

Department of Linguistics

University of Languages
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Head : Dr.Arvind Bhandari

Introduction

Brief History

The department of Linguistics was established in 1961 under the headship of Dr.Prabodh Pandit, a renowned scholar of Linguistics. He was there upto 1964. Dr. H.C. Bhayani took the charge of the department and Dr.Yogendra Vyas joined the department in 1969 as Lecturer. Dr.Bhayani headed the department till 1974 and Dr. Yogendra Vyas took over. The department again became single faculty department till 1980, when Dr.Arvind Bhandari joined as Lecturer and Dr.Nilotpala Gandhi as lecturer in 1990. Dr.Vyas retired in 2002. During these years the Department was in full swing and undertook good project and the faculty brought out good number of books and research papers which were awarded by different institutions. The department also worked on projects of Textbook research Board in preparing basic vocabulary on primary level and also worked on dialects of Gujarati and Gujarati Grammar. Dr.Vyas wrote books on Gujarati Grammar, Dialectology, Sociolinguistics and Language Teaching Methodology. Dr.Bhandari wrote books on Gujarati Grammar and Dr.Gandhi brought out her thesis on Sanskrit Syntax. During this period the department has focused on bringing knowledge of various fields of Linguistics in Gujarati and also provided with descriptions on Gujarati language. The Department also provided valuable services to Gujarat Text-book writing, training to Primary Teachers in language teaching.

The next phase came in 2001. During next 10 days the Diploma-in-Linguistics course was updated thrice. New subjects of Psycholinguistics, Computational Linguistics and Semantics were updated. The Department has brought out two books with the help of Central Institute of Linguists and Gujarat Text Book Board: "Gujarati Shabdārtha Kosh" and "Gujarati Lekhan Riti". The Department undertook the project of preparing Gujarati Thesaurus for Government of Gujarat and is in the last stage. Dr.Gandhi

is working with Central Institute of Indian Language of Gujarati Corpus and Dr.Bhandari has just completed English-English-Gujarati Dictionary with the same institute. Dr.Bhandari also worked with SWEA an NGO for their adult education programme for women farm workers and weavers.

The Department has produced 6 Ph.d.s in the area of Dialectology, Comparative studies, Gujarati and Sanskrit Syntax and Speech Analysis. At present 6 students are working for Ph.d. in the areas of Semiotics, Speech Analysis, Computational Linguistics, and Language Teaching. 6 students have completed their M.Phil studies in the department.

Seminars and workshops conducted by the Department

The department has conducted seminars/workshop/summer school on the following subjects:

- 1) Gujarati Migrants 2) Summer School in Linguistics 3) Lexicography 4) Computational Linguistics 5) dyslexia

The Department has undertaken projects in the areas of:

- 1) The Phonemic Frequencies of Gujarati (Dr.Prabodh Pandit) 2) Kachchi Dialect (Dr.Shantibhai Acharya 3) Role of Language in teaching mathematics (Dr.Arvind Bhandari) Gujarati Basic Vocabulary (Dr.Vyas and Dr.Bhandari), Gujarati Thesaurus (Dr.Arvind Bhandari and Dr.N.A.Gandhi)

The faculty of the department has worked as Resource Persons in many Orientation and Refreshers courses in various universities.

Courses

The department runs

- 1) Postgraduate Diploma - in - Linguistics (Gujarati and English media) (48 Credits)

Duration : 2 years and 4 semesters for weekend days course

1 year and 4 semesters for regular week days course

Course Commencement : June

Admission process : by merit

Eligibility : Graduation in any discipline

Intake Capacity : 50

Fees : 435.00 for boys and 235.00 for girls

- 2) M. Phil in Linguistics 1 year and 2 semesters

Eligibility : M. A. in Linguistics with 55% marks or M. A. in Language and PG Diploma - in - Linguistics 55%in both

Course Commencement : June

Admission Process : Merit and test
Fees : 4590.00 for boys and 3090.00 for girls
Intake capacity : 6 At present

3) Ph.D. In Linguistics : Minimum 6 semesters/terms Maximum 4 years.

Eligibility : M. A. Linguistics with 55% marks and by entrance test
M. Phil. in Linguistics with 55% marks
M. A. in Language, PG. Diploma - in - Linguistics 55% in both and entrance Test

Intake Capacity : 2 At present.

4) Proposed Course : M. A. Linguistics (96 credits)

Medium of Instruction : English

Eligibility : Graduation in any discipline

Duration : 2 years and 4 semesters

The course of Diploma - in - Linguistics at present is run during week - days as well as on week - end days. On week - end days school teachers and lecturers and students from outstations attend classes on Saturdays and Sundays and on few holidays.

Infrastructure & Facilities

At school of Languages the class-room facilities are adequately provided. The department has Speech Analysis facilities.

Faculty

Dr. Arvind Bhandari

M.A., Dip - in - linguistics, Ph.D.

Designation : Professor and Head of the Department

Areas of Specialization : Syntax, Gujarati Grammar, Psycholinguistics, Language Education, Lexicography.

Dr. Nilotpala Gandhi

M.A., Dip - in - Linguistics, Ph.D.

Designation : Professor

Areas of Specialization : Semantics, Sociolinguistics, Computational Linguistics, Sanskrit Language