

Games and Sports Council

One of the important aspects of IITK that the freshers have missed out on in the online semester is the PE101 course. A subtle feature of the PE101 course was the Compulsory Physical Activity — CPA. With trials for different sports in the first week, students join a sport and pursue the same for their first year. The advent of the CPA over the years at IITK saw a blooming sporting culture, with students joining sports as inexperienced freshers and graduating from the institute as one of the most accomplished sportspersons the campus has ever witnessed. The Main Sports Stadium, home to the cricket ground and the athletics stadiums is the first place where the incoming students realize the scale of the sporting facilities at IITK. The ground, home to one of the finest facilities for cricket, has seen the stands filled with crowds and a number of nail-biting finishes. The stadium also witnesses the thrill of the athletics events with students participating in running, throwing, and jumping events. The Main Sports Stadium is also home to the taekwondo maestros practicing their skills and with classes for every member of the campus community.

Adjacent to the main stadium is the basketball, volleyball and tennis courts. With crowds rushing to the stands and cheering for their teams, and chanting anthems and slogans, the atmosphere in the courts is something that has brought the sense of belonging to IITK to numerous students. Accompanying the basketball and volleyball courts is the Old Student Activity Centre (Old SAC). The old-school environment at the Old SAC takes you to the times which laid the foundation of the Games and Sports facilities at IITK. Even though the Old SAC has evolved several-fold over the years, the place gives you a first-hand experience of how seriously sports are taken at IITK. Home to the gym and the weightlifting room, the sanctum also hosts the Squash and Badminton courts. With the skating rink right next to the Old SAC, the sporting

facilities at the center of the campus span numerous sporting activities and are bound to be the favourite place on campus for several students.

While a number of sports are played out in the open sun, many are played under a roof with the most magnificent of facilities. Host to the wooden basketball court, state-of-the-art badminton courts, and a number of table tennis courts as well, the New SAC is a marvel of the sporting culture at IITK. Also, the New SAC is home to an air-conditioned gym! The New SAC is also the place that has the wall climbing facility at IITK!

Walking out of the New SAC, one is often left gawking at the massive hockey and football grounds at IITK. Witnessing several competitive games, the grounds have grown to become the home to the institute's budding sportspersons. Any account of the sporting facilities at IITK would be incomplete without the Olympic-size swimming pool and water sports being played at the pool, such as water polo. The swimming facilities at IITK have been crucial in bringing laurels to IITK in inter-college and national sporting events.

Apart from all the above facilities, the Games and Sports Council also act as an umbrella to numerous societies and clubs, including the chess club, the boxing club, the shooting club, the bicycling society, and the card and board games society. With the aim of helping students explore their interests and develop new hobbies, these clubs organize various events and workshops throughout the year and encourage the campus community to take part in the same.

The Games and Sports Council is one of the integral elements of IITK. From providing the students each and every facility to pursue their sporting interest to making the institute proud with their performances in the Inter IITs and other events, the council plays a pivotal role in keeping up the sporting culture on campus. The council ensures that all the

sports have coaches to help students refine their technique, and the students are never short of opportunities to excel in the sport of their preference. Promoting the sports spirit and inculcating the culture of being healthy and fit, GnS is the reason that every student gets the opportunity to play and express themselves on the playground.

Media and Cultural Council

IIT Kanpur's Media and Cultural Council (MnC) has a basket full of new activities to offer! Amidst the student junta, MnC plays one of the most exciting and involving roles. Offering a wide spectrum of clubs and societies, MnC brings you a myriad of opportunities so that you can explore your long lost talents, or maybe even pick up a new one. Under the hoods of these clubs and societies, you'll get the chance to interact with talented and passion-driven people who will guide you and help you excel in whichever field you choose to; all you do need is a pinch of 'enthu'! ;)

Furthermore, amid a hectic semester, you'll always find yourself stumbling across a new activity or an event organized by the clubs of MnC! Whether it be music, dance, or poetry, you could choose to be an integral part of a club and live through the exciting times with peers as excited and prepared for an event as you will be, or you could always grab a hot chocolate from mama-mio, and enjoy the show! Either way, it'll be a stress-reliever, and perhaps, will help make your night a tad bit better.

The Media and Cultural Council comprises several clubs and societies, offering you a plethora of opportunities to exhibit your interests. So here we are with an enumerated list of all the cultural verticals you can explore:

Book Club:

Books, beanbags, recommendations, reviews, takeaways, and a plethora of other fun stuff: reading and discovering magic in books is what we're all about. Need to find a buddy to listen to your

late-night rant about the book you just finished? Or want a community to actually “get” your obsession over the smell of new books (and puppies and 18th-century Japanese kettles and Greek Gods)? We are here because we like to think you can find a book about literally anything! Tune into Book Club to lose yourself in a labyrinth of exciting adventures for your imagination!

Music Club:

Music Club is your central repertoire of all genres of music ranging from Indian and Carnatic Classical to Metal to Funk to Jazz to Fusion! We are here to hone your musical skills and give wings to your interest by handpicking diverse sets of music from albums and compositions by great bands and artists from all around! We devote great efforts to learning through jammin’ and work on composing songwriting, and production skills. We also organize biannual Flagship Events – ‘Musical Extravaganza’ with a diverse setlist of great songs and also ‘Acoustic Night’ on a January winter evening by the bonfire, where the campus community gathers to see us perform some of the best chilled and melodic acoustic covers and some of our own Original Compositions. We assure you that your association with the club will surely mould your musical aspirations and turn them into a successful reality!

Fine Arts Club:

The Fine arts club is the ultimate destination to all your imagination and fantasies and a place to nourish and nurture the budding artists in our campus. The doors are open for anyone, anytime & club filled with everything you need! Just come, sit, and draw your heart out. Starting from Freshers’ Speed Art, (yes you read it right ! Freshers do put up a speed art performance every year) and Wall Painting, to Antaragni Exhibition and Cult Meet, from the ultimate Competitive vibes we have during Galaxy to the most prestigious event of our club – ArtFest, from drawing in groups with paint all over the room & music all over your ears, to the friends that become your family and the club that becomes your HOME. With

several workshops and competitions spread throughout the year, to our latest Art Appreciation Series and Online Tutorial Playlists, the club is the perfect harbor for anyone interested in fine arts.

Hindi Sahitya Sabha:

The Hindi Sahitya Sabha is a body primarily dedicated to foster Hindi literature on the campus. Apart from working in the field of oration and literature, at the Hindi Sahitya Sabha we also work on 'Nirvaak'- the campus viewpaper, voicing the unspoken critical issues of the campus junta. We conduct several events and workshops on literary writing coupled with literary discussions on contemporary issues and fun activities like mayajal and several others! We take part in the Inter-IIT Cultural Meet and other cultural fests. We also try to initiate new literary activities through proper workshops on campus, one of them being the standardized Hindi Parliamentary Debating. Presently, the club is working on projects of Podcast, Puran Manthan, letter translation, and many more. There exists no prerequisite for joining the Hindi Sahitya Sabha apart from love and appreciation for Hindi language and literature! Your enthusiasm and passion are all we stand in need of.

Dramatics Club(Fursat Mandli):

खोज बीन कर लाते हम सब, गलियों से चौबारों से। हँसा रुला के याद दिलाते, मुद्दे हर इक गलियारों के।।

थोड़ी उछल कूद, थोड़ी कूद फांद, शब्दों के शस्त्र, अभिनय के बाण। हर पन्ने पर हम अलग रंग, फुर्सत में मौज मनाते हैं। मस्ती और संजीदा पसंद, फुर्सत में जीत भी जाते हैं।

फुर्सत में लिखते गाते हैं, हम फुर्सतिये कहलाते हैं। हम फुर्सतिये कहलाते हैं।।

Photography Club:

It's not just about flaunting around DSLRs and unrestricted access to festival events, wink wink! We conduct some of the coolest workshops and exhibitions in the campus. Seniors would tell you that we're best known for our photo walks in and out of Kanpur, like the one in summer to locations like Nainital and Banaras. We love organising interesting competitions for the campus junta and

participating in the Inter IIT events every year. The club also has an awesome studio in the FMC room, can't wait for you all to take a look once you're back!

English Literary Society:

The English Literary Society is a group of people who are bonded mainly but not exclusively, by their love for the English language and literature. The club's environment comprises discussions set in the world of literature and pop-culture. It provides a space where one is free to talk about the most bizarre ideas and curiosities, and a platform to explore and improve writing, and performance skills needed for open mics. ELS IIT Kanpur stood 1st overall at the Inter IIT Cultural Meet 2019 in relevant events. This reflects their strength in exhilarating events like Word Games and Just-A-Minute.

Students' opinion society:

Students' opinion society is a club that tries to create a valuable perspective about different events occurring around the globe via discussion sessions, seminars with policymakers and other relevant people, events for Campus Junta and many more. We explore current stories in international news, economic, finance, and geopolitics. In this time of lockdown too, we had organized a series of sessions called "UPSC Talks" which turned out to be very motivating for aspirants among Campus Junta. Our most recent events were, 'Indian Governance Summit', Public Policy webinars, and a National-level policy making competition.

Student Film Society:

Student Film Society holds several screenings of movies and sports events around the year. It is about appreciating the intricacies of cinematography and collectively analyzing masterpieces of cinema. Not only this, we discuss movies extensively and are anytime up with a bunch of movie recommendations! We also organize film galas, where highly acclaimed films from around the globe are screened and talked through.

Design and Animation club:

Others have seen what is and asked why. I have seen what could be and asked why not. ~ Pablo Picasso We here at the Design and Animation club harbor the thriving spirit of making our imagination come true. Will-o'-the wisps racing across the Ganges? The starry sky adorning the IITK backdrop? A psychedelic outer space? Or your crush morphing into your MTH101 exam? Well, we are here to bring these to life(digitally)! Animations, ui/ux design, designing anything and everything from posters, portraits, landscapes, or even 3D modeling? You are at the right place. And the best part? We start from scratch (do not forget to bring your as weird as possible aesthetic sense along). Welcome Y20!

Debate and Discussion Society:

What started a few years ago as some people just getting together and doing what they love, has been rapidly growing and continues to do so as the Debate and Discussion Society of IIT Kanpur.

Currently, we organize events on campus such as Novice Debating League (the latest edition of which was held online amidst the lockdown), discussion sessions. We also represented the college in various debating tournaments across the country such as SRCC Delhi, NUJS Kolkata, IIT Bombay, and internationally like Australs, Up Over, DSDC among others. Being an excellent or experienced debater is not a prerequisite, all we're looking for is interest and commitment on your part, and in time you'll find yourself on the podium, competing against the best speakers in the country from Law, Engineering, and all backgrounds in between.

Dance Club:

With the philosophy 'Love the art in yourself and not yourself in the art', the art form of dance is a synonym of expression of life and after coming here to IITK, the expression is pure fun and learning. KOS, the dance club of IIT Kanpur provides you ample opportunity to explore your interest in dancing. Right from the very first event, we help you out in nurturing your interests in this genre of the cult.

With ranges of dance from Bollywood, Kathak, Bhangra to Hip-Hop, Krump, KOS tries to convey each emotion with dancing. One of our biggest achievements was to become the Dance Champions of Cult Meet 4.0 after a cut-throat competition. It was only possible through all the efforts the team put in and the love the supporters gave. KOS participates in many such competitions, conducts various workshops and entertains you with a wide range of events. So, Welcome aboard!

Anime Society:

In a nutshell, Anime Society(AniSoc in short) is a group of anime and manga enthusiasts. If you think chilling out with friends at the OAT while watching some show on the big screen, discussing your favorite shows with your peers, quizzing to showcase your anime/manga knowledge sound fun, then you're in luck, as this is exactly what AniSoc is for! The members love to talk and hear about characters and plots enjoyed(or sometimes, hated) by each other, enjoy sharing amazing artwork, or even jamming to anime music. In short, if you enjoy anime and/or manga, or are interested in trying them out, you're welcome to join the family!

Film Club:

“Filmmaking is a chance to live many lifetimes.”

The subtle science of filmmaking is not achievable without prolific imagination and a zeal of passion. We at Film Club, IIT Kanpur provide a boat to the islands of this art. We tunnel the club's functioning and activities through various events. Cinematography, Screenwriting, Casting, Shooting, Sound recording, Production, and Editing are the aspects that are thoroughly studied during the club's overall walkthrough. Film Club takes interest in a variety of work ranging from short films, skits, sketches to documentaries, including the making of the Orientation video, the Freshers' Introduction video, the Freshers' Attempt videos in filmmaking as well as the Batch video of the graduating batch. We also take part in competitions all over India through various Fests and Events and

try to learn from the attributes lying within the tasks. Keeping the hotshot works apart, the primary aim for us as a club is to penetrate into the hearts of ingenious minds that can carry on the torch of glory riding upon the path laid by the Film Club over the years!

Humour House:

Humour House stands as the official hobby group under the MnC council. With several events like Pun battles, Roasts, Improv battles and Stand-up in place, the club aims to provide a platform to the people aspiring to showcase their skills or involve in funny, entertaining and witty discussions on several engaging topics. So far, we gave you a clear overview of the structure of the council. But there remains more to know. The council also curates multiple engaging events all around the year, entailing significant participation from the campus junta! This includes Extravaganzas, competitions, and other club-specific events.

It primarily starts with Freshers' Night, which stands out as one of the most anticipated events in the first year. And after strenuous years of the JEE turmoil, the excitement is apparent. The eve is full of events of Dance, Drama, Music, Arts, Literature, Fashion, Film and many more! This allows you to explore their interests, revive some long lost hobbies and showcase your talents. Besides the events' galore, the eve is an opportune time to acquaint with other batchmates. Given the hard times this year, even the virtual freshers' is all set to enthrall you with various interactive events and activities!

Freshers' Treasure Hunt is a team event wherein, as the name suggests, you hunt for treasures! The game begins with Scavenger hunt where you and your teammates rummage to find the listed things all through the campus. The qualifying teams then proceed to brainstorm over some bizarre riddles and brain teasers to divulge to a location, anywhere on campus. If you decipher and

make through all the cues to plunge into the final place at the earliest, your team wins!

The treasure hunt is collectively organized by the English Literary Society, Hindi Sahitya Sabha, and Quiz Club. The event is one thrill ride and an unforgettable night of solving perplexing problems, misleading other teams to make way for your own, cycling from one place to another and possibly end up at wrong locations to finally finishing up early morning after a relentless tussle.

The Inter IIT Cult Meet holds several competitions on cultural fronts and stands out as a platform to present your artistic skills in fun-laden events laced with competitive interplay! Conducted around December every year, it witnesses participation from students all across IITs.

One of the IITs thus clinches the overall championship, followed by the runner-up contingents. IIT Kanpur hosted the Meet in December 2017 and has, till date secured leading positions in several events every year.

Montage is the annual Film, photography, literary, and Arts Festival of IITK celebrated to appreciate the diverse aspects of art—be it our cinematic heritage or literary portfolios. The fest covers the screening of multiple movies from regional to international classics. There are dialogues with some esteemed personalities to give better perspectives and insights into the cinematic aspect of media. Montage is all about celebrating art and introducing you to a whole new diverse world of cinema, art, and literature!

Impressions is the cultural festival of the Post Graduate students on campus. Marked by an exclusive series of events on all fronts, the fest is an exciting experience to count for. The events covered range from dance and drama performances, art display, musical nights to interesting photography contests. The Prom Night is also a major captivation of the festival and witnessed a huge turnout from the campus community! The entire event is a revitalizing time of the year for the postgraduates.

The council organizes workshops during the summer break or in or after the semester to facilitate learning under the clubs. These are open to all the ones excited to learn and require no prior experience or knowledge. These can also be leveraged by the staff members of the off-campus community. A special batch for kids or the non-student community is also set up but requires a minor workshop fee. The conduction schedule and division keep in mind participants' convenience and preferences. It is hence an excellent opportunity to learn and explore one's interests in specific cultural fields.

So, if you find yourself cocooned at your homeplace, fretting with utterly no college ambiance around, the council is here to make that monotonous life a little exciting. If not, it can at least try to give you a kaleidoscopic view of what seems to be absolute monochromatic and dull? After all, these years are all about exploring, learning, and living!

Academics and Career Council

Though the necessity of extracurricular activities is impossible to be undermined in college life, the biggest factor governing the career of an individual is the academic opportunities and professional endeavors one utilizes during this period. And the Academics and Career (AnC) Council makes sure students don't miss upon all these opportunities one can avail during their undergraduate and postgraduate years.

As the name suggests, AnC aims to foster all needs pertaining to academics and research for the student community. The council comprises various wings including UG/PG Academics Wing,

Research Wing, International Relations Wing, and Career Development Wing which together thrive to fulfill all academics and research-related needs of the students.

So how do these wings specialize individually and what do they have in store for Y20? Here it goes:

UG/PG academics: It pertains to all academic matters, working on academic curriculum and catering to related doubts for both the UG and PG students. It holds academic and departmental orientations to acquaint students in the respective avenues. The wing works in tandem with SUGC/SPGC (Senate Under/Post-Graduate Committee) and DUGC/DPGC (Departmental Under/Post-Graduate Committee) nominees of the Senate to respective committees in order to ensure smooth working. Also, the wing keeps in touch with the DoAA (Dean of Academic Affairs) for academic purposes and reforms, sort issues and doubts.

For Y20: Will provide info about the courses offered, how can they choose their courses later on, and learn from the feedback of seniors. Also, there would be department mentors who would act as a communication point of view to efficiently plan their template and judiciously approach their respective departments, and hold departmental orientations too.

Research wing: Interested in research activities and internships? This wing caters to all the research activities on campus, plus provides options of research through off-campus opportunities, internships and informs of all the possible scholarship opportunities.

Student Research Convention(SRC): SRC aims to foster student-based research and create a platform for young researchers to meet and exchange ideas. It organizes competitions, projects options, and helps students connect with professionals in the industry to get more insights on the field.

To generate the necessary intellectual and physical infrastructure for further research, the institute created the Dean of Research &

Development position(DoRD). The Technopark in IITK serves as a vibrant research and innovation ecosystem for academicians, industrialists, and entrepreneurs to connect, collaborate and create highly advanced and innovative technology solutions addressing current and future challenges of the society. Further information can be found in the below website:

<https://www.iitk.ac.in/dord/>

For Y20: SRC will be open for their participation. Professors will take the session and spread awareness on relevant topics. There would be a UG Research handbook detailing them of all necessary and relevant information, including the availability of scholarship options.

International relations wing: Being the one-stop to stepping a foot overseas, The International Relations(IR) wing is a student organization dedicated to work in close association with the Dean, International Relations(DoIR) and the Office of International Relations(OIR), IIT Kanpur to improve collaborations of the Institute and its foreign counterparts. It also acts as a complementary link between the student community and the office.

It works in tandem with offices of international institutes and universities, manages foreign exchange programs, research and internship options abroad. Also, it covers the prospects of semester exchange programs with several reputed universities overseas, which can serve as a wonderful learning experience for students!

More information could be found at:

<https://home.iitk.ac.in/~smohit/cs300A/campus-wiki/2A.html>

Recently there was a language event from Japan and the IR wing was responsible for organizing it.

The prospect of applying to an international graduate school is exciting as well as daunting. As the application procedure itself takes up considerable time and effort, and relevant preparation and the aftermath are equally important, the AnC initiated GRAD

(Graduate Research Application Directory) which is a compilation of experiences and methodologies of the recent alumni who went through a similar journey and hurdles and ultimately overcame them in favor of their application. It can be accessed below:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1oeSLXFXIEEI8zctiDi3vh6Hc9yvrp65I/view?usp=drivesdk>

For Y20: A handbook is being prepared which would guide them to the opportunities overseas.

It would inform about PhD applications, higher studies opportunities, increasing MoUs, etc. For example, there's a body called IAESTE which facilitates international opportunities like internships and research abroad.

Career Development Wing: For the much-awaited season of interns and placements, students need to have a really good preparation to ensure a smooth pathway in the selection process. Enter the Career Development Wing, which guides the various career paths like options in core and non-core sectors. It conducts various workshops and sessions in acquainting them about the system, and also to improve soft skills during placements and internships. Here experts in industries are allotted as mentors, mock interviews are conducted to familiarize the students with the real scenario.

Career Counselling is done to resolve dilemmas and to find an interest in a particular career path. To add more, there are specialized preparation manuals for different fields, for example of quant preparation, consultancy preparation, even for CAT preparation!

For Y20: Handbooks are being created where things to explore in their departments are included so that they can make a plan for their future. Newsletters, blogs, and handbooks are made available to help students in exploring different career options.

To recount the experiences of seniors and make it more relatable, there are several blogs on the original website, where seniors have shared important tips and tricks. And there are several individual

blogs for various fields: starting from internship experience to placements fundae and even research abroad. There are several sessions organized for important events like branch change, choosing a particular OE/DE/ESO where students can clear their doubts from the council members who were in a similar situation before, and several more.

And to keep in touch with the latest trends and make sure students aren't lagging behind with their peers from other institutes, the AnC holds sessions for various important and beneficial courses like Machine Learning, introduction to Autodesk, approaches to file patents, etc.

The AnC opens recruitment for the students from their 2nd year as secretaries, where they assist the managers of their respective wings in the works pertaining to the council. The General Secretary is responsible for overseeing the work of the council acting as an interface between the Institute policymakers and the students on all important matters.

Academics

Template

The academic structure for every program is dictated by a departmental template. The template lists down the courses to be done in a semester-wise fashion, such that the minimum graduation requirements for the concerned degree are met. The template also considers the prerequisites of different courses, and the courses are scheduled accordingly. But the template is not binding on the students, and they have the freedom to schedule

courses according to their own volition. Detailed guidelines regarding course templates can be found on the DoAA website.[1]

Types of courses

Each UG program requires the students to complete minimum credits from different sets of courses. Different categories are listed and summarized below:

1. **Institute Core (IC) Courses:** The IC courses are common and compulsory for all the UG students. These courses cover the fundamentals of various topics, ranging from basic sciences such as Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, and Biology, to core engineering subjects such as manufacturing, electronics, and computing. The IC courses populate the 1st and 2nd-year template arrangements.

2. **Humanities and Social Sciences (HSS) Courses:** The minimum graduation requirements for UG students include a total of 5 courses (further classified into 2 Level-1 courses and 3 Level-2 courses) from a basket of courses from the discipline of Humanities and Social Sciences. A natural question that arises is “Why HSS courses in a technology institute?”. While engineering and science courses help us gain better insights into the world’s technological and scientific aspects, HSS courses complement this learning by focusing on various social, cultural, and moral issues. Apart from developing one’s critical thinking ability, these courses also broaden one’s perspective of the world and life in general. Ultimately, these courses contribute towards sensitizing students and helping them become better human beings.

3. **Department Compulsory (DC) Courses:** As the name indicates, these DC are mandatory for students belonging to a specific department. The courses aim to engulf the essential topics related to the department. Many DC courses also form prerequisites for other departmental courses.

4. **Department Elective (DE) Courses:** Students have the option to choose from a wide array of courses from their parent discipline,

which are offered as DE courses. DE courses are typically present from 5th-sem onwards in most departmental templates. The minimum credit requirement for DE courses varies across programs.

5. Open Elective (OE) Courses: All UG students are required to complete around 54 credits, which translates to roughly 6 courses (for some departments, it is 63 credits/7 courses), as Open Electives. These are courses that students may take from any department/program in the Institute. OEs offer students an opportunity to explore diverse topics beyond their parent discipline. These courses are one of the significant aspects that provide the IITK Academic curriculum the flexibility it is renowned for.

6. (Engineering) Science Options (ESOs/SOs): ESO/SO courses are electives offered by different departments concerned with some specific but fundamental science/engineering topics. In total, the students have to complete around 40 credits of ESO/SO courses. Departmental templates have a few compulsory ESO/SOs, while the rest are electives.

The detailed rules and procedures regarding the academic curriculum including information on branch change, double major, minor, etc. can be found in the UG manual on the DoAA website.[2]
Academic Environment

IIT Kanpur is renowned for having one of the most flexible and unique academic curricula around the world. This flexibility promotes interaction between students across departments and batches. It also encourages students to explore a broad spectrum of topics, which proves beneficial not only in academia but also in industry. These interactions and opportunities are aimed at creating a healthy academic environment and furnish students with an enriching learning experience.



The campus's academic facilities are also world-class, with fully air-conditioned lecture halls, state-of-the-art labs, a vast library, and excellent places to study peacefully, such as the Student's lounge, New Core Labs(NCL), etc. With the covid situation incorporating a new lease of learning, it's understandable that things won't remain the same in the course curriculum, yet the learning through the first-hand experience, provided by the labs, brimming with students during a regular semester, have their own tales to be told.



Studying at home has its own set of distractions, yet the ones experienced on campus have a more vast genre which at times needs to be dealt smartly for one's own benefit. One being the group of people around you, during quizzes, midsems, or endsems, representing the study environment which may tend to either bolster your preparation with their help and revision notes or may demotivate one's hard work and preparation by the feeling of competitiveness among the peer, so here the choice lies in your hands to judge whether this environment around you may be toxic or not. At campus, there is no dearth of study rooms, right from the most sought after the library, where you see students stamping their bags in the tables or chairs, during peak times (which generally includes end/mid sem, but one of the most influencing factors of their occupancy is generally the "enthu" of the incoming batch), there to safeguard their seats.



Or one could use the cozy environment of CCD with comfortable chairs and adjustable round-tables where people visit more for studying over having a cup of coffee, or at the student lounge, where even a small nap could be achieved on the sofa present with the warmth to take away your all your stress(provided you don't grab the attention of the working SIS guard :P). And the best part, where even the administration acknowledges the irregular routine of the students, is that CCD, library, student's lounge along with the Computer Centre present in the NCL labs are open round the clock(24*7) for the whole duration of the exams



The late-night 'chai' or Maggie or any other snack for that matter in DoAA's canteen, which has its doors open for campus residents even at 5 AM, gives a sense of lightness in the mind. After all, good hours of study couldn't be topped off by a little self treat with light "bulla" with your friends.

The 1st-year IC courses lectures are held in L20, which is a massive hall with a seating capacity of about 600 students. But L20 is not just a lecture hall; it is a collection of diverse groups of individuals from across the batch. The typical antics of these varied groups characterize every lecture in L20. A crowd of Maggus populating the front rows, asking doubts enthusiastically during and after every lecture hour; a couple of late-comers trying to sneak into the lecture hall without catching the eye of the instructor; the occasional hooting and laughter when these dawdlers get caught in the act and invite a sarcastic remark from the instructor's end; a set of hungry souls continually checking the clock, waiting for the class to get over so that they can rush back to the hall canteen; a bunch of impatient fellows on the lookout for the attendance machine, waiting to mark their attendance and sneak away in the middle of the class; an enthusiastic clan of gamers occupying the

last few rows, testing the best angles to conceal their mobile phones from the strict instructors; an avid reader seated in a distant corner of the lecture hall, deeply engrossed in a novel, cut off from the rest of the material world; and a horde of sleepy individuals, dozing off between lectures, trying to make up for the sleep they lost due to last night's bulla session.

Cut to 2020.

The crowd of Maggus is trying their level best to show enthusiasm (and gain some participation marks) by spamming the chat-box; the late-comers are stuck in the waiting room, pinging their peers to remind the instructor to let them in; the random conversations from the end of the poor chap who forgot to turn off his mic cracks everyone up at their desk; the occasional Zoom-bombing prompts the instructor to mute everyone; the set of hungry souls are busy having lunch during the classes; the multi-tasking gamers have minimized Zoom, and are busy playing the latest multiplayer game to viral, and the sleepy individuals have muted the meeting and have fallen into a deep slumber.

Science and Technology Council

“My first interaction with SnT came during SnT foyer in orientation. Several cool projects on display like rovers and even a race car, and I quickly decided to attend all the introductory sessions. Although the projects we made were actually simple, building my own project and coding, felt really intriguing. I took a small break

from the clubs due to acads, but when Takneek was organized, I participated in it, and it was an experience I would never forget. I went on and took part in Summer Camp by SnT, where I made a replica of the model that won us the Inter-IIT Gold!

Most of you would have been fascinated after seeing IIT life after 3 Idiots. While the acads are more theoretical-based and even labs sometimes tend to be restrictive, projects conducted by various clubs and teams are fun and directly touch ground-reality. We work on real-life problem statements and create industry-ready solutions for them. You can implement crazy ideas that come to your mind and be the Phunsukh Wangdu.

Another stand-out point of SnT is that you meet with several people well-versed in different fields and many who are new and filled with energy to learn and try new things. You even get more career opportunities as associated companies sometimes hire a project they like. If you are interested in research, then the respective club would give you the best exposure. The group you make keeps you constantly updated with new developments and multiply the brainstorming. And of course, there is no other experience than representing your institute at national and international levels.

SnT caters to all sorts of needs. For limited exposures, there are summer and winter camps. For more extensive exposures, there are clubs and societies. Teams work more extensively towards a particular development/problem statement for adding value at international grounds.

I would just advise the new batch to participate in something or the other in any Gymkhana activity and try to transition to ambivert if you are an introvert. Because of the true flavor of college life is created by the community.”

The Structure

SnT council is headed by General Secretary, SnT who is elected in the general elections. Each club/society/team has a group of coordinators in charge of its events and functioning, further

succeeded by a group of secretaries. All the students of IITK are members of all the clubs by default.

1. Clubs and Societies

There are a total of seven clubs and five societies to cater to a variety of interests, working on several pre-planned projects and new ideas.

Aeromodelling Club

Since its inception in 2006, Aeromodelling Club has created and improved several kinds of aircraft ranging from ornithopter to their latest VTOL, Tailsitter. They have excelled at several international competitions, including SAE Aero(USA). They have even created composite aircraft for DRDO. The club is currently working on its second VTOL, Quadplane, and also fabricating composite material and using it to scale down modern combat military aircraft. They are also working towards the development of an autonomous ornithopter.

Astronomy Club

Everyone has undoubtedly gazed at the endless night sky and wondered how genuinely fantastic the universe is. The Astronomy Club was made for every such wonderer who waits hours waiting for Jupiter and Saturn's perfect alignment. The Astronomy Club conducts various talks and shows on many celestial bodies and events. The Observatory for Astronomical Research (OAAR) helps give hands-on skills and knowledge to all.

Brain and Cognitive Society

Made for the ones who are always inquisitive about the human brain and neurotech, The Brain & Cognitive Society aims to study Brain Science to reverse engineer human intelligence to create better AI. Their work touches various fields like cognitive neuroscience, cognitive psychology, and computational cognition via several projects and talks.

DesCon Society

The Design and Construction group teaches designing, constructing, and analyzing several structures like Popsicle Bridge and Spaghetti Bridge. Students design their own structures via software and construct them themselves. They always come up with incredible and equally beautiful designs and models of many architectural wonders.

Electronics Club

Doing anything and everything about electronics, Electronics Club innovates several cool projects around the year and trains students in basic electronics as well as advanced skills and even the latest research papers. Their motto “Innovation, Imagination, and Application” perfectly captures their work.

Finance and Analytics Club

Crossover of Economics and Analytics, Finance and Analytics Club helps junta understand fundamental financial statements to very advanced fintech topics via regular sessions including speeches from guest speakers from leading companies and several projects throughout the year. The club provides an in-depth experience of the financial nuances.

Game Development Society

While gaming culture is very prevalent in IITK, The Game Development Society brings you close to understanding how those games are and then designing them yourself. They work on creating a variety of games, and as they say, there is always one for everyone. They design the game, make the plotline as well as code it.

IITK Consulting Group

A team that gives expert advice to organizations working in a professional or technical field based on some data or information about the problem given to them. They have done several projects for various organizations and have been successful at them. Their

research work has been recognized by multiple international conferences.

Programming Club

Programming is an indispensable art, and for the beginners out there, the Programming Club tries to provide a platform to learn, understand, and work on several projects. There are introductory lectures and workshops, customized projects, and many hackathons in App Development, Machine Learning to Hacking & Algorithm development, and Competitive programming.

Robotics Club

Robotics – the go-to word for modern technology. As the world inches closer to achieving the Sci-Fi fantasies, Robotics Club lays a perfect platform for exploring this exciting new field with a huge scope of imagination. They work on all the aspects of robotics including electrical, mechanical, and software development. Along with creating several fascinating projects and bots, they also participate in several competitions and are known to excel.

Science Coffee House

Ever wondered what exactly the famous String theory is? Or how could life be on Mars? The Science Coffee House is a group of scientific thinkers who conduct talks and discussions on several interesting topics from various science branches from Philosophy to Physics.

Speedcubing Club

It is fun playing around with Rubik's cube to figure out how exactly it works or see strange-looking mirror cube solves as a perfect cube. And this pass-time of many is a sport in IITK. Speedcubing Club teaches several types of cubes across the year and conducts various camps and competitions making speedcubing an electrifying experience.

2. SnT Teams

There are seven student teams that are envisioned to represent the institute at various national and international platforms. They are the core hub that fosters all student-based research and development envisioned to bring glory to the campus.

Team Aerial Robotics IITK

Team Aerial Robotics work on developing autonomous drones capable of performing localization, navigation, and many other missions. They plan to soon bring it out to the industry. They also have a rich history at Inter-IITs with 3rd, runner-ups and the only winners at 6th, 7th, and 8th Inter-IIT respectively. They have also participated at IMAV(Madrid). This year, they aim to participate in the International Aerial Robotics Competitions while working on some industrially relevant side projects.

Team AUV-IITK

Team AUV-IITK aims at developing an autonomous underwater vehicle capable of performing a set of tasks underwater from marker dropping, buoy detection to torpedo firing and surveillance. The team consists of four subsystems which are Software, Electrical, Mechanical, and Business. All four subsystems are interdependent and work together. So far they have built two vehicles namely “Varun” and “Anahita”. In the NIOT-SAVE 2017, 2019 by the National Institute of Ocean Technology, Chennai, they stood first runners-up. Now they are aiming at International Competitions like SAUVC-Singapore and RoboSub-San Diego, California.

Team ERA IITK

Team ERA works on developing intelligent solutions for implementing autonomous robotics and fabricating & realizing autonomous robots for different AI-empowered Robotics challenges worldwide. They are a relatively new team and were awarded the 3rd Category Award in their first participation in IEEE ICRA DJI Robomaster Challenge in Montreal, Canada. Their

problem statement is developing a swarm system for battle against a similar system.

Team Humanoid

Humanoids are the 'face' of robotics. IITK's Team Humanoid is developing a fully functional Humanoid robot and has built two prototypes based on bipedal walking – Automi and Darwin. They were the only team from India to qualify for the coveted FIRA HuroCup, held in South Korea in 2019. The team is currently developing a simulation workspace tailored to provide an optimal testing ground for our software frameworks and constantly improving upon the bots' functionalities. They also have sub-teams devoted to developing software modules like localization and obstacle avoidance and the design of pneumatic limbs and are now working on making the bot fully autonomous.

Team IITK Motorsports

IITK Motorsports has a vision – “Design & Build a Race Car”. They have four divisions, formula-style racing cars, all-terrain vehicles, electric vehicles, and efficient vehicles, with the last two are formed for the first time this year. The first formula racing car they built, participated, and performed decently in Formula Student Italy in September 2013. Since then they have come a long way, participated in several competitions around the nation, and brought pride to the institute. Their last vehicle, the B19, was an all-terrain vehicle that secured 13th position in the MegaATV Championship. They are currently working to participate in the Shell Eco-Marathon and build their first formula electric vehicle for participation in Formula Bharat 2021.

Team ViSiON

IITK's Intelligent Ground Vehicles Challenge team, ViSiON works on creating fully autonomous ground vehicles. In their first attempt at IGVC(USA), they secured the 5th position in the Design Category(2018) while in their second attempt(2019), they got ranks across three categories and were overall 2nd in the competition.

They are now planning to participate in NASA's Space Robotics Challenge.

Team ZURA IITK

Attention all 'Real Steel' fans, ZURA works on fighter robots and participates in brutal 'Robowars'. IIT Kanpur has a great history of participating in such competitions throughout the nation, hence the team was created last year to focus on the same. Although the team is new, IITKs legacy makes sure that they are well experienced.

Inter IIT Tech Meet

When several premier technology institutes compete in a wide range of innovation challenges, the result is always breathtaking. The aim is to address at least a few of the nation's many problems and work collectively to achieve the goal faster and more effectively.

Inter-IIT Tech Meets are extremely competitive events with every club, society, and team fighting for glory. There is extreme buzz and brainstorming sessions happening all around. Several novel ideas pop up, and many are even adopted by the industry. Although the event lasts almost a week, the preparation is carried throughout the year.

IITK has a very rich legacy with three overall First-Position finishes in the 8 editions. We were 4th in 2018 while 3rd in 2019. We have also hosted the meet two times. IIT Kanpur holds high dignity at the Inter IIT Tech Meet and with IIT Guwahati being the host of the 9th Inter IIT Tech Meet this year, we have buckled up to perform our best.

Students' Gymkhana

President, Students' Gymkhana

At the apex of the Students' Gymkhana sits the President, who is the representative of the students of IIT Kanpur at all forums of the

institute. The President is elemental in coordinating the general affairs of the student body. The President aims to be the voice of the 7000 (Numbers invite attention) students that reside at our Kalyanpur Campus. (like we have many XD)

The President is a member of various campus communities and works for the betterment of the student community. The Academic Senate (considered the highest policy-making body of the institute), Institute Affairs Committee, Anti-Ragging Committee among others are forums where the President actively participates to address and resolve the grievances of the students. The President is also invited to the Board of Governors' meetings when matters relating to students are discussed.

It is also the duty of the president to coordinate and supervise all the cells, councils, and festivals to ensure smooth conduct of all activities throughout the academic year. Currently, the President is Mr. Nikunj Kothari, Y17.

Sounds like a lot of work and responsibility, right?

To aid and complement the President in their duties, the President's Office was inaugurated in the academic year 2016-17 which comprised members at various levels to broaden the vision and reach of the President's scope of work. The Executive Council of the President's Office takes up a plethora of initiatives such as Convocation, Gymkhana Day, Yearbook, Senior Year Mentorship Program, etc. for the upliftment of the student community. The council coordinates with various Institute level committees such as the Animal Welfare cell, Environment Advisory Committee, Academics and Ethics cell, etc. to ensure a congenial environment for the holistic development of all.

Students' Senate of the Gymkhana, IITK

Our own legislative body: the Students' Senate, consists of members of the Senate, called the Senators, who are elected by their own batch. The Senate represents the collective voice of all the students. The heads of the various councils, which you

would've met during your orientation, are ex-officio members of the Senate.

Like all legislative bodies, the Students' Senate keeps a check on all student activities, especially that of the Students' Gymkhana, and is the central policy-making student body. In normal years, the election for the Students' Senate and the executives are held during mid-January, and the charge is handed over in early March.

Again, just like the Speaker of the US House of Representatives or the Indian Loksabha, we have the Chairperson of the Senate: they are the person responsible for running the Senate. Along with the President, he/she is ex-officio nominated in many of the institute committees, e.g. the Academic Senate. Currently, the Chairperson is Mr. Yash Maheshwari, Y17.

The Senate is a general forum for all students, has many sub-committees that have confined domains and are responsible for specific issues, like UG-SAC which deals mostly with the academic matters of the UGs, RPC, which constantly works on filling the loopholes and bettering the Gymkhana constitution, and CoSHA which is responsible for the supervising the functioning of the Halls of Residence.

Other than that, the Senate has its own nominees to various institute committees like the SUGC, which is a committee comprising of various professors who create major policies for the UGs, like branch change; the SSAC (a word the whole campus fears) which deals with the disciplinary cases of the students; and the SSPC, which works in tandem with the DoSA for the disbursement of various scholarships and prizes.

Cells of the Students' Gymkhana

1. E-Cell

Entrepreneurship Cell IIT Kanpur is a non-profit organization aiming to induce an entrepreneurial mindset in the students. They focus on watering the 'Ideas' in the bud and help them bloom into

impactful endeavors through networking student enterprises from campus to incubators, seeding funds, and angel investors to transform the newly proposed ideas into successful start-ups. The team comprises “Core Team” members, “Secretaries” (2nd Year), and “Volunteers” (1st-year students). E-Cell organizes an abundance of events throughout the year to promote entrepreneurial activities in and around the campus. The annual **E-Summit** witnessed massive participation from all over India with events like TEDx and StartUp Master Class. E-Cell also conducts various lectures and workshops focused on budding entrepreneurs. Startup Internship Programme helps IITK students land internships in start-ups and know their working in greater depth.

During the pandemic, virtual events like “Entrepreneurial Extravaganza”, “Entrepreneurial Bootcamp” and numerous talks by eminent entrepreneurs were held.

In this semester, Startup Internship Program, Business Week (real-world business problems), and workshops by renowned entrepreneurs/businessmen) have been planned to be organized. A full-fledged course on entrepreneurship in the course curriculum is planned to be introduced in the future.

CWC

The Community Welfare Cell (CWC) works for a campus ‘community’ which extends not only to the student and the faculty members, but also to the staff members, the workers and their families, and all individuals who are related to the campus.

The Cell currently has five wings under it:

1. Prakriti, working in the field of environmental awareness and impact assessment to achieve equality in terms of sustainability.
2. Prayas, working in the field of education for the marginalized sections of the society to achieve equality in educational opportunities.

3. Raktarpan, working to combat blood shortage in order to achieve equality in proper healthcare facilities.

4. Unmukt, working to address the gender and sexual diversity in the community and to achieve equality against discrimination.

5. Vivekananda Samiti, working to spread the message of Swami Vivekananda among the campus residents and helping the entire community tackle its problems through motivation and inspiration.

Election Commission

Election Commission works to conduct fair elections, providing a democratic setup to choose the Gymkhana Executives, and Senators. In the General Election, conducted sometime after the start of the Even semester, positions like the President, General Secretaries are open for elections.

The team consists of a Chief Election Officer (usually 4th Year), Managers of Election Commission (usually 3rd Year), Senior Election Officers (usually 2nd Year), and Election Officers (usually 1st Year). Joining the Election Commission would give you an overview of work in an election ranging from (but not limited to), ratifying manifestos, vigilance during code of conduct, working at polling booths, counting of votes, and conducting executive debates.

Vox Populi

Vox Populi, the journalism body of IIT Kanpur, is among the most dynamic and actively growing student bodies on campus. Vox works at catering to campus residents, alumni, and other stakeholders through print and online media. In recent years Vox has played crucial roles in delivering impactful pieces and bringing stories of different walks of life to the campus junta and providing voices to the voiceless. (But we would rather let you be the witness of it.)

Outreach Cell

Outreach Cell is the Students' Gymkhana body that works in collaboration with the Dean of Resources and Alumni, IIT Kanpur.

Contributing to the crucial avenues of strengthening student-alumni relations, they publicize achievements of IIT Kanpur and organize outreach programs in IIT Kanpur. This work of the Outreach Cell has been divided into three wings:

Alumni Relations: The Alumni Relations wing is the direct point of contact with the outside world: maintaining relations with alumni by attending meetups and alumni chapters across the country, spreading awareness among potential students by visiting cities to organize info sessions, and also getting in touch with the corporate world for collaborations.

Creatives: The Creatives wing works towards generating engaging content to create a positive image of the institute like content for future students' website and offline sessions, presentations at alumni meet, collating, and pitching Students' Gymkhana proposals to corporates, etc. This content is finally published by the design team and web team.

Campus: The Campus wing works actively on events for student-faculty relations. The team works hard to publicize student research and achievements of various cells/clubs leading to raise funding for student-led projects. They have successfully conducted campaigns such as #That'sIITK, #AskIITK for prospective students. The outreach cell opens recruitment for the students from their 2nd year as secretaries, where they assist the managers of their respective wings in the works pertaining to the cell. They can work in various divisions of the cell, i.e. Alumni, Creative, or Campus wing.

Throughout the year, Outreach Cell conducts numerous talks, and student-alumni engagement sessions like Tips from the Top, Heritage Search, and Distinguished Alumni Interviews. They support the Institute in planning the Convocation Ceremony, Alumni Gatherings, and Alumni Branch Meetings. A few steps to improve the relations between campus students and IITK alumni,

such as the Alumni Buddy Program and Mock-en-Joy, are also taken annually.