



# Hackathon: Reimagining the future of Higher Education



# Methodology

In order to visualize and design the future of higher education, following methodology has been adopted.





# Selection of Participants

- Student participants were selected through a screening round of 25 multiple choice questions based upon following ideas:
  - a) National Education Policy-2020, India
  - b) Higher education organisations in India: University Grant Commission (UGC) and All India Commission on Technical Education (AICTE)
  - c) Design Thinking Methodology framework
  - d) Focus group/Brainstorming
  - e) SWOT analysis
- MCQs were carrying one mark for each correct answer.



# Selection of Participants

- The questionnaire also had an open-ended question on students' perception about higher education in India and at global scale. Five marks were allotted for each answer which was judged by the mentors. The responses received have helped in discovering the insights on following points:
  - a) Students' idea about higher education
  - b) Students' perception of prevailing situation of higher education, and
  - c) Students' knowledge about higher education status at a global scale
- Number of selected participants were 30 following the screening process with help of MCQs and an open-ended question.

# Design Thinking Methodology



- The Design Thinking Methodology has been applied as per the given direction and breaking down it to following simple steps for the convenience of students:
  - a) The Challenge
  - b) Discovering the challenge
  - c) Defining the challenge
  - d) Identifying the needs
  - e) Developing the potential solutions
  - f) Delivering the solutions

# Design Thinking Methodology



## The Challenge:

Students were briefed about the following challenges:

- What does today's university need to be better?
- What are the three things the higher education should continue with?
- What are the three things should higher education need to adopt in future?
- What are the three things in present higher education system which should be left behind?”

# Design Thinking Methodology



## b) Discovering the challenge:

- The participants have discovered the insight of the challenge posed by looking into the present system of higher education on different grounds. These insights were explored with help of following advised tools:
  - Research
  - Brainwall
  - Focus Group
  - Persona
  - SWOT analysis

# Design Thinking Methodology



## Research:

The participants were suggested to follow divergent method in order to collect as many ideas as they can. They were suggested to go through following steps for researching on how to discover the challenge and understand the prerequisites of it.

- Document analysis of National Education Policy-2020, India
- Document analysis of directives on higher education by University Grant Commission and All India Commission on Technical Education.
- Seeking information on higher education through blogs, articles, news or reports.

# Design Thinking Methodology



## **Brainwall:**

- The information collected was categorised into clusters such as best practices in higher education system, and their personal experiences with higher education system. The clusters were used as point of discussion in the focus group following the brainwall creation.

## **Focus Group:**

- Five focus group was created and time period of six hours was distributed in such a way that each focus group discussion can be arranged for nearly 45 minutes.

# Design Thinking Methodology



## **Persona:**

- Two different Student personas were created to represent the users of higher education system. The information was collected using a google form with help of given points on persona.

## **SWOT analysis:**

- A SWOT analysis was conducted to check for reality of students, teachers or educational organizations. The participants also donated their personal experiences with teachers and educational institutions.

# Design Thinking Methodology



## **c) Defining the Challenge:**

- Specific needs were explored by converging the insights gained from discovering the different aspects of challenge. A need sheet was prepared as per the format given.

## **d) Identifying the needs:**

- Needs have been identified which can be fulfilled in order to overcome the challenges. Need sheet is useful in identification, quantification, and prioritising the needs.

# Design Thinking Methodology



## e) Developing the potential solutions:

- The potential solutions have been proposed which could make a difference in the future higher education system.
- It has been done with help if brainstorming and solution sheet preparation.
- Solution sheet discusses about requirements to implement the solution and key ingredients for implementation.

# Data Collection



The data collected from the participants through following means:

- Focus group discussion
- Brainwall
- Parsona
- Brainstorming

# Data Collection & Analysis



The data collected from the participants through following means:

- Focus group discussion
  - Brainwall
  - Parsona
  - Brainstorming
- 
- Content analysis and thematic analysis methods have been used to analyse the data collected.

# Report/Video preparation



- A report stating the methodology and achieved results has been prepared for submission.
- The report contains detailed methods used for the program, data collection methods, analysis and probable solutions for the higher education advancement.
- A video of one minute has also been prepared which highlights solutions or key elements for higher education.



# Hackathon program detail

Sl No.	Date	Forenoon Meeting	Work detail	Afternoon Meeting
1	4 <sup>th</sup> October	Session-1	Brainstorming Benefits of the current education system NEP 2020- How does it benefit the higher education Points which can be improved in higher education	Session-2
2	5 <sup>th</sup> October	Session-3	Brainstorming Things which can be included in the system (missing in existing system)	Session-4
3	6 <sup>th</sup> October	Session-5	Combined presentation (PPT, Word document); One minute video, Student profile collection	Session-6
4	7 <sup>th</sup> October		Video editing, Report preparation	
5	8 <sup>th</sup> October		Video submission, Report submission	

# Persona



## Persona



**Name:** Anuva Sen

**Age:** 22 years

**Location:** Agartala, Tripura, India

**Key words and phrases:** Life skills, Experiential learning, Blended learning, Behavioural sciences, Moral studies

### About University

**Actions:** University tour and interaction  
**Thoughts and feelings:** Positive and helping environment  
**Touchpoints and devices:** Group interaction via laptop  
**People and environments:** Very interactive and optimistic.  
**How do you feel?** Happy

**Pain points:** Skill enhancement, optimism, hard work  
**Opportunity:** Webinars, videos and interactive sessions

### What do you like most and least about the University?

Faculty,	Academic pressure
Environment	Technology failure
Exposure	Exam oriented evaluation

**What are your motivations and objectives?** Learning without boundaries and improvising.

**What fears do you have?** Fear of not meeting expectations.

**What are your needs?** Practical knowledge and experience

### Hobbies:

Traveling, Reading books, Singing and writing.

**Level of education?**  
Medium

**Purchasing level:** Medium

**Favorite social networks:** Instagram, Facebook, LinkedIn, WhatsApp

**Favorite brands:** H&M, Athena, Zara, Tata

# Persona



Persona								
<div> </div> <p><b>Name:</b> Aryan Pawan Saini</p> <p><b>Age:</b> 18</p> <p><b>Location:</b> Karnataka, India</p> <p><b>Key words and phrases:</b> Gender neutral zone, Technology, transparency, skill development, quality over quantity</p>	<p><b>About University</b></p> <p><b>Actions:</b> Meeting faculty</p> <p><b>Thoughts and feelings:</b> Excited and nervous</p> <p><b>Touchpoints and devices:</b> Virtual interaction via phone, laptop.</p> <p><b>People and environments:</b> Friendly and multicultural</p> <p><b>How do you feel?</b> Happy</p> <p><b>Pain points:</b> Anxious about new change of environment</p> <p><b>Opportunity:</b> Practically involved, various webinars and programmes</p> <p>College fest</p> <p><b>What do you like most and least about the University?</b></p> <table> <tr> <td>Opportunities</td> <td>Server Errors</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Advancement</td> <td>Lot of tasks and challenges</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Quality</td> <td>Biased behavior</td> </tr> </table> <p><b>What are your motivations and objectives?</b></p> <p>Personal and professional development, gain confidence</p> <p><b>What fears do you have?</b> Hesitation, Fear of not presenting like others do.</p> <p><b>What are your needs?</b> Equality, education, gender neutral zones, Sustainable environment.</p>	Opportunities	Server Errors	Advancement	Lot of tasks and challenges	Quality	Biased behavior	<p><b>Hobbies:</b></p> <p>Reading, writing, watching movies, TV series &amp; history documentaries.</p> <p><b>Level of education?</b> Medium</p> <p><b>Purchasing level:</b> Medium</p> <p><b>Favorite social networks:</b> Instagram, Facebook, WhatsApp, YouTube</p> <p><b>Favorite brands:</b> Nike, Puma, Ford, Samsung, Asus, Apple</p>
Opportunities	Server Errors							
Advancement	Lot of tasks and challenges							
Quality	Biased behavior							

# Need Sheet



<b>Needs Title:</b>	
<b>What specific need did we identify?</b>	<b>Who or what is involved in the need?</b>
<b>What are the problems caused by this need?</b>	<b>Relevant data</b>
<b>What would be the benefits of solving this need?</b>	<b>Why do we want to solve this need?</b>

# Solution sheet



<b>Solution Title:</b>	
<b>What is our solution?</b>	How does it work? What are its key elements?
<b>Who or what is involved in the solution?</b>	What benefits does our proposal generate?
<b>Does our solution incorporate any technology?</b>	What KPIs do we establish?



# Proposal Title

<b>Proposal title:</b>	
<b>What are the main needs identified?</b>	Why do they need to be solved?
<b>What are the problems caused by these needs/</b>	Who is affected by these needs?
<b>What will be the benefits of incorporating this proposal? What impact would it generate?</b>	What is the solution you are proposing?



# Proposed Title

<b>Proposed Title:</b>	
<b>How long would it take to implement this solution?</b>	Is it a scalable solution?
<b>Does the solution use any technology?</b>	What resources would be necessary to implement this solution?
<b>How can we solve these needs? What does today's university need to be better?</b>	In short, what 3 things should it keep, 3 things should it add, and 3 things should it eliminate?

## Global Education Forum 3<sup>rd</sup> Act

### Hackathon: Reimagining the future of Higher Education

In order to solve the challenge and to visualize and design the future of higher education the following methodology has been adopted.

#### Methodology adopted:



#### Detailed Methodology:

##### A. Selection of Participants:

Student participants were selected through a screening round. The screening round consisted of a set of 25 multiple choice questions based upon following ideas:

- a) National Education Policy-2020, India
- b) Higher education organisations in India such as University Grant Commission (UGC) and All India Commission on Technical Education (AICTE)
- c) Design Thinking Methodology framework
- d) Focus group/Brainstorming
- e) SWOT analysis

MCQs were carrying one mark for each correct answer. The responses received were used to rank the participants based upon the marks attained. The questionnaire was sent to the students using a Google form.

The questionnaire also had an open ended question on students' perception about prevailing situation of higher education in India and at global scale. Five marks were allotted for the satisfactory answers which was judged by the mentors. The responses received have helped in discovering the insights on following points:

- a) Students' idea about higher education
- b) Students' perception of prevailing situation of higher education, and
- c) Students' knowledge about higher education status at a global scale

Total number of selected participants were 30 following the screening process with help of MCQs and an open ended question.

### **B. Design Thinking Methodology application:**

The Design Thinking Methodology has been applied as per the given direction and breaking down it to following simple steps for the convenience of students:

- a) The Challenge
- b) Discovering the challenge
- c) Defining the challenge
- d) Identifying the needs
- e) Developing the potential solutions
- f) Delivering the solutions

#### **a) The Challenge:**

Students were briefed about the following challenges:

- What does today's university need to be better?
- What are the three things the higher education should continue with?
- What are the three things should higher education need to adopt in future?
- What are the three things in present higher education system which should be left behind?"

A brief deliberation was given to the selected students on understanding of the challenge.

#### **b) Discovering the challenge:**

The participants have discovered the insight of the challenge posed by looking into the present system of higher education on different grounds. These insights were explored with help of following advised tools:

- Research

- Brain wall
- Focus Group
- Persona
- SWOT analysis

### **Research:**

The participants were suggested to follow divergent method in order to collect as many ideas as they can. They were suggested to go through following steps for researching on how to discover the challenge and understand the prerequisites of it.

- Document analysis of National Education Policy-2020, India
- Document analysis of directives on higher education by University Grant Commission and All India Commission on Technical Education.
- Seeking information on higher education through blogs, articles, news or reports.

### **Brain wall:**

The information collected by the participants was categorised into different clusters such as information on government policy, directives of the government organisations, best practices in higher education system, and their personal experiences with higher education system. The clusters were used as point of discussion in the focus group following the brain wall creation.

### **Focus Group:**

Five focus group was created among the participants to discuss and brainstorm the ideas pertaining to the challenge. It was done on the basis of understanding through the research. Time period of six hours was distributed in such a way that each focus group discussion can be arranged for nearly 45 minutes.

### **Persona:**

Two different Student personas were created to represent the users of higher education system. The information was collected using a google form with help of given points on persona.

### **SWOT analysis:**

A SWOT analysis was conducted to check for reality of students, teachers or educational organizations. The participants also donated their personal experiences with teachers and educational institutions. It helped in portraying the current situation of higher education.

### **c) Defining the Challenge:**

Specific needs were explored by converging the insights gained from discovering the different aspects of challenge. A need sheet was prepared as per the format given.

**d) Identifying the needs:**

Needs have been identified which can be fulfilled in order to overcome the challenges. Need sheet is useful in identification, quantification, and prioritising the needs.

**e) Developing the potential solutions:**

The potential solutions have been proposed which could make a difference in the future higher education system. It has been done with help if brainstorming and solution sheet preparation. Solution sheet discusses about requirements to implement the solution and key ingredients for implementation.

**C. Data Collection:**

The data collected from the participants through following means:

- Focus group discussion
- Brain wall
- Persona
- Brainstorming

**D. Data Analysis:**

Content analysis and thematic analysis methods have been used to analyse the data collected.

**E. Report/Video preparation:**

A report stating the methodology and achieved results has been prepared for submission. The report contains detailed methods used for the program, data collection methods, analysis and probable solutions for the higher education advancement. A video of one minute has also been prepared which highlights solutions or key elements for higher education.

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**Need Sheet:**

Needs Title:	
What specific need did we identify?	Who or what is involved in the need?
What are the problems caused by this need?	Relevant data
What would be the benefits of solving this need?	Why do we want to solve this need?

**Solution Sheet:**

Solution Title:	
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What is our solution?	How does it work? What are its key elements?
Who or what is involved in the solution?	What benefits does our proposal generate?
Does our solution incorporate any technology?	What KPIs do we establish?

**Summary Sheet:**

<b>Proposal title:</b>	
What are the main needs identified?	Why do they need to be solved?
What are the problems caused by these needs/	Who is affected by these needs?
What will be the benefits of incorporating this proposal? What impact would it generate?	What is the solution you are proposing?

<b>Proposed Title:</b>	
How long would it take to implement this solution?	Is it a scalable solution?
Does the solution use any technology?	What resources would be necessary to implement this solution?
How can we solve these needs? What does today's university need to be better?	In short, what 3 things should it keep, 3 things should it add, and 3 things should it eliminate?