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*Not just magnitude but also the direction!*

# VECTOR

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# VIT organizes international EDUTOUR TO GERMANY!

*"I met a lot of people in Europe, I even encountered myself" - James Baldwin.*

With its motto of "Provoked by intellect and propelled by values", Vidyalankar Institute of Technology believes in providing its students the best of opportunities.

The second international educational visit organized by Vidyalankar Institute of Technology was to Germany. It proved to be an amazing exposure to global technology and culture, and the experience of visiting one of the most technologically advanced countries can hardly be expressed in words! Germany is the hub of central Europe and has been a very developed nation since its inception. It has taken significant strides in the field of engineering, biotechnology, pure sciences, electronics and many more domains. It has been the birthplace of many geniuses like Albert Einstein, Werner Heisenberg, and Max Planck who have shaped the future of mankind in many ways. Interacting with a few of the locals and our guides gave us an insight into the lives of the people of Ger-



many from which we learnt important lessons of discipline and punctuality and brilliant utilization of time. Their flamboyant hospitality was really heart-warming. Their beauty lies in their discipline which was a mark of brilliant minds, and a disciplined way of living. The tour was meticulously planned and organized in an orderly fashion for us to experience the most of the places we vis-



ited amidst great safety and care. We students learnt a lot about the two most successful automobile global giants Mercedes and BMW. We got an insight into how the world's best automobile companies operate and set high benchmarks of excellence. This edutour to Germany taught us how to be self-dependent, organized, disciplined and how to interact with others. Vidyalankar Institute of

Technology not only ensures that its students learn valuable lessons in and beyond campus, but also takes care to see that we enjoy these beautiful moments. This has truly been an inspiring and memorable experience and I look forward to many such learning opportunities at Vidyalankar.

— VarshiniSunderasan  
SE EXTC 1, VIT

## GERMANY DIARIES

It is rightly said that exploration is really the essence of the human spirit. Learning happens not just inside a classroom, but also beyond a classroom. Knowledge is acquired not just from books, but also from experiences. During our inter-semester break, we were fortunate to have experienced an amazing experiential learning by way of an international educational tour to Germany organized by our college, Vidyalankar Institute of Technology. We were an enthusiastic group of 34 students accompanied by 6 faculty members on the trip. Along the way, in addition to insights on innovations in global technology, we also learnt worthy lessons of camaraderie, cooperation, respecting diversity and interpersonal skills.

Visiting Germany at least once was one of the things on my bucket list which became a reality with this tour. With its central position in Europe, Germany is a transport hub for the continent. The motorway (Autobahn)

network ranks as the third-largest worldwide in length and is known for its lack of a general speed limit. This visit made all of us realise the importance of being punctual in whatever we do. They say "Germans respect you if respect time." Germans are very patient people but when it comes to technical stuff, they rank amongst the top. We were astonished by the discipline the Germans followed in everything they do, from crossing roads to driving. Germans completely believe in their own technology, and the result is automobiles of the likes of Audi, BMW, and Mercedes to name a few.

We visited the University of Stuttgart on the first day where we were briefed by VIT Alumnus Jainabalkya Guhathakurta, who currently is a lecturer there. While travelling to Stuttgart by Bus we were mesmerized with the scenic natural beauty along the roadside. We also visited the Wilhelma zoo and The Fernsehturm (TV tower). The visits to

Mercedes museum and the BMW plant in Munich were just like a dream come true. We also visited the Hohenzollern castle which was built in the 11th century and is one of the most visited castles in Germany. The view from the hill top was stunning with the black forests surrounding the castle from all sides.

BMW Welt and Plant visit added on to our technical knowledge and it was the first time for most of us to see those processes in reality. Deutsches Museum is the largest Science and Technology museum in the world. It acquainted us with the developments in fields such as ship building, microelectronics, mathematics, mining, and astronomy to mention a few. The Olympiastadion we visited was a venue for the 1972 summer Olympics, Munich, where we saw the main arena and also the Olympic Hall which is now used for concerts. Finally we spent some leisure time exploring the city of Munich and did shopping in the farmers' markets. While exploring Munich we came across many wonderful architectural monuments which made us realise even in the centre of the metropolitan how heritage makes

its comforting presence felt.

On the final day of our trip we visited the documentation centre of Nazi Party Rally Grounds in Nuremberg which is now a permanent exhibition which showcases in chronological order the rise of Hitler and the Nazi party, the WW-2 and its aftermath. Lastly, we ended the tour by spending some time on a cruise on the river Rhine, viewing castles on one side and the developed city of Frankfurt on the other. Talking about German cuisine, it is one of the countries having the largest varieties of breads. We enjoyed German food every day for lunch and Indian food for dinner.

This tour is a perfect example of a well thought out, well organised and well executed trip. This trip gave us international exposure, which I am certain would prove to be very advantageous in our quest to evolve as global citizens. We will be more than glad to guide and motivate our juniors to join such instructive and personality enriching edutours so thoughtfully organised by Vidyalankar Institute of Technology.

— ShubhamGharat  
BE ETRX-1, VIT

## In conversation with GATE Topper Karan Singh Thakor AIR – 166 (Electronics and Communication), IIT Bombay

**As a student from EC branch, how did you prepare for the exam? Which subjects do you think are the most important?**

In the EC GATE paper, all topics are important and should be covered in depth. Topics like Networks, Control Systems, Digital Electronics and Signals and Systems have limited portion. With sufficient practice and revision, one can attempt questions very well from these topics and score good marks.

For the EC paper, students have to be well versed with Analog Electronics, EDC, Electromagnetics and Communications. These are more difficult and lengthy topics to study and require thorough study from reference books, constant revision and practice. These topics tend to carry a lot of weightage.

Students must give special attention to Maths and General Aptitude as these are the best topics to score in. These topics should be completed first by the students after which they should move on to the technical portion. In my GATE paper there were some difficult Maths questions from Integral Calculus.

**What was your strategy to prepare for GATE?**

I was a two-year classroom course student of Vidyalankar and started preparing from my fifth semester.

**From June 2015 - December 2015:** Maths and GA were being taught in class I focused only on those topics. I solved problems from the Vidyalankar books and some of the exercise of reference books like Grewal and Kreyzig.

**January 2016 - April 2016:** I started the technical portion of the GATE. I studied the topics when they were taught in class. I referred to standard reference books and made short notes of the formulae and important answers.



The solved examples in the reference books should be solved by the students on their own and not just read. I practiced problems only from the Vidyalankar booklets and some of the exercises of the reference books.

**June 2016 - November 2016:** I started practicing problems from GATE practice books by different publishers that were available in the library. There are many websites that provide free GATE practice problems. I used them to gain access to a wide range of technical problems. I also solved the previous years' GATE practice problems. Vidyalankar's EQ book was very useful.

**Mid December 2016 - 4th February 2017:** I revised the portion on a weekly basis from my short notes and from the Vidyalankar booklets. The formula book given by Vidyalankar helped to stay in touch with all the formulae. Vidyalankar provided 15 online Full Length tests. I solved them after they were uploaded.

**Do you think classes are important? Why?**

Yes, I think attending classes for GATE is important because:

1. I got a lot of information from my teachers and there are many valuable techniques and tricks to solve problems that I picked up during lectures. In case I had any doubts, I would approach the faculty.
2. Vidyalankar provided good study material. I solved all the exercises from the Vidyalankar booklets. The GATE portion is quite vast. The Vidyalankar booklets divide the topics into chapters. I used this as a guideline. This is a good way to break the portion into smaller sections and it aids revision.
3. In the initial stages, we had two one hour tests of every topic. Then in August 2016 we had two hour tests of every topic. These tests are very important and one should attend all these tests. I solved the Vidyalankar books again to revise for these tests. The 15 online Full

Length Tests provided a good simulation of the GATE exam. It is very crucial to give each test as if you were giving the GATE exam as this will help you build confidence for the final day.

**Tell us your experience of admission process at IIT?**

I had applied to some of the IITs, some of the NITs and IISc Bangalore for admission to their MTech programs. I was selected and called for the interview and written tests in all the institutes that I applied to. The written test and interview/skill test for IIT Bombay for the Research Assistant (RA) category was scheduled for 8th and 9th of June respectively which was after my B.E. exams.

The written test was conducted on the 8th of June. The questions were simple but tricky. They were from the topics mentioned in the GATE syllabus. It even included some questions on operating system concepts, Linux shell scripting, C programming and computer networking questions. I was shortlisted for the skills test and the interview the next day. The skill test was conducted in the first half of the day. Here the hands-on knowledge of the student is tested according to the lab that the student selected in his/her preferences. The candidates were interviewed by the project investigator of the project.

**What is your success MANTRA?**

**PRACTICE IS THE KEY FOR THE GATE.** Studying and understanding the theory is absolutely necessary but the GATE paper consists of solving a range of technical problems. One must know how to apply and use the theory and formulae. So, practise daily at least 15 problems of any topic to avoid losing touch with your theory and formulae.

## “KAUSHALYA”

### L&T TRAINING PROGRAM AT VP

From 15th May 2017, Vidyalankar Polytechnic, in collaboration with L&T Institute of Technology, Mumbai, organized 21 days training program on “Soft skills and hands-on” for the benefit of final year students of Diploma. Prof. Sujala P., Prof. Shashank Kale, Prof. Raj Lochani, Prof. Vikrant, along with Mr. Ayyapan were the resource persons for this training program “Kaushalya”

During the formal inaugural session, Prof. Anjum, HOD (EC), Mr. Vijay Patil HOD (CS), along with the Principal Mr. B.A. Damahe (L&T) welcomed the gathering and also introduced resource persons to the audience. While addressing students, Mr. B.A. Damahe focused on the importance of such training programs and also assured that many more quality

programs will be introduced for preparing students to face campus interviews.

Students were made familiar with the methodologies of industrial works. Various sessions of communication skills and presentation skills were introduced. In the workshop, many interesting activities were performed that helped to understand team work and participation. The activities helped to enhance the ability to participate, learn and execute. In the training program, manners and etiquettes related to interview were also discussed. Tips and guidelines for attending interviews were also dealt with in detail. Mock interviews were also conducted. Students were made to take part in group discussions under the guidance of trainers.



A week of hands-on training was also conducted where the students learnt to make mini projects using different application software, database system and many more. Finally, the students were taken to Madh where they were assigned mini projects.

The training program enhanced students' abilities in the form of decision-

making and execution of ideas. It also helped to improve their communication and presentation skills. The “Kaushalya” Program concluded with feedback from students and a vote of thanks by coordinators and students.

— Kedar Chendavankar  
Pratik Kaushal  
VP

# Vidyalankar MMS: Novel ideas in execution

Vidyalankar MMS has completed 10 eventful years in 2017. The Mumbai University affiliated MMS program has 120 seats across five specializations i.e. Marketing, Finance, Human Resources, Operations and Systems. Vidyalankar also has a unique US MBA program in collaboration with the University of Toledo (USA) where the student spends the first year on Vidyalankar Campus in Mumbai and the Second Year in US at the Toledo University campus. It enables the students to receive the coveted US MBA degree at 50% scholarship thereby reducing the cost of education by half.

Vidyalankar MMS is considered among one of the top B-School campuses in Mumbai. The MMS team believes in leading by example. After all, the best way to impart education is to Walk the Talk! Hence, the team spares no effort in practically demonstrating what they teach. This year has been no different. We have taken a 360 degree communication approach where we are connecting with all our stakeholders- be it MBA aspirants, our peer institutes, our recruiters, or public at large. We have undertaken a number of innovative exercises.

**Experiential Activity - ‘Experience MMS Life @ Vidyalankar’:** A first of its kind, we created a unique experiential activity on 10th June 2017 which helped management aspirants get the insider’s view by living a day in life of an MMS Student. This was widely advertised through Digital Marketing and SMS messages. The day long activity involved Campus tour, interaction with distinguished faculty and existing MMS students, case study analysis and presentation, among other things. The activity witnessed a very enthusiastic response and participation. Said one of



the program participants, “This is a very unique program that Vidyalankar Institute has carried out for us. This really helped me as I got to know how a typical day goes in the life of an MMS student. The infrastructure is really good. It’s a very nice college. I will definitely try this college for admission.” Incidentally, the young lady confirmed her admission the following week.

**Seminar- ‘Understanding MMS Admission Process’:** We at Vidyalankar believe in going that extra mile to help students make prudent career decisions. One such need was identified. MBA aspirants are usually confused about the Centralised Admission Process as mandated by Directorate of Technical Education (DTE) Maharashtra. Multiple rounds of seminars were arranged for the benefit of aspirants to elaborately explain the process and clear their doubts. Voiced one aspirant, “This was a very big concern area for me. Thank you Vidyalankar for taking this effort for us.”

**Digital Marketing:** People are increasingly moving to their digital devices for any information. We believe in being in sync with the times. We have undertaken various digital initiatives to connect to our audience on online media.

**Print Media:** People are usually interested in knowing about the college campuses and their strengths. Multiple articles were published in leading newspapers to present a holistic view of the Vidyalankar MMS course.

**Out-of-the-Syllabus activities:** Vidyalankar possesses some core strengths which make it distinct from most of the B-School campuses in Mumbai. The campus infrastructure is very unconventionally designed underlining the out-of-the-box thinking DNA of the institute. We also undertake many out-of-the-syllabus activities like interfacing with industry stalwarts, interactions with stalwarts like Dr. R.A. Mashelkar, (former Director General of the Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR)), Kirit S. Parikh (Emeritus Professor and Founder Director of Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research (IG-IDR)) and the popular author Amish Tripathi to name a few. There a range of activities like ‘Mock Stock’ (Investments and money management in a gaming format), discussions on important events like Union Budget with industry

stalwarts and HR in Digital World (a conclave with distinguished speakers from the industry). The industry visits have taken students to companies like SEBI, BSE, APMC Market Vashi, Hebbur Chemicals and Siemens. Aditya Phatak, a student of the current MMS batch shares, “the industry visits give us a hands-on feel. The excitement builds up knowing that we are soon going to be part of these big industries!”

**Industry Institute Interface for MMS:** Since the commencement of new semesters, the campus has been buzzing with activities. Breakfast Chat Series and Wisdom Talk (Guest Lectures series) with renowned names from the Corporate World are in progress to provide the crucial real life perspective to the students.

Being at Vidyalankar is being with the BEST!

— Arijit Ghosal  
Faculty, MMS, VIT



## INTERNAL QUALITY ASSURANCE CELL ORGANISED NAAC SPONSORED ONE DAY NATIONAL LEVEL SEMINAR ON “CHALLENGES FACED BY THE PRIVATE/ PERMANENTLY UNAIDED COLLEGES IN GETTING NAAC ACCREDITATION” ON 24 MARCH, 2017 AT VIDYALANKAR CAMPUS.



• Dr. Jagannath Patil, Adviser and Western Region Coordinator, NAAC, • Dr. Vijay Khole, Vice Chancellor, Amity University, Mr. Vishwas Deshpande, Managing Trustee, VDT



Guest Speakers and Participants from across various colleges.

“Many countries which do not know our language, tradition, or culture, are now connecting to India through Yoga. The practice, which connects body, mind and soul, has played a big role in binding the world too.”

— Narendra Modi

# Paving the way for a better future: With Vidyalankar, parents can rest assured



I am educated in the USA and hence I am very well aware about the education system, pattern and the exposure that the students get studying in there. Therefore I wanted my daughter Prachi to study in the US. I knew Vidyalankar Group for many years and had seen how they handle their international programs ensuring students' success.

While my daughter finished her BMS from Vidyalankar School of Information Technology, I learnt that Vidyalankar has established an MBA program in association with the University of Toledo which is a very renowned University in the state of Ohio. The program arrange-

ment was that Prachi would study 1 year at Vidyalankar and 1 year in the USA. There was minimum time available at our hand including preparation of TOEFL, preparing for additional courses, preparing for Visa and many other things. I must say that Vidyalankar supported the students and the parents so well that the process became absolutely smooth.

Prachi graduated from the University of Toledo with an MBA degree in May 2017 with flying colours. I must say that there are many unsaid advantages other than the ones I mentioned. To experience those you have to be a part of Vidyalankar! Thanks Vidyalankar for mentoring Prachi throughout!

— Devika Tambe

(Mother of Prachi Loke – VIT-University of Toledo MBA graduate Fall 2017)

“Today I am a proud father of Penn State alumnus, Samarth Upasani who finished BS(IST) from Penn State University in Fall 2017. Admission to Vidyalankar's International program was a destiny and we actually had not planned for this. But after Samarth took admission to Vidyalankar, things started changing in Samarth's favour. He got to learn subjects he wanted to and that got him engaged in the program. The two years at Vidyalankar were fun filled with studies and Vidyalankar helped

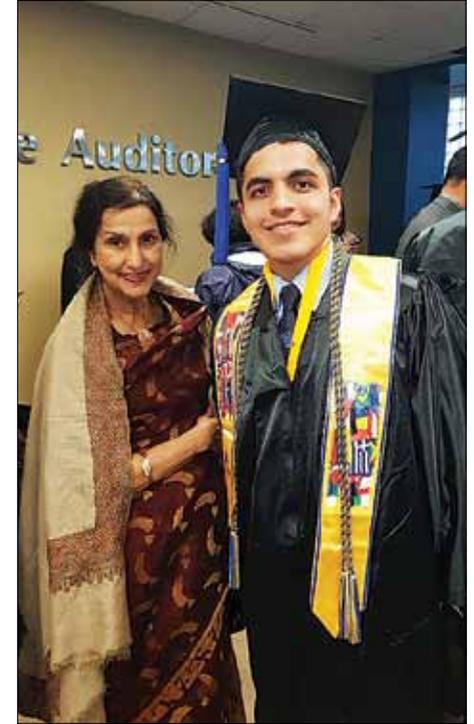


Samarth not only in India but after he reached USA. Constant touch with mentors at Vidyalankar helped Samarth achieve this success. Samarth is now working with Deloitte. So I must say this is a bit unconventional path but at the end of four years it has turned out to be the best decision our family took for Samarth!”

— Hemant Upasani

Father Samarth Upasani – VSIT Penn State University BS(IST) graduate Fall 2017

Vidyalankar gave me an excellent opportunity to be mentored by them and then go to the United States to complete my degree. The faculty has always been friendly, caring and helpful. Being part of the first batch going to the University of Toledo they made sure all our worries were taken care of through the frequent interactions with the professors



and faculty of University of Toledo. They played pivotal role in substantially reducing our tuition cost by getting us international Students scholarships.

— Vivek Anand

VSIT-University of Toledo BBA graduate Fall 2017



## YOGA – AN ART OF LIFE

“Yoga is a journey of the self, through the self, to the self.”

—The Bhagavad Gita

Art of Living says that Yoga is derived from the Sanskrit word yuj. Yoga means union of the individual consciousness or soul with the Universal Consciousness or Spirit. 21st June, notable as International Yoga Day worldwide, was celebrated in Vidyalankar School of Information Technology. The teaching, the non-teaching staff and the students from NSS and LLE participated to mark an ancient practice that originated in India. Since ages, Indians have strengthened themselves physically, mentally, intellectually and spiritually through this practice. VSIT joined the world as they performed various yoga-asanas.

As Gurudev Sri Sri Ravi Shankar says, “Yoga is not just exercise and asanas. It is the emotional integration and spiritual elevation with a touch of mystic element, which gives you a glimpse of something beyond all imagination.” The West has made yoga fashionable. That is the success of India's soft power. So what does the success of yoga as soft power mean to India? Yoga schools. Yoga trainers. An international yoga day. Yoga is worldwide and it is reinventing India's image. Unlike the gymming culture of the west, yoga does not require equipment and thus can be practised by anyone and is accessible to all.

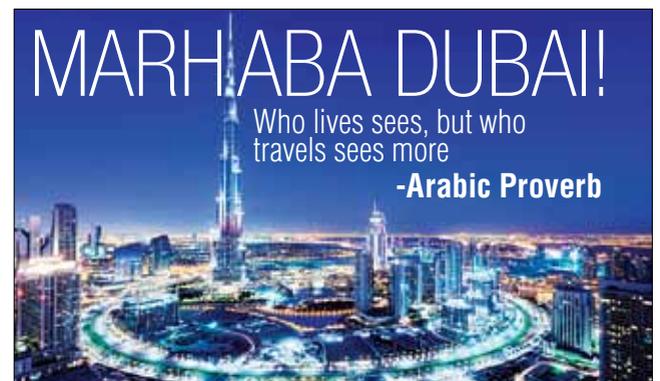
**Yoga and Youngsters**

VSIT believes that yoga is what

youngsters need most today. The youth are at a stage where they make decisions that mould their future. Additionally they are at a stage where they are sensitive to stimuli and are easily influenced. Yoga helps them to channelize their focus and expend their energy in the right direction. Additionally, it trains and sharpens the body, mind and spirit. This enables them to be productive and grasp new knowledge better and also develop into mature human beings. Yoga can thus ensure a better, healthy and an equal future. A healthy mind and a healthy body is crucial to individual development. Universities across the globe offer courses, degrees and diplomas in yoga. Yoga is also important for social health and promotes a balanced living. Indeed, yoga is a way of life.

— Lakshmi Pillai

Assistant Professor, VSIT



The spirit of curiosity and the urge to explore and discover has always driven humans to wander beyond the familiar. Travelling unravels mysteries and enlightens. The history of human life is rich and culture, richer. Additionally, when travel is coupled with academics, studying becomes fun and enriching. VSIT has planned an exciting international industrial visit to Dubai for its students in the month of December, 2017. VSIT students will be able to explore the city and interact with new cultures and sights.

Dubai is an emirate city in the United Arab Emirates. It is a popular tourist destination and a booming economy. It is a major business hub in the Middle East and its thriving economy, marvellous architecture and rich cultural heritage, makes it an appropriate destination for an industrial visit for VSIT students.

The itinerary is quite exciting and includes cultural destinations, industrial visits and a theme park experience. The industrial visit to Dubai promises to be an experience of a lifetime, a winning combination of learning and enjoyment and a memorable one for all time.

— Lakshmi Pillai, Assistant Professor, VSIT