



Nallamuthu Gounder Mahalingam College

(An Autonomous Institution, Affiliated to Bharathiar University)

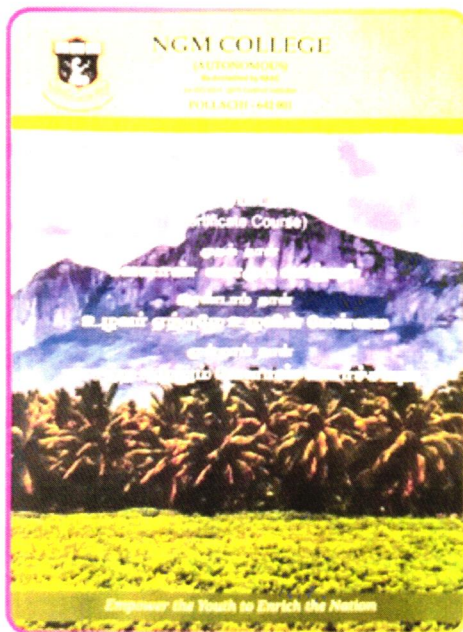
90, Palghat Road, Pollachi - 642001, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, India.

95th Rank in NIRF – 2023 among Colleges in India.

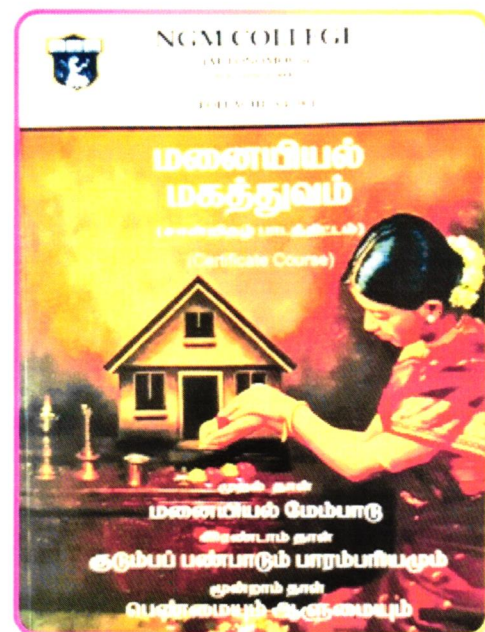


Best Practices - I

An Experiential Learning Practice and Social Embeddedness of Education



Uzhavu Bharatham
(An Introduction to Agriculture)



Manaiyial Mahathuvam
(Home Science - Women Empowerment in social context)



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7.2 Best Practices

1. Title of the Practice: An Experiential Learning Practice and Social Embeddedness of Education

Objectives

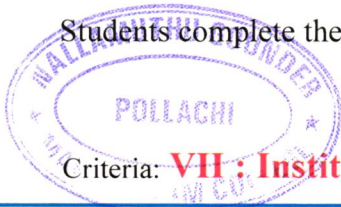
- To help students find a balance between the digital world and physical world.
- To encourage students to prioritize interpersonal relationships and building authentic connections that will enrich their lives.
- To stimulate interest in sustainable agriculture in young minds.
- To develop managerial skills and entrepreneurial skills.
- To help students connect with the rich tapestry of our heritage and traditional values that have been passed down through generations.

The Context

In a semi-urban region focused on agriculture, it is crucial to provide education that caters to the unique needs and context of the community. The younger generation is strongly influenced by globalization and social media, leading to a loss of cultural identity and traditional ways of life. To address this, the College offers certificate programs in Home Science and Agricultural Practices that prioritize experiential learning, social situatedness and cultural exposure. These programs encourage students to disconnect from screens and engage with the tangible world, promoting face-to-face interactions and empathy for success in a globalized world.

The Practice

In the Diamond Jubilee year 2017-18, the College introduced two Certificate courses: *Uzhavu Bharatham (An introduction to Agriculture)* for all the students and *Manaiyial Mahathuvam (Home Science - Women Empowerment in social context)* for girl students. These courses are spread across the second, third, and fourth semesters and cover topics such as sustainable agriculture, organic farming, household management, and stress management. Each department has a faculty coordinator, and classes are held once a week outside of regular College hours. Students complete the theory papers in three semesters, and Uzhavu Bharatham students must also





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complete an internship and viva voce examination in their fifth semester before receiving certification. These courses aim to provide students with practical skills and knowledge in two essential areas of life- Farm and Home.

The College has signed MoUs with 21 farmers to provide practical training for students in farming. The courses prioritize experiential learning and social situatedness, allowing students to engage in hands-on activities such as working in gardens, visiting local farms, and participating in food festivals. This approach helps students gain a comprehensive understanding of agriculture and home management practices.

Evidence of Success

The students' active participation in these course activities like discussions, assignments and projects and fieldwork show their interest and involvement in the course. The high completion rate of the course and the exam scores indicate that the courses are engaging and relevant. *Uzhavu Bharatham* has led to the establishment of start-up *Organicferro*. The number of agripreneurs among the alumni has increased over the years. They also set up stalls in the expos organised by the College and inspire the present generation of students.

Problems Encountered

Tracking student performance, including changes in values and personal practices, has been challenging. Gathering qualitative and quantitative data to fully understand the program's long-term impact has been difficult.

Resources Required

Resources such as kitchens, sewing rooms, farmlands and farming equipment, books, journals, magazines and online resources on various topics related to home science and agriculture.



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Best Practices - II

Digital NGM



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2. Title of the Practice: Digital NGM

NGM has implemented ERP system as part of its transformative agenda to integrate the administrative processes. The key objectives of the practice are to:

- Promote digitization of various aspects of College operations.
- Enhance operational efficiency and data accuracy.
- Facilitate better decision making through real-time data analysis.
- Move towards paperless work environment.
- Enhance overall student experience.

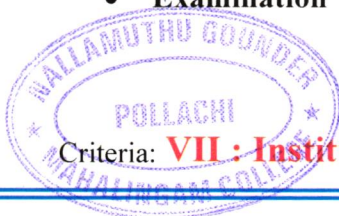
The Context

HEIs are utilizing advancements in IT infrastructure to streamline operations and manage increasing influx of students. Covid-19 pandemic led to Cloud ERP systems emerging as indispensable tools for ensuring the continuity of educational processes, enabling staff and students to collaborate seamlessly from remote locations. The Government of India's *Digital India* initiatives have also spurred digitization in educational institutions, with Cloud ERP solutions providing a framework for optimizing their operations and enhancing student engagement.

The Practice

CAMU ERP was implemented in the College in 2019 to provide a centralized platform for managing various functions of the College. It is used by the administrators, faculty and students for:

- **Admission:** Admission process is streamlined as students apply online and submit necessary documents, while admission staffs review applications online.
- **Attendance Management:** Attendance patterns are monitored using the system, offering insights for enhancing student engagement.
- **Lesson Plan:** Teachers use the platform to plan and schedule lessons, assignments, and assessments based on the curriculum.
- **Teaching and Learning:** The platform served as a collaborative virtual classroom for remote learning during the pandemic. The faculty interacts with students, share resources, and post video lessons.
- **Examination and Assessment:** Teachers create and administer different types of




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assessments within the system, which calculates scores and provides feedback to students.

- **OBE:** Faculty design and configure PEO, PSO and CO in CAMU ERP for curriculum management. They map CO-PO to track student attainment, use it for course improvement and maintain a structured approach to curriculum management.
- **Student Information Management:** CAMU ERP manages student records including attendance, grades, and performance metrics. Mentors record counselling sessions and generate consolidated reports.
- **Library Automation:** Auto Lib ERP is used for library automation and research articles are digitalized and available in the Dspace repository on the College website.

Evidence of Success

The implementation of digitization has reduced administrative burdens, improved response times to student inquiries, and increased accuracy in data reporting. The integration of CAMU ERP has allowed students to pay their fees online, eliminating long queues and paperwork. This has notably benefited students without bank accounts, especially during the pandemic, and extended digitization to remote areas. Employing ERP for analyzing student feedback has streamlined the process of making evidence-based decisions regarding curriculum revisions. The feedback provided by 4500 students is now analyzed more efficiently, quickly and promptly.


Problems Encountered

Transitioning from manual processes to digital workflows poses challenges in terms of user adoption and training requirements. Ensuring adequate internet connectivity and IT infrastructure are also critical factors.

Resources Required

- Adequate IT infrastructure
- Active involvement of end-users.
- Training programs to educate end-users on ERP functionalities.
- Internal team dedicated to ERP training and support.
- Continuous backup support from ERP vendors




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