

Title: Critical Thinking and Writing Lab at IIT Indore

Principal Investigator (PI)

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Overview of the project:

Writing centers have become common in private universities such as Ashoka University, Shiv Nadar University and among others. The public-funded universities /Institutes in India are yet to open doors to developing writing pedagogy or help create centres that address the multilingual composition of students and faculty in the classroom. Further English is often not the first language of students, so writing becomes a dreaded act that is relegated to the end of the semester examination. Writing of most postgraduate and doctoral students suffer from poor syntactical structure, inadequate vocabulary, and unclear sentences. Part of the problem lies in the fact that our schools and colleges do not train students to see writing as one of the tools to think and give shape to ideas. Abstract concepts become accessible only through words, and writing is an indispensable skill that needs to be taught, systematically and rigorously. The Center for Critical Thinking and Writing at IIT Indore aims to precisely do that for the undergraduate, postgraduate, and doctoral students at IIT Indore – provide the tools to develop critical thinking, reading, and writing skills that will form the foundation of academic learning.

Research Methodology:

The Critical Thinking and Writing Lab will invite experts from academic and professional spaces to teach and workshop with students and faculty at IIT Indore. Since this will be a learner oriented, workshop-based teaching space, pedagogical tools will be developed and implemented as per the needs of the different learners of the Lab.

Deliverables:

- IIT Indore – provide the tools to develop critical thinking, reading, and writing skills.
- Students will learn the art of persuasive speech and writing.
- Opportunities will be provided for students to engage with instructors and tutors, addressing their inquiries regarding critical writing.
- Students will become skilled at critical thinking, whether while writing or while analyzing.