

Global Immersion Program, GBS (Global Business School) Dubai **Campus Report**

Organized by: School of Commerce & Management Studies, Sandip University, Nashik (M.S), India

For: New Age MBA (Business Analytics and Banking & Financial Services) Students

Date: 14.07.2024 to 19.07.2024

Thank You Message

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Dr. Sandip N. Jha, Hon'ble Chairman, Sandip University, Nashik; Mr. Aryan S. Jha, OSD, Sandip University, Nashik; Mr. Vivek Nikam, OSD, Sandip University, Nashik; and Dr. Rupali J. Khaire, Dean, School of Commerce and Management Studies, Sandip University, Nashik (M.S), India, for their unwavering support and guidance in making this immersion program a resounding success.

Introduction

The Immersion Program at GBS, Dubai, was a significant educational endeavor organized by the School of Commerce & Management Studies, Sandip University, Nashik, for the New Age MBA (Business Analytics and Banking & Financial Services) students. A total of 59 students participated in this program, comprising 22 girls and 37 boys. They were accompanied by two faculty members, Dr. Shruti Souche and Dr. Ram Kumar Solanki. The program focused on Python Programming and Fintech and was conducted at GBS, Dubai, from 14.07.2024 to 19.07.2024.

Program Overview

The immersion program was meticulously designed to provide the students with hands-on experience in Python Programming and Fintech, crucial areas in the current business landscape. GBS, Dubai, offered an excellent platform with state-of-the-art facilities and expert faculty, ensuring that the students received the best possible learning experience.

Key Highlights:

1. Python Programming Workshops:

- Comprehensive sessions covering the basics to advanced concepts of Python programming.
- Interactive coding sessions and real-time problem-solving exercises.

2. Fintech Modules:

- In-depth exploration of financial technologies and their applications.
- Case studies and projects to understand the integration of technology in finance.

3. Cultural Exposure:

- Visits to significant cultural and business landmarks in Dubai.
- Interaction with industry professionals and academicians.

The program not only enriched the students' academic knowledge but also provided them with a global perspective on business and technology.

This immersion program at GBS, Dubai, has been a remarkable journey of learning and exploration for the New Age MBA students of Sandip University, Nashik. We extend our sincere thanks to everyone who contributed to making this program a memorable and enriching experience for our students.

Day 1 (13.07.2024) - Departure

The journey began on 13.07.2024 with the departure from Sandip University Campus to Mumbai Airport. All students, along with their parents, gathered at the Sandip University Campus at 9:30 AM. Dr. Rupali J. Khaire, Dean of SOCMS, provided a brief overview of the tour, while Dr. Ram Kumar Solanki and Dr. Shruti Souche gave important instructions to the students and parents. The transport department of Sandip University arranged buses for all participating students, ensuring a smooth transit from the campus to Mumbai Airport.



Day 2 (14.07.2024) - Arrival and Desert Safari Adventure

Our journey began early on 14.07.2024, with our flight from Mumbai to Ras-al-Khaimah taking off at 7:30 AM. The flight duration was approximately 2 hours and 45 minutes, and we arrived at Ras-al-Khaimah airport at 10:30 AM local time in Dubai. After completing the necessary immigration formalities, we boarded a bus that transferred us to our accommodation at the Best Western Premier M Four Hotel in Dubai.

Upon arrival at the hotel, we checked in and took some time to rest and freshen up. In the afternoon, we headed out for lunch at Peshwa, a renowned Maharashtrian restaurant in Dubai. The students enjoyed a delightful and authentic Maharashtrian meal, which brought a taste of home to a foreign land. After lunch, we returned to the hotel to relax and prepare for the evening's activities.

In the evening, the students embarked on an exciting Desert Safari, one of the highlights of our trip. The adventure began with a thrilling dune bashing experience, where our skilled drivers navigated the towering sand dunes, providing an adrenaline-pumping ride. The students reveled in the excitement as the 4x4 vehicles raced up and down the sandy slopes.

After the dune bashing, we arrived at a traditional Bedouin-style camp nestled in the heart of the desert. Here, the students had the opportunity to experience various activities such as camel riding, sandboarding, and henna painting. The atmosphere was vibrant and lively, with Arabian music playing in the background.

As the sun set over the desert, we were treated to a mesmerizing belly dance show. The graceful dancers captivated the audience with their intricate movements and colorful costumes. This was followed by a Tanoura dance performance, where a dancer in a brightly lit skirt spun continuously, creating a dazzling display of lights and colors.

Dinner was a sumptuous BBQ feast, featuring a variety of grilled meats, salads, and traditional Arabian dishes. The students enjoyed the delicious food under the starlit sky, sharing stories and experiences of the day. The evening concluded with a spectacular fire show, leaving everyone in awe of the performers' skills and daring acts.

We returned to the hotel at around 11:30 PM, tired but exhilarated from the day's adventures. The students retired to their rooms to rest and recharge for the following day's activities. The desert safari was an unforgettable experience, providing a perfect blend of adventure, culture, and entertainment.

Desert Safari -



Day 3 (15.07.2024) - Learning and Cultural Exploration

On the morning of 15.07.2024, all students and faculty members enjoyed a hearty breakfast at the hotel before departing for the Global Business School (GBS) in Dubai Knowledge City. The bus ride to GBS was filled with anticipation as the students were eager to begin their educational sessions.

Batch 1 - Python Programming Language

Upon arrival at the GBS campus, we were warmly welcomed by Mr. Rana, Chairman of GBS, and Dr. Brinitha Rasi. They extended their hospitality and greeted all the students and faculty members. After the welcome address, Dr. Nadeem conducted an engaging session on Python Programming from 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM. The session was highly interactive, with Dr. Nadeem providing practical insights into Python programming, allowing students to apply their theoretical knowledge in real-time coding exercises. The students of Batch 1 found the session immensely beneficial and were able to grasp various Python concepts effectively.

Batch 2 - Fintech

Following the first session, both batches had lunch at Biryani and More, a popular dining spot in Dubai, where they relished a delicious meal. After lunch, the second batch arrived at the GBS campus at 1:30 PM for their session on Fintech. Dr. Hussain led the session, which focused on the practical applications of financial technologies. The students learned about the latest trends and innovations in Fintech, including blockchain, digital payments, and financial data analysis. Dr. Hussain's expertise and hands-on approach made the session highly informative and engaging.

Evening Activities - Al Seef and Dhow Cruise

By 6:30 PM, after a day of intensive learning, the students set out for an evening visit to Al Seef, a vibrant waterfront destination in Dubai that blends traditional and modern elements. The

students enjoyed exploring the bustling souks, trendy boutiques, and charming cafes along the historic Dubai Creek.

The highlight of the evening was the Dhow Cruise. As the students boarded the traditional wooden dhow, they were greeted with a warm and inviting atmosphere. The cruise offered stunning views of Dubai's skyline and iconic landmarks, beautifully illuminated under the night sky. During the cruise, students were treated to a sumptuous dinner featuring an array of international and traditional dishes. The evening was filled with entertainment, including live music, traditional dance performances, and other engaging events. The serene waters and gentle breeze created a perfect ambiance for relaxation and enjoyment.

The cruise concluded with a spectacular view of the city lights, and by 11:30 PM, the students returned to the hotel, enriched by the day's experiences and ready for rest.

Conclusion

Day 3 of the immersion program was a perfect blend of academic learning and cultural exploration. The students not only gained valuable insights into Python programming and Fintech but also experienced the rich cultural heritage and modern charm of Dubai. This day left a lasting impression on the students, enhancing their educational journey with practical knowledge and memorable experiences.

Introductory Session for MBA (BA) -





Introductory Session for MBA (BFS) -





Visit to Al Seef -



Day 4 (16.07.2024) - Continued Learning and Cultural Discovery

On 16.07.2024, the day started with a hearty breakfast at the hotel, followed by the departure to the Global Business School (GBS) in Dubai Knowledge City. The students were eager to continue their educational journey.

Batch 1 - Python Programming Language

The first session of the day for Batch 1 began at 9:30 AM. The students resumed their Python Programming course, diving into the second module. Dr. Nadeem led this session, building on the foundational knowledge from the previous day. The students engaged in more advanced coding exercises and projects, gaining deeper insights into Python's capabilities and applications. The session was highly interactive, with Dr. Nadeem encouraging students to solve complex problems and work on collaborative coding tasks.

Batch 2 - Fintech

After a shared lunch at the GBS campus, Batch 2 commenced their session on Fintech from 1:30 PM to 4:30 PM. Dr. Hussain continued with the second module, focusing on practical exposure to Fintech tools and technologies. The students learned about real-world applications of Fintech, such as digital banking, cryptocurrency, and financial analytics. Hands-on activities and case studies provided students with a comprehensive understanding of how Fintech is revolutionizing the financial industry.

Afternoon Activities - Dubai Frame

Post the educational sessions, all students visited the iconic Dubai Frame. This architectural landmark is known for its unique design, resembling a giant picture frame, and offers stunning panoramic views of both old and new Dubai. As the students ascended to the top of the frame, they were greeted with breathtaking views from the glass bridge. On one side, they saw the modern skyline of Downtown Dubai, featuring landmarks like the Burj Khalifa, while the other side showcased the historic districts of Deira and Karama.

The Dubai Frame also features an engaging museum on the ground floor, where students explored exhibits showcasing Dubai's transformation from a small fishing village to a global metropolis. This visit provided a fascinating insight into the city's rich history and ambitious future.

Evening Activities - Local Market and Dinner

In the evening, the students enjoyed some leisure time exploring local markets for shopping. They visited popular markets such as the Gold Souk and Spice Souk, where they experienced the vibrant atmosphere and cultural diversity of Dubai. The students had the opportunity to purchase souvenirs, traditional goods, and unique items, adding a personal touch to their trip.

Dinner was enjoyed at a local restaurant, where the students relished a variety of international and local cuisines. By 11:30 PM, everyone returned to the hotel, exhausted but fulfilled by the day's activities. They retired to their rooms to rest and prepare for the upcoming adventures.

Conclusion

Day 4 of the immersion program was a perfect balance of advanced learning and cultural exploration. The students deepened their understanding of Python programming and Fintech, while also experiencing one of Dubai's most remarkable landmarks, the Dubai Frame. The day ended with a delightful shopping experience and a satisfying dinner, making it another memorable day in the immersion program.

Python Session -



Fintech Session -



View from Dubai Frame -



Day 5 (17.07.2024) - Advanced Learning and Shopping Excursion

On 17.07.2024, the students and faculty members began their day with breakfast at the hotel. They then departed for the Global Business School (GBS) in Dubai Knowledge City, ready for another day of intensive learning.

Batch 1 - Python Programming Language

Batch 1 resumed their Python Programming course from 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM, diving into the third module. Under the guidance of Dr. Nadeem, the students explored more advanced topics in Python, such as data structures, algorithms, and advanced libraries like Pandas and NumPy. The session was highly interactive, with students working on complex coding assignments and real-world projects. This module aimed to solidify their programming skills and prepare them for more sophisticated applications in data analysis and machine learning.

Batch 2 - Fintech

Following a lunch break, both batches gathered to enjoy a meal at Peshwa, savoring delicious Maharashtrian cuisine. After lunch, Batch 2 commenced their session on Fintech from 1:30 PM to 4:30 PM. Dr. Hussain continued with the next module, focusing on practical applications of Fintech in the financial services industry. The session covered advanced topics such as AI in finance, regulatory technology (RegTech), and financial cybersecurity. Through hands-on activities and case studies, the students gained a deeper understanding of how Fintech innovations are transforming the financial landscape.

Afternoon Activities - IBN Battuta Mall

After the educational sessions, both batches visited the Ibn Battuta Mall, one of the largest themed shopping malls in the world. Named after the famous Moroccan explorer Ibn Battuta, the mall is divided into six sections, each reflecting the architecture and culture of regions visited by Ibn Battuta: China, India, Persia, Egypt, Tunisia, and Andalusia. The students were captivated by the mall's unique design and enjoyed exploring its vast array of shops, entertainment options, and cultural exhibits.

Evening Activities - Meena Bazaar and Gold Souk

In the evening, the students continued their shopping excursion by visiting Meena Bazaar and the Gold Souk. Meena Bazaar, located in the heart of Dubai, is known for its vibrant atmosphere and a wide variety of goods, including textiles, jewelry, and electronics. The students enjoyed bargaining with local vendors and purchasing souvenirs and gifts.

The Gold Souk, famous for its extensive selection of gold jewelry, offered the students an opportunity to witness Dubai's renowned gold trade. They were amazed by the intricate designs and craftsmanship of the jewelry displayed in the numerous shops lining the souk's narrow alleys.

After a day filled with learning and shopping, the students returned to the hotel by 11:00 PM, exhausted yet thrilled with their experiences. They retired to their rooms to rest and recharge for the final day of the immersion program.

Conclusion

Day 5 of the immersion program was a blend of advanced learning and cultural exploration. The students expanded their knowledge in Python programming and Fintech, while also enjoying the rich shopping experiences Dubai has to offer. The visit to Ibn Battuta Mall, Meena Bazaar, and the Gold Souk provided a perfect balance of education and leisure, making the day both productive and enjoyable.

Visit to IBN Battuta Mall -



Day 6 (18.07.2024) - Final Learning Sessions and Iconic Dubai Experiences

On 18.07.2024, the day started with breakfast at the hotel, followed by the journey to the Global Business School (GBS) in Dubai Knowledge City. The students were eager to complete their final modules and make the most of their last full day of the immersion program.

Batch 1 - Python Programming Language

Batch 1 began their fourth and final module on Python Programming from 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM. Dr. Nadeem focused on advanced topics such as machine learning algorithms, data visualization, and using Python for big data applications. The session included practical exercises and projects, enabling students to apply their knowledge to real-world scenarios. By the end of the session, the students had a comprehensive understanding of Python and its applications in data science and analytics.

Batch 2 - Fintech

After a shared lunch, Batch 2 commenced their final Fintech session from 1:30 PM to 4:30 PM with Dr. Hussain. This session covered advanced Fintech topics such as smart contracts, decentralized finance (DeFi), and financial technology regulations. Students engaged in hands-on activities and case studies, providing them with a deep understanding of how Fintech is shaping the future of the financial industry.

Evening Activities - Dubai Mall, Fountain Show, and Burj Khalifa

Following the educational sessions, the students returned to the hotel to rest before their evening adventure.

In the evening, the students visited the iconic Dubai Mall, one of the largest shopping and entertainment destinations in the world. The mall offered a wide variety of shops, from luxury brands to popular high-street stores, as well as numerous dining options and entertainment attractions. The students enjoyed exploring the vast mall, experiencing its many offerings, and indulging in some shopping.

At sunset, the group gathered to witness the mesmerizing Dubai Fountain Show, located outside the Dubai Mall. The fountain show is renowned for its breathtaking water displays, choreographed to music and lights. The students were captivated by the stunning performances, which included a mix of classical, Arabic, and contemporary music.

Some students also had the opportunity to visit the 126th floor of the Burj Khalifa, the tallest building in the world. The observation deck, known as "At the Top," offered unparalleled views of Dubai's skyline and the surrounding desert. The students were awestruck by the panoramic vistas and enjoyed capturing the moment with photos.

After a memorable evening filled with awe-inspiring experiences, the students returned to the hotel by 11:30 PM. They retired to their rooms, reflecting on the incredible journey they had embarked upon during the immersion program.

Conclusion

Day 6 was a perfect culmination of the immersion program, blending advanced learning with iconic experiences. The students completed their final modules in Python programming and Fintech, gaining valuable knowledge and practical skills. The evening visit to Dubai Mall, the Fountain Show, and the Burj Khalifa provided a fitting end to their Dubai adventure, leaving them with lasting memories of the city's wonders. This day, like the others, was both educational and exhilarating, making the immersion program a truly enriching experience for all.

Burj Khalifa Fountain Show -





Day 7 (19.07.2024) - Final Sessions and Valedictory Function

On the final day of the immersion program, 19.07.2024, the students and faculty members began their day with breakfast at the hotel before departing for the Global Business School (GBS) in Dubai Knowledge City for the last time.

Batch 1 - Python Programming Language

Batch 1 attended their final Python Programming session from 8:30 AM to 10:30 AM. Dr. Nadeem concluded the fourth module, focusing on integrating machine learning models with Python applications and discussing future trends in programming and data science. The session included a review of key concepts and a Q&A segment, allowing students to clarify any remaining doubts and consolidate their learning.

Batch 2 - Fintech

Simultaneously, Batch 2 completed their final Fintech session from 8:30 AM to 10:30 AM. Dr. Hussain wrapped up the module with a discussion on the future of Fintech, including emerging technologies and the evolving regulatory landscape. The session was highly interactive, with students engaging in final case studies and practical applications, showcasing their understanding and skills acquired throughout the program.

Valedictory Function and Certification

After the sessions, GBS organized a valedictory function to honor the students' participation and achievements. The Director of GBS, the Associate Dean of Academics, and the instructors shared their insights on the immersion program, congratulating the students for their active participation and wishing them success in their future endeavors.

Dr. Ram Kumar Solanki, Coordinator of the International Affairs Cell at Sandip University, delivered a heartfelt vote of thanks. He expressed gratitude to the dignitaries of GBS, Dubai, and the management of Sandip University for their support in making the immersion program a success. The event concluded with the distribution of certificates to all participating students, recognizing their efforts and accomplishments.

Departure and Journey Home

After the valedictory function, the group departed for Dubai Airport. Their flight was scheduled for 4:30 PM (Dubai local time), and all students and faculty members boarded the flight on time. The flight landed at Mumbai Airport at 10:30 PM (IST). From there, they continued their journey back to Sandip University campus, arriving at 9:30 AM on 20.07.2024. The students were warmly welcomed by their parents, who were delighted to see them after their enriching international experience.

Conclusion

Day 7 marked the culmination of a transformative journey for the students of Sandip University's New Age MBA program. The final sessions in Python programming and Fintech, combined with the valedictory function, provided a fitting end to the immersion program. The students returned home with enhanced skills, broader perspectives, and unforgettable memories, ready to apply their newfound knowledge in their academic and professional lives. The immersion program was a resounding success, reflecting the commitment of both Sandip University and GBS, Dubai, to providing high-quality, experiential learning opportunities for their students.

Valedictory session at GBS, Dubai Campus -





