Daily Star*, June 2, 2024.

Mortuza, Shamsad. "[Our Love-Hate Relationship with University Rankings.](#)" *The Daily Star*, June 8, 2024.

Mortuza, Shamsad. "[P for Private, P for PhD.](#)" *The Daily Star*, June 15, 2024.

Mortuza, Shamsad. "[A Monologue on the Beasts among Us.](#)" *The Daily Star*, June 22, 2024.

Mortuza, Shamsad. "['Begum's Blunder' Shines in Wilde Splendour.](#)" *The Daily Star*, June 27, 2024.

Mortuza, Shamsad. "[Breaking Chains through Whistleblowing.](#)" *The Daily Star*, June 29, 2024.

Mortuza, Shamsad. "[Pension Wars and Quota Protests: The Manufactured Divide.](#)" *The Daily Star*, July 5, 2024.

Mortuza, Shamsad. "[Why are Highly Educated People Choosing Blue-Collar Jobs Abroad?](#)" *The Daily Star*, July 13, 2024.

Mortuza, Shamsad. "[A Generation's Fight in the Shadows of Quota.](#)" *The Daily Star*, July 27, 2024.

Mortuza, Shamsad. "[The Lives of Fallen Students Must Inspire the Change We Need.](#)" *The Daily Star*, August 3, 2024.

Islam, Syed Manzoorul. "[The Opportunity for State Repairs Has Come Again.](#)" Interview. *Prothom Alo*, August 4, 2024.

Mortuza, Shamsad. "[The Power of Education in 'Bangla Bashanta'.](#)" *The Daily Star*, August 10, 2024.

Mortuza, Shamsad. "[Universities Must Prepare for the Transition of Students.](#)" *The Daily Star*, August 17, 2024.

Mortuza, Shamsad. "[The Triumphs and Challenges of a Generation in Flux.](#)" *The Daily Star*, August 24, 2024.

Mortuza, Shamsad. "[When Teachers Become Targets: Lessons from Emperor Alamgir.](#)" *The Daily Star*, August 31, 2024.

Mortuza, Shamsad. "[Our Migrant Workers in UAE: Bound by Borders, Freed by Conscience.](#)" *The Daily Star*, September 7, 2024.

Mortuza, Shamsad. "[Mass Wedding in Academia: A New Kind of 'Taboo-Breaking'.](#)" *The Daily Star*, September 14, 2024.

Mortuza, Shamsad. "[We Must Protect Doctors from Violence.](#)" *The Daily Star*, September 21, 2024.

Mortuza, Shamsad. "[Shakib's Final Over: A Hero's Farewell or a Quiet Exit?](#)" *The Daily Star*, September 28, 2024.

Mortuza, Shamsad. "[Education, Identity and Ideology: Bangladesh's Struggle for Unity.](#)" *The Daily Star*, October 5, 2024.

Mortuza, Shamsad. "[Ranking Realities: Bangladesh's Higher Education Strategy Needs a Redesign.](#)" *The Daily Star*, October 12, 2024.

Student/Alumni Publications, Presentations, and Achievements

International

Banu, Jainab Tabassum. "[My Voice Matters: Claiming My Space as an International Graduate Student/Teacher.](#)" *Medium*, June 3, 2024.

Mortuza, Arshi. "[Application to Become a Nun.](#)" *Spillwords Press*, June 14, 2024.

Mortuza, Arshi. "[Medusa Checks into a Women's Shelter.](#)" *50-Word Stories*, June 17, 2024.

Islam, Talebur. **Global Talent and Participant.** International Forum on the International Youth Exchange on "Creating a Green Future," Suzhou, China. June 17, 2024.

Islam, Talebur. "[Chipping Into Semiconductor and Cutting-Edge Technology Challenges and Opportunities.](#)" *The Bangladesh Brand Forum*, June 23, 2024.

Mortuza, Arshi. "[I Have No Words.](#)" *The New Verse.News*, June 26, 2024.

Mortuza, Arshi. "[Purrsonifying.](#)" *Borderless Journal*, August 14, 2024.

Islam, Talebur. **Global Talent and Speaker.** *Xinjiang Research and Study Visit.* Urumqi, Kuqu, Kashi and Kashgar, Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region, China. August 22-29, 2024.

Islam, Talebur. "[From Urumqi to Kashgar, Bangladeshi Students at Renmin University Fall in Love with Xinjiang Dance](#)" (从乌鲁木齐跳到喀什 人大孟加拉国留学生迷上新疆舞). *The Xinjiang Daily*, August 29, 2024.

Mortuza, Arshi. "[The Ghost in the Mattress.](#)" *Spillwords Press*, August 31, 2024.

Islam, Talebur. "The Growth of Suzhou through Bridging the Past with the Future: Learning the Development by the Suzhou Industrial Park." *The Silk Road School Annual Book 2024*, No. 11, pp. 52-57.

Islam, Talebur. "[Expat Eyes | Xinjiang: Unwrapping the Diversity and Civilizations.](#)" *The Tianshennet*. October 10, 2024.

Islam, Talebur. "[Expat Eyes | Xinjiang: Unwrapping the Diversity and Civilizations.](#)" *The Xinhua News*, October 13, 2024.

Islam, Talebur. **Speaker.** The Youth Dialogue Forum, Annual Academic Week 2024 (China-Europe Civilization Forum), Renmin University of China, China. October 31, 2024.

Islam, Talebur. **Global Talent and Speaker.** International Youth Innovation and Entrepreneurship Exchange, Huzhou, Zhejiang, China. November 15-19, 2024.

National

Chowdhury, Amreeta Lethe. "[It Has to be Print.](#)" *The Daily Star*, May 30, 2024.

Shetu, Shahriyer Hossain. "[The Dichotomy of Public and Private Space in Bangladesh: A Gendered Perspective.](#)" *The Business Standard*, July 5, 2024.

Chowdhury, Amreeta Lethe. "[The Story of Sharifa: One Step Forward, Many Steps Backward?](#)" *The Daily Star*, July 12, 2024.

Siam, Sadman Ahmed, **Amreeta Lethe Chowdhury**, and Nazia Manzoor. "[6 Books that Shed Light on Student Movements in Bangladesh.](#)" *The Daily Star*, July 25, 2024.

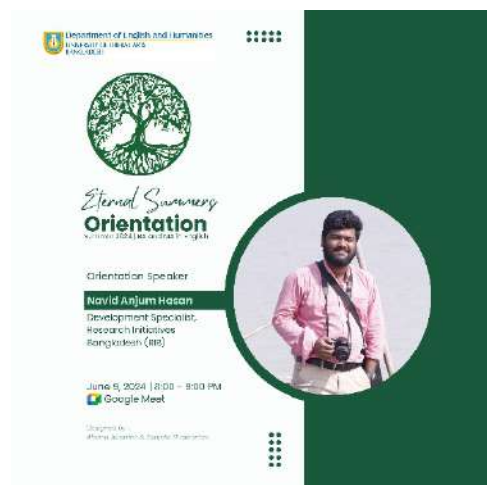
Alam, Sanzida Lisa. "[The Great Dhaka Market Adventure: Bargains, Bazaars, and Beyond.](#)" *The Business Standard*, August 17, 2024.

Mahmud, Khama, and **Amreeta Lethe Chowdhury.** "[On Travel and Writing.](#)" *The Daily Star*, September 21, 2024.

Mortuza, Arshi. "[Sinking in Ink.](#)" *The Daily Star*, October 12, 2024.

Event Reports

Event 1: Summer 2024 Orientation



On June 9, 2024, the Department of English and Humanities of ULAB organized the Orientation Program to extend a warm welcome to the incoming MA and BA students of Summer 2024. The event was themed “Eternal Summers” and the Orientation Speaker was DEH alumnus, Mr. Navid Anjum Hasan, Development Specialist at Research Initiatives

Bangladesh.

The program was initiated by the host Rumina Ahmed Raka (Batch 233), with a fitting reference to William Shakespeare’s “Sonnet 18”. A video introducing the department to the students followed.

The Head of Department, Ms. Arifa Ghani Rahman initiated the program by welcoming the incoming students. Then she introduced the faculty members of the department briefly. Professor Shamsad Mortuza, Special Advisor to the ULAB Board of Trustees, was present on the occasion and extended his good wishes to the newcomers.

The Orientation Speaker, Mr. Navid Anjum Hasan, in his speech, welcomed the freshers and shared his experiences at the department. He expounded on the sense of belonging that he had found at ULAB, and spoke about how he still holds DEH and all its faculty close to his heart. He shared stories of his student life and how DEH played a huge part in molding his abilities both on campus and his current field of work. Mr. Hasan encouraged freshers to explore the many opportunities that ULAB provides its students and concluded his speech by urging them to hone their academic and social skills through these experiences, as he did with his. Mr. Hasan’s speech also served as a reunion as he had invited a few other alumni to the Orientation. The other alumni joined in from different parts of the world, thanks to the virtual event.





The performances commenced with a beautiful song by Mashiyat Hossain and Ifad Imtiaz of Batch 233, which continued with an energetic dance number by Prity Chanda and Anika Anowar of the same batch.

Ms. Sirajum Munira Joti, Supervisor of the English Zone, ULAB, addressed the incoming students and informed them about the facilities

that can be availed at the writing lab.

Afterwards, Kaisarul Islam Rahik, an incoming student, performed a striking original composition. The performance concluded with an entertaining skit about the department by Abdullah Jubair, Anka Nizwa and Towsique Ahmed, Mashiyat Hasan, Sumiya Islam and Sreeta Saha of Batch 241.

The program was organized by Batches 232, 233, and 241 with the guidance of their Batch Managers, faculty members Golam Kader Zilany, Jahanara Tariq, Al Mahmud Rumman, and Oliur Rahman Sun.

A recording of the Orientation can be viewed on the [DEH YouTube Channel](#).

Report written by Nafiur Rahman (203013012)

Event 2: Graduate Student Seminar Summer 2024

GRADUATE STUDENT SEMINAR
Summer 2024

June 10, 2024 | 3:15 PM | PD 203 & PD 210

Presenters



On June 10, 2024, the Department of English and Humanities at ULAB organized the Summer 2024 Graduate Student Seminar. The program, arranged every semester, offers graduate students the opportunity to showcase their research work on various topics covered as part of their designated course activities in the previous semester. Students are nominated by their course teachers.

The program was hosted by Ms. Nadia Rahman, Assistant Professor and MA Coordinator, who provided insights regarding the session as well as related guidelines.

Quazi Farhina Hasan (Batch 241) was the first presenter of the event. Her topic “Jhumpa Lahiri’s Adventures in Translingualism” explored the dynamics of translingualism and Jhumpa Lahiri’s struggles in applying language in different contexts. Furthermore, she focused on how Jhumpa Lahiri was introduced to the Italian language.



Farzana Mir (Batch 232) presented the topic “Bangladeshi English in the Continuum of Dynamic Model.” She explained the difference of English language usage in Bangladesh in comparison to native English while also considering the historical context that influenced language in the Indian subcontinent. Farzana explored how English transformed over time and how it currently holds a place in the modern curriculum.

The presentation “Of Love and Loss” by Kashfia Nahreen (Batch 233) navigated the emotional factors that are often portrayed in poems. She read out some of her own selected poems and examined how the emotions have been woven into the lines of her poetry.



Mahia Najish Bristy (Batch 241) addressed how new methods of teaching can be implemented that differ from the traditional approaches in her presentation, “Post-Method Condition: Strategic Framework for English Language Teaching.” She explored how certain strategies can enhance students’ learning capacity and overcome the learning barriers.

“English and Oman’ as a Refraction of Amy Tan’s ‘Mother Tongue’” was presented by Sumaiya Swati Udita (Batch 233). She explained the dynamics of creative non-fiction ranging from truth, personal touch, emotions, vulnerability to the segmented, braided, circular and framed structure.



The topic of “Meme-o-graphy of Shakespeare: How Shakespeare is Seen through the Lens of Memes” was presented by Fouzia Jahan (Batch 231). She explained how the usage of memes have the ability to convey messages in different cultural contexts and how certain plays of Shakespeare can be observed through the lens of memes in a humorous way.

“Criticism of Grice’s Cooperative Principle” was presented by Abida Alam (Batch 232). She explained the dynamics of verbal communication and its impact in reference to the different levels of cooperation.



Farhin Younus (Batch 232) explored the concepts of resistance and cultural identity present in *Kanthapura* in her paper, “Resistance and Cultural Identity in *Kanthapura*”. She highlighted how cultural identity can be preserved through resistance and discussed the role of language as a site of resistance and cultural identity.

“Child Language Acquisition: Experience of My Fieldwork” by Shamima Sultana (Batch 241) called attention to the imitations, reinforcements, and innate abilities of children while acquiring language according to the observations and findings of her intensive field study.



In her presentation titled, “Reimagining Disability: An Exploration of Professor Charles Xavier through Lennard J. Davis’ ‘Visualising the Disabled Body’,” Fatima Tuj Zohra (Batch 241) brought forth a nuanced portrayal of the fictional character, Charles Xavier, informed by “Visualising the Disabled Body” by Lennard J. Davis. Her analysis also examined the prejudice and discrimination disabled people face.

Mehzaben Mehnaz (Batch 233) presented her paper titled, “Implementing Translanguaging Methods in Teacher Training Programs in Bangladesh” where she emphasized the importance of translanguaging in a multilingual context. She highlighted the relevance it held for teacher training programs, especially in the context of Bangladesh, and suggested actionable solutions that could be implemented.



Syeda Kamrunnahar Eti’s (Batch 233) presentation, “The Role of Formative Assessment in Enhancing Writing Skills at the Tertiary Level” focused on a comparative analysis of the differences between formative and summative assessments in writing in classroom settings. It also put forth several recommendations that could be carried out to improve the existing conditions of students.

Kaniz Fatema (Batch 233) related her topic, “The Power of Words: Personal Insights on the Impacts of Language Imperialism and Weaponisation,” to personal experiences and delved into the issues of linguistic imperialism and language weaponisation. She showed how they could stand to be interconnected and related them to social and national contexts.



For the concluding presentation, Kazi Maliha Islam (Batch 241) identified the effective pedagogical strategies and addressed the challenges of online learning in her paper, “Critical Approaches for Designing a Syllabus for Online English Language Learning in the Digital Age”. Furthermore, she proposed different methods in which syllabuses could be adapted for digital platforms.

After the presentations, Professor Kaiser Haq, Dean, School of Arts and Humanities, DEH, commended the students for their insightful papers during his concluding remarks and expressed his delight at the variety he had been presented with.



Head of the Department, Ms. Arifa Ghani Rahman, and Dean Professor Kaiser Haq handed over the certificates to the participants.







Report written by Fatima Tuj Zohra (241055030) and Nafur Rahman (203013012)

Event 3: Alumni Talk: From Local Roots to Global Pursuits: Navigating Higher Studies

Department of English and Humanities
UNIVERSITY OF SHARDA
VARANASI

ALUMNI TALK

FROM LOCAL ROOTS TO GLOBAL PURSUITS: NAVIGATING HIGHER STUDIES

Facilitator
ARUNAV DAS

12:00 PM 28 JUNE 2024 PD 108

BIO

Arunav Das completed his MA in World Literature from Nalanda University as an International Scholar of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) in 2024. Before that he completed his BA in English and MA in Literature and Cultural Studies from ULAB. He is going to pursue his doctorate in English and American Literature at the University of South Carolina in Fall 2024 with a Graduate Teaching Assistantship (GTA). His areas of interest include Modern and Postcolonial literatures, Cultural studies, Cinema Philosophy, and Creative Writing. He has published articles in accredited international journals and attended international conferences at Rutgers University-New Brunswick, KJ University, and Nalanda University to name a few. Besides his academic interests, Arunav is an independent filmmaker and has directed two documentaries screened in international film festivals around the world including Dhaka International Film Festival 2023, and earned best awards in India.



On June 28, 2024, ULAB's Department of English and Humanities conducted an alumni-led discussion session for students to help encourage and shape them for future academic endeavors. The guest speaker was Mr. Arunav Das, DEH alumnus, who was welcomed back and warmly introduced to the students by Ms. Nadia Rahman, Assistant Professor, DEH.

Having completed his BA in English and MA in Literature and Cultural Studies from ULAB, Mr.



Das also obtained an MA in World Literature from Nalanda University as an International Scholar of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) in 2024. His next academic venture is a doctorate in English and



American Literature at the University of South Carolina in Fall 2024, where he has secured a Graduate Teaching Assistantship (GTA). Additionally, Mr. Das is an independent filmmaker and has directed two documentaries screened in international film festivals around the world including Dhaka International Film Festival 2023, earning awards in India.

The aim of the discussion was to expose students to numerous opportunities and prepare them for the procedures that follow after graduation. Mr. Das delved into the intricacies of applying for scholarships by explaining the expectations of foreign universities. He urged students to fully utilize the resources – such as conferences and workshops – provided by the department as that would boost their applications. From writing an immaculate Statement of Purpose to receiving financial aid, Mr. Das covered all the requirements that interested students would need to know. As a former student of ULAB himself, Mr. Das drew from his own experiences at DEH which, in turn, led to a very active Q&A session with the attendees.



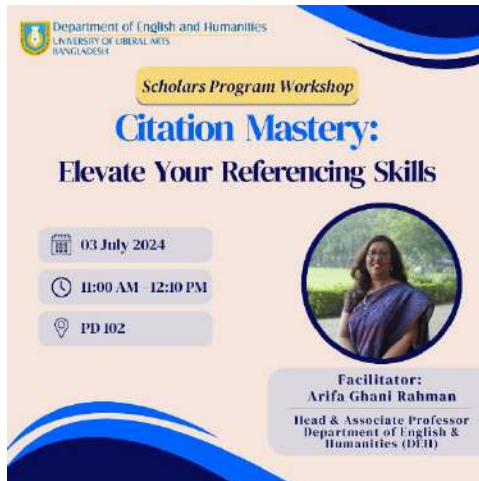
After Mr. Das responded to all the student queries, Ms. Nadia Rahman and Ms. Nusrat Tajkia, Lecturer & BA Coordinator, presented the Guest Speaker with a token of appreciation and brought the discussion to a close with a photo session.





Report by Fatema Aftab Miah (211013016)

Event 4: Scholars Program Workshop



On July 3, 2024, the Scholars Program committee of the Department of English and Humanities, ULAB, organized a workshop titled “Citation Mastery: Elevate Your Referencing Skills” to help the students of the Scholars Program review the basics of citations. The workshop was facilitated by Ms. Arifa Ghani Rahman, Head of the Department of English and Humanities.

The program began with Marifa Khan, a participant of the prestigious program, sharing her experience of participating at a recent conference held at Jahangirnagar University.

Arifa Ghani Rahman then went through the different forms of citations that are of relevance to various fields such as literature, language, and linguistics. She explained the importance of citations for a research paper and how they can bring credibility to a work. In addition, she explained the common mistakes that are often found in the works of the students conducting research. She provided valuable insights of how these mistakes can be avoided.

Ms. Rahman offered some tips on identifying the types of sources which can help to determine how to search for citation formats. Examples of in-text citations were provided alongside the Works Cited or References lists.

The program ended with an engaging session with the members of the Scholars Program participating in online exercises to test their mastery of citations.



Event 5: Pathway Program: From ULAB to the University of Portsmouth, UK (Information Session)



On July 3, 2024, the Department of English and Humanities at the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh organized a virtual information session titled “From ULAB to the University of Portsmouth: Pathway Programs,” for students looking to pursue their interest in the field of Language and Applied Linguistics. Speakers from the University of Portsmouth joined the session to provide more information on the offered programs. The speakers were Dr. Lee Oakley, Course Leader for BA (Hons) English Language and Linguistics; Dr. Quyen Tran, Course Leader for MA Applied Linguistics and TESOL; and Dr. Alexandra Prunean, Subject Area Leader for English Language, Linguistics and TESOL.

Pro Vice-Chancellor, ULAB, Prof. Jude William Genilo, inaugurated the session. In his welcome address, Prof. Genilo provided an overview of the Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) between ULAB and the University of Portsmouth as well as some details about the universities.



Dr. Oakley spoke about the BA in English program offered at the University of Portsmouth. He shared examples of the types of assessments students typically do and provided information about the course breakdown for the two levels students availing the 2+2 model would pursue. He also spoke about the credit system and number of hours students are expected to spend per course. He also mentioned the separate faculty modules, CV preparations, mock job interviews and query related support. He concluded by enunciating on the wide range of career opportunities graduates of the English program have.

Dr. Tran began her session by detailing the MA program and stressed on the benefits of applying to the University of Portsmouth. She introduced their five-member team and provided information about the course structures and time tables. She completed her discussion by mentioning the flexible schedules provided to incoming students. Both Dr. Tran and Dr. Oakley described the university's setting and physical facilities that students can enjoy.



Dr. Prunean, who coordinated the session on behalf of UoP, thanked the speakers and opened the floor for questions. Md. Nuruzzaman, Regional Manager of Bangladesh at University of Portsmouth, assisted in answering the student queries. He also provided information on scholarships offered and the requirements needed to apply that were beyond the purview of the MoA. Prof. Kaiser Haq, Dean, School of Arts and Humanities, and Ms. Jennifer Hossain, Consultant, International Affairs, ULAB, also participated in responding to questions related to the pathway program.

The session ended with Ms. Arifa Ghani Rahman, Head of the Department at ULAB, expressed her appreciation to everyone and encouraged interested students to avail the Pathway Program to the University of Portsmouth, UK. Dr Prunean also extended her best wishes to the students.

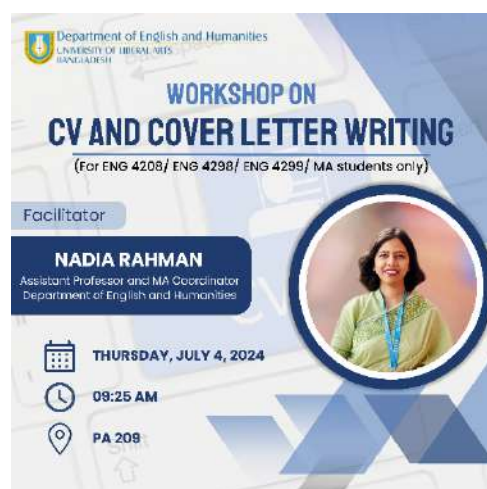
The Information Session can be viewed on the [DEH YouTube Channel](#).

Report by Tarannum Ahmed (231013042)

Event 6: 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 July 4, 2024, the Department of English and Humanities at ULAB, hosted a workshop titled “Writing CVs and Cover Letters,” facilitated by Assistant Professor, DEH, Ms. Nadia Rahman. This workshop was attended by students enrolled in ENG 4208, ENG 4298 and ENG 4299, and its main objective was to help them understand the process of crafting a proper CV and cover letter.

Ms. Rahman initiated the workshop by explaining the importance of writing CVs for the recruitment process of any job regardless of the sectors. She stated that the key to constructing an appropriate CV is for students to not be too creative or elaborate, rather to stay focused on self-assessment in order to evaluate their own strengths and weaknesses. To make the workshop more productive, students were asked to bring a soft copy of their CV so they could identify mistakes, if any.

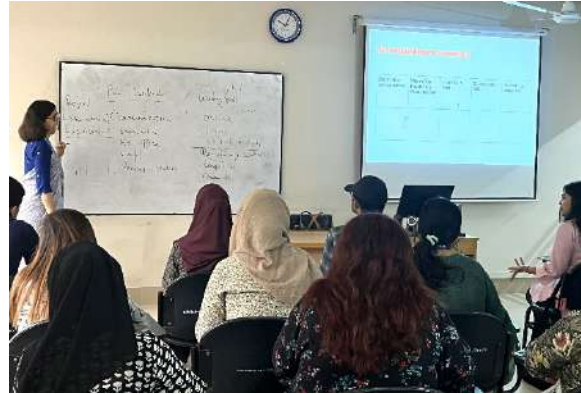


To train the students through self-assessment, Ms. Rahman questioned them about the different experiences and accomplishments in their academic years, which have shaped their skills as individuals. Interactive exercises related to working with teams, objects and data were arranged to guide the students into categorizing their skills using specified action verbs. She further clarified on the significance of these verbs during job interviews.

Lastly, Ms. Rahman articulated the differences between a CV and a resume, clarifying that both the processes are quite similar, although CVs tend to be lengthier and more detailed.

Speaking about cover letters, Ms. Rahman specified that its writing process is comparatively simple and guided students accordingly.

The workshop concluded with an informative Q/A session.



Report by Tarannum Ahmed (231013042)



Job Hunting and Interview Skills

On August 29, 2024, the Department of English and Humanities at ULAB organized a virtual student workshop focusing on “Job Hunting and Interview Skills.” The workshop is one in a series of workshops designed to prepare the graduating students for career placements or higher studies abroad. The session was conducted by Nadia Rahman, Assistant Professor, DEH, ULAB.

Ms. Nadia Rahman elaborated on the different ways students could avail job opportunities and advised them what to keep an eye out for. She also fine-tuned their job searching skills by enunciating on the do’s and don’ts while appearing for an interview and how to maximize their chance of success. Additionally, she spoke about the importance of reference letters and how they impact overall employability and advised students to never use faculty names as references without their consent or knowledge.

The session ended after a brief question and answer session with the students.

Report by Nafiur Rahman (203013012)



Writing Statements of Purpose

The Department of English and Humanities at ULAB organized an online workshop, “Writing Statements of Purpose” on September 5, 2024. The workshop is part of a series of workshops designed for students who are graduating in the current term. The workshops are meant to equip these students with the information they need to navigate their paths to higher studies or careers. The session was conducted by DEH alumna, Jainab Tabassum Banu, PhD student in Rhetoric, Writing and Culture, and Graduate Teaching Assistant

at the Department of English, North Dakota State University, USA.

Ms. Banu explained the necessity of creating the perfect Statement of Purpose to fully utilize the best scholarship opportunities for students who aim to continue their education abroad. She explained how one could draft a better SoP using their own words and efforts rather than resorting to the risky use of AI. Furthermore, she also identified the common mistakes that students usually make while writing an SoP and provided different ways to avoid them. Lastly, Ms. Banu mentioned how crucial it is to have extra-curricular activities to bolster the SoP of a student and how it increases the possibility of their securing admission at their desired university.

The session ended with a question and answer session.

Report by Nafiur Rahman (203013012)

Presentation Skills and What's Next?



The Department of English and Humanities at ULAB organized an online workshop titled, “Presentation Skills and What's Next” on September 12, 2024. The session was conducted by Nadia Rahman, Assistant Professor, DEH, ULAB, and was specifically designed for undergraduate students in their final semester to help prepare them for their future lives in higher education or jobs.

Ms. Nadia Rahman addressed the key differences between academic and career-based presentations, ensuring that students were made aware of the distinctions. She suggested certain tactics and features to the students that will help them identify the makings of a memorable presentation such as being mindful about gestures,

tones, and maintaining eye contact. Furthermore, she pointed out the ways in which common mistakes made by students during presentations can be detected, and also recommended ways on how they can be avoided.

In the second half of the workshop, Ms. Rahman spoke to the students specifically about what to keep in mind if they planned to apply for higher studies abroad. She emphasized that a higher degree would make the students more competitive in the job market.

The workshop ended with an insightful question and answer session with the students.

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Event 7: বই Talk

The poster for the event is divided into several sections. On the left, it features the Department of English and Humanities logo and the title 'বই TALK'. Below the title, it lists the speakers: Professor Kaiser Haq (Dean, School of Arts and Humanities, 'The New Frontier'), Md. Muntasir Mamun (Assistant Professor, Department of English and Humanities, 'Friends Dictionary of Phrases & Idioms'), and Al Mahmud Rumman (Senior Lecturer, Department of English and Humanities, 'বই কলকলি'). The moderator is Oliur Rahman Sun (Lecturer, Department of English and Humanities). The event is supported by Paper Canvas. On the right, there are three icons representing the Sustainable Development Goals: Quality Education (SDG 4), Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions (SDG 16), and Partnerships for the Goals (SDG 17). The event details are: 14 JULY 2024, 10:50 AM, PD 102.

On July 14, 2024, the Department of English and Humanities hosted a “বই Talk,” featuring the recent book publications of three prominent faculty members of the department at the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh, Prof. Kaiser Haq, Dean, School of Arts and Humanities; Muntasir Mamun, Assistant Professor; and Al Mahmud Rumman, Senior Lecturer. Oliur Rahman Sun, Lecturer, moderated the event. The Vice Chancellor, Prof. Imran Rahman, attended the program and congratulated the faculty members on the launch of their new books.



Prof. Kaiser Haq began the discussion with the introduction of his latest publication, *The New Frontier*, and delved into the themes of his new poetry collection. He mentioned how he was inspired by both Eastern and Western cultures. He remarked that literature projects are not political arguments but rather critical works in an aesthetic form. He elaborated this through

a recital of his poem, “Words”. He also explained how his provocations, experiences, and surroundings were sources of inspiration.



Following Prof. Kaiser Haq, Mr. Muntasir Mamun introduced his book *Friends’ Dictionary of Phrases and Idioms*. Mr. Mamun mentioned how his experience as a teacher motivated him to write the book as he believed students could use it to expand their comprehension and literary awareness. Mr. Mamun read a handful of idioms to the audience which ignited a humorous exchange between the audience members and faculty.



a humorous exchange

Mr. Rumman then spoke about his Bangla poetry collection *মেঘের টেরাকোটা*, from which he recited a few poems. Mr. Rumman stated that most of his poems were inspired during a time of melancholy and distress due to his departure from his hometown to Dhaka. His first publication, Mr. Rumman talked about how he carefully crafted and selected each poem to fit the theme of the collection.



The বই talk concluded with an engaging question and answer session where students and faculty members commented on the books and asked questions to the speakers regarding their publications.

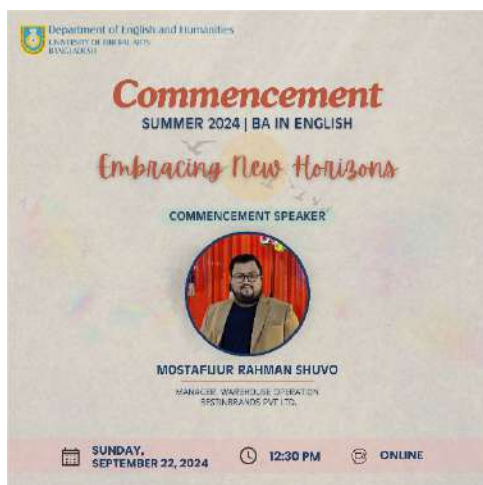




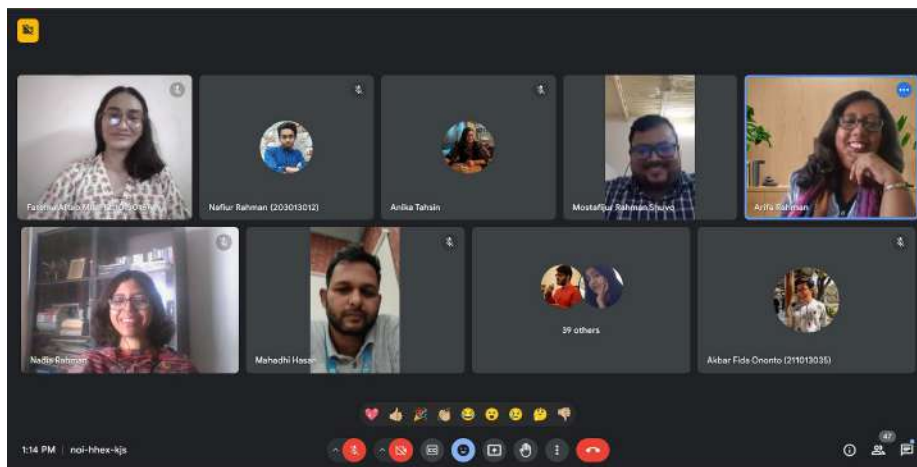


Report written by Tarannum Ahmed (231013042)

Event 8: BA Theses Defense and Commencement Summer 2024



On September 22, 2024, the Department of English and Humanities at ULAB held the Commencement Ceremony for Summer 2024, following a successful round of theses defense and presentations. The event, arranged by Batch 211, served as a celebration for the graduating students of the BA program. It was themed “Embracing New Horizons,” and the Commencement Speaker was Mr. Mostafijur Rahman Shuvo, DEH alumnus, and Manager of Warehouse operation at BestinBrands Pvt Ltd.



The ceremony was inaugurated by DEH Head, Ms. Arifa Ghani Rahman, who commended the graduating students for their hard work and perseverance in the face of challenging social and health conditions. She

encouraged them to wholeheartedly pursue their higher studies.

Afterwards, Mr. Mostafijur Rahman Shuvo began his speech by reminiscing about his time as a BA and MA student at ULAB, emphasizing the individual attention and guidance he received from the faculty members. He acknowledged the general misconceptions around the limitations of an English degree and refuted them by bringing forth its versatility across



fields such as journalism, social media, and advertising. He encouraged the graduates to always uphold the reputation of ULAB and maintain high standards, regardless of the paths they choose to follow. Mr. Shuvo concluded his speech by wishing the graduating students success in their future endeavors.

The cultural segment of the program commenced with a captivating poetry recitation by Fardeen Azwaad (Batch 211), followed by a wonderful song performance by Alen Henry Costa (Batch 211).



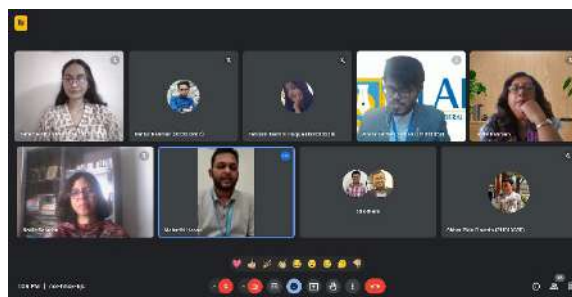
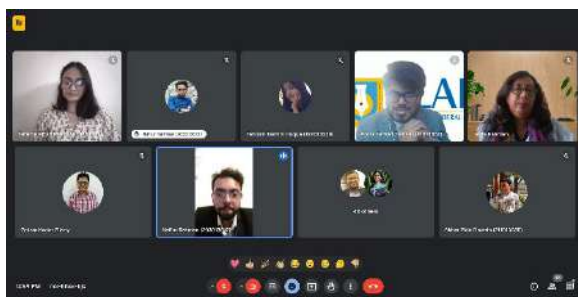
Graduating students then shared their experiences, memories, and unforgettable lessons from their undergraduate journey at ULAB, making this segment a touching one.



Dr. Md. Mahadhi Hasan, Assistant Professor and Scholars Program Advisor, DEH, announced and congratulated the two Scholars Program students graduating this term: Nafiur Rahman and Rowjatun Jannat.

The event was brought to a close with a vote of thanks by Ms. Anika Tahsin, Lecturer, DEH, who was the Batch Manager of the organizing batch.

The program was hosted by Fatema Aftab Miah (Batch 211).



Report by Marifa Khan (211013012)

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