



SIU English Voices

A News Bulletin by the Department of English
Sylhet International University

www.siu.edu.bd

Seminar



Mr. Rajib Ahmed, Chairperson, Sylhet International University Trust is speaking at the Seminar as Chief Guest.

Honoring Student Excellence

The Department of English believes in inspiring students to pursue excellence both inside and outside the classroom. To recognize and celebrate their remarkable achievements, the department launched the Student Excellence Award in Spring 2024. This award honors students for their outstanding contributions in academic and extracurricular activities. The first recipients were Md. Jakaria Ahmed and Taiba Ferdousy Mim in Spring 2024, with Md. Dinar Mia and Israt Jannat Rupa receiving the honor in Fall 2024.



Professor Dr. Md. Ashraful Alam, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor of SIU is Speaking as Chief Guest of the Award Ceremony.

PROGRAMS OFFERED

- B.A. (Hon's) in English
- M.A. in English (Final)
- M.A. in English (Preliminary & Final)

Department of English

Where Dreams are Formed, Goals are Achieved

With open hearts and a passion for words, the Department of English at SIU welcomes you to a journey that transcends mere academics—a journey of growth, discovery, and becoming.

We believe that language is more than a tool—it is a bridge that connects thoughts to action, cultures to people, and the past to the future. Here at SIU, we nurture that belief in every classroom, every conversation, and every corner of our department.

Our curriculum is thoughtfully designed to cultivate both the intellectual and emotional intelligence of our students. From literary studies and linguistics to creative writing and critical theory, our courses are more than lessons.

However, education at the Department of English is not confined to books and lectures. We are here to nurture your dreams with purposefully crafted opportunities, guiding you to rise, shine, and thrive in a world full of challenges and possibilities. Our vibrant **English Language Club** is a hub of creativity and expression, where students come together to perform, debate, recite, and simply enjoy the beauty of language in all its forms. We are also proud to nurture a vibrant online discussion forum—**LitVerse**—a dynamic space where students are encouraged to share their thoughts, reflections, and creative ideas regularly. Moreover, **Sports and extracurricular** activities are also an integral part of our department. From inter-departmental tournaments to friendly matches, we believe in the joy of teamwork, resilience, and balance.

At the heart of transformative education lies the courage to transcend the conventional—and at the Department of English, we have proudly taken that leap through two groundbreaking initiatives: **Beyond the Classroom: Expert Insights** and **Mentor Talk**. **Beyond the Classroom** brings experts, scholars, authors, and change-makers face-to-face with our students, opening a gateway into real-world narratives that textbooks often overlook. **Mentor Talk**, on the other hand, offers our students something more personal—something precious. It gives them the chance to sit in intimate dialogue with mentors from diverse backgrounds.

In addition, our students thrive in **seminars, workshops, and cultural events** that bring academia into dialogue with real-world issues. These experiences not only deepen understanding but also foster confidence and critical insight.

We encourage our students to look **beyond the syllabus**, to see learning as a lifelong, lived experience.

So, to every new student stepping into our halls: **Welcome home.**

Here, your voice matters. Here, your journey begins. And here, you are not just studying English—you are becoming the kind of person the world needs.

With pride and promise,
Department of English, SIU



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Beyond the Classroom, Continued from last page

January 8, 2025:

"From Pages to Path: Literature's Guide Travelling with Compassion",

Speaker: Dr. Mainus Sultan, noted author and academic.

November 13, 2024:

"Transculturation in Post-Colonial Society: A Study through Postcolonial Authors", **Speaker:** Mrs. Mahfuza Akter, Lecturer, Department of English, Sylhet International University.

September 30, 2024:

"Shakespeare Reimagined: Modern Insights from the Age of the Bard", **Speaker:** Mrs. Tasnim Sultana, Lecturer, Department of English, Sylhet International University.

August 27, 2024:

"Language as a Tool for Peace: Enhancing Resilience through English Language and Literature",

Speaker: Mrs. Swati Rani Debnath, Assistant Professor, Department of English, Sylhet International University.

July 6, 2024:

"Hope is a Good Thing and No Good Thing Ever Dies" **Speaker:** Md. Rezwanul Haque Masud, Lecturer, Department of International Relations, University of Dhaka, and PhD candidate, University of Colorado, USA.

WHY STUDY ENGLISH AT SIU?

Most affordable tuition Fees
Scholarship upto 100%
Highly qualified faculty
OBE curriculum
Research opportunities
Free language club facilities
Co-curricular activities
Regular seminar, workshop arrangement
Wide employment prospects

Workshop Highlights

The Department of English keeps research and academic discourse at the core of its mission, consistently encouraging students to engage in scholarly activities. To nurture this spirit, the department regularly organizes seminars and workshops on diverse academic and professional themes.

On 25th March 2024, we had the pleasure of organizing an exclusive workshop titled "Strategies for Enhancing Communication Skills in English," conducted by Kelly Rouster, English Language Fellow from the U.S. Embassy, Dhaka. This lively and interactive session offered our students invaluable, hands-on strategies to refine their academic and professional communication skills, making it a truly memorable and impactful event.

Continuing our dedication to collaborative learning, a two-day U.S. Embassy-BELTA-LPC Teacher Training Workshop was held on

28-29 June 2024 in partnership with the Department of English. Dr. Rubina Khan, Supernumerary Professor from Dhaka University and Ms. Zakia Sultana, Associate Professor at Adamjee Cantonment College, led dynamic sessions for 30 selected secondary teachers from the Sylhet Division.



Celebrating Creativity: My Words, My Story

In celebration of International Mother Language Day 2025, the department hosted a Creative Writing Competition titled *My Words, My Story*. Open to participants from diverse sectors and age groups, the event received an enthusiastic response, with a remarkable collection of prose and poetry submitted. The competition became a lively platform for voices from both within the university and the wider community, reflecting the rich tapestry of creative expression and a shared passion for storytelling.



Winners of Creative Writing Fest with the guests

Shakespearean Spring: A Tribute to the Bard's Legacy

The Department of English celebrated the birth anniversary of William Shakespeare in a festive and vibrant manner on April 23rd, 2025 under the title "*Shakespearean Spring: A Tribute to the Bard's Legacy*." The event featured an engaging lineup of activities, including lectures, dramatic performances, quizzes, and reflections on Shakespeare's enduring influence. A special highlight of the celebration was the inauguration of a colorful wall magazine. The Honorable Vice Chancellor of the university, Professor Dr. Md. Ashraful Alam, officially unveiled the wall magazine. He was joined by distinguished guests, Professor Nitai Chandra Chanda, Honorable Treasurer of SIU, and Professor Dr. Muhammad Alamgir Toimoor. Mr. Pranab Kanti Deb, Associate Professor and Head of the Department of English, presided over the program.



SIU English dept pays homage to Shakespeare

Daily Sun Report, Dhaka

The Department of English at Sylhet International University commemorated the enduring legacy of legendary writer

said that William Shakespeare's creations are not merely treasures of English literature but of the entire world. He noted that fresh research on Shakespeare's writings continues to

Mentor Talk

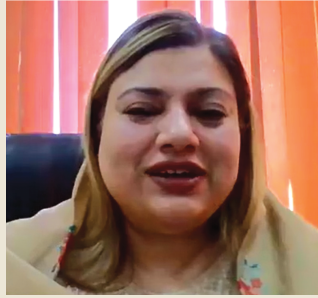
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December 28, 2024

“Higher Education Pathways for HSC Passed Students” **Speaker:** Mrs. Nahida Sultana Chaity, Assistant Professor, Chittagong University of Engineering and Technology.

December 21, 2024

“Unlocking Potential: Boosting Motivation for English Language Learners”, **Speaker:** Dr. Okon Effiong, Lecturer, Qatar University, and President, TESOL International Association.



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December 1, 2024

“The Language of Opportunities: Why Study English” **Speaker:** Mrs. Raihana Sultana, Public Engagement Specialist, U.S. Embassy, Dhaka.

November 7, 2024

“The Frog River in the Making: Constructing a Credible Project”, **Speaker:** Professor Dr. Ahmar Mahboob, Department of Linguistics, University of Sydney, Australia.



Sunny-Boy (Ahmar) Mahboob with friends, students, and colleagues



Professor Nitai Chandra Chanda, Hon'ble Treasurer of SIU is Speaking as a Special Guest of the Farewell Ceremony.

Teacher-Student Meetings: A Platform for Collaborative Growth

The Department of English consistently organizes Teacher-Student Meetings as part of its commitment to academic excellence and inclusive dialogue. These meetings provide a structured platform where faculty members and students engage in meaningful discussions on academic matters, address concerns, and collaboratively devise strategies for the department's development. Students are encouraged to articulate their expectations and contribute constructive feedback, fostering a cooperative environment that supports continuous improvement and mutual understanding.



Teachers Meeting at the office of the Head of the department

Sports and Cultural Activities

The Department places strong emphasis on students' involvement in sports and cultural activities to foster creativity, mutual understanding, and community spirit. In alignment with this vision, a vibrant Sports Festival was organized from 8–10 December 2024 at the university's own sports field. The festival featured a variety of engaging events, including football, basketball shootouts, ludo, carrom, and pillow passing. Students from across the department participated enthusiastically, displaying remarkable sportsmanship and camaraderie.

In addition to sports, the department regularly organizes colorful receptions to welcome its freshers. In this tradition, a warm reception for the Fall 2025 batch was held on 7 May 2025, marked by a spirited cultural program that beautifully showcased the talents and creativity of students from various semesters. The event featured a good number of performances, including recitations, comedy sketches, and captivating solo musical acts.



Monthly Faculty Meetings: A Tradition of Academic Excellence

The Department of English holds regular monthly meetings where all faculty members actively participate. These meetings serve as a platform to discuss academic matters, share insights, and plan for the department's growth. This consistent practice reflects the department's commitment to discipline, collaboration, and continuous improvement.

Join us & Explore your future

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SIU English Voices is a news bulletin published on May 2025 by the **Department of English, Sylhet International University**. It is a platform that captures the vibrant academic, cultural, and creative life of the Department of English. This bulletin highlights key events, achievements, and initiatives, reflecting the dynamic spirit and intellectual engagement of our students and faculty. We warmly invite you to read and reflect on this issue. Your valuable thoughts are greatly appreciated. *Happy reading.*



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Academic and Co-Curricular Highlights

The Department of English at Sylhet International University maintains its academic excellence by conducting regular classes under an outcome-based curriculum. The department adheres strictly to both the academic calendar and its own comprehensive departmental guidelines. Faculty members are committed to integrating updated teaching methodologies to ensure an engaging and effective learning environment. Commonly employed strategies include lectures, presentations, assignments, and quizzes, through which students' performances are systematically and rigorously evaluated.

Alongside academic responsibilities, the department places significant emphasis on students' co-curricular development. A diverse range of programs and activities is regularly organized, offering students opportunities to enhance their skills, broaden their perspectives, and stay updated with contemporary knowledge.

Beyond the Classroom: Expert Insights

The department has been organizing an ongoing lecture series titled *Beyond the Classroom: Expert Insights*. This initiative aims to enrich students' academic and real-world experiences by inviting distinguished scholars and professionals from various fields. Since its commencement, the series has successfully hosted seven impactful sessions.

April 23, 2025:

"Shakespearean Spring: A Tribute to the Bard's Legacy"
Speaker: Dr. Mohammad Alamgir Toimoor, Professor, Department of English, Shahjalal University of Science and Technology.

February 22, 2025:

"From Learning to Leading: How Students Can Transform Society", **Speaker:** Dr. Zia Uddin Ahmed, Professor, Temple University, USA, and eminent philanthropist.

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Mentor Talk: Global Voices Connecting Students

The Mentor Talk is a dynamic online initiative designed to provide invaluable academic and career guidance from distinguished global experts, offering fresh perspectives and inspiration for our students. To date, eight successful sessions have been hosted, streamed live via the department's official Facebook page, connecting enthusiastic participants from both home and abroad.

April 25, 2025

"Shakespeare and Money: A New Economic Analysis"
Speaker: Professor Dr. Mohit Ul Alam, Shakespearean scholar and former Vice Chancellor, Jatiya Kabi Kazi Nazrul Islam University, Bangladesh.

March 17, 2025

"From Pages to Proficiency: Mastering English with Literature", **Speaker:** Dr. Amina Ghazanfar, Lecturer, National University of Modern Languages, Islamabad, Pakistan.

February 19, 2025

"Leveraging AI in Writing: Tips for Teachers and Students"
Speaker: Dr. Warid Mihat, Senior Lecturer, Universiti Teknologi MARA, Malaysia.

January 27, 2025

"সামাজিক জীবনে সৃষ্টিশীল সাহিত্যের গুরুত্ব" **Speaker:** Professor Dr. Tapodhir Bhattacharjee, renowned literary scholar and former Vice Chancellor, Assam University, India.

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Annual Study Tour: A Journey of Learning and Discovery