

The Baghdad Medical College (BMC) Students' Book Club is a student-led initiative under the supervision of the medical education and the women's affairs units of Baghdad College of Medicine, that brings together medical students with a shared interest in reading and discussing books.

1. Problem Statement

The lack of student-led clubs in our college made students who often have talents, leadership potential, and creative ideas go unused. This affects the sense of belonging within our college community and fewer chances for teamwork, networking, and personal growth. Student-led initiatives are crucial for fostering responsibility, innovation, and collaboration which are essential for us medical students.

2. Goal and Vision

- It aims to foster critical thinking, empathy, and communication skills through reflective discussions

-It also aims to create a safe space for relaxation and intellectual exchange outside the academic curriculum.

3. Activity Description

Provide a clear overview of your initiative:

- **Structure:** 1 Supervising Doctor, 2 Founders: Zahraa and Basmala. Permanent roles for one year include the President, Graphics Team, Archiver, Social Media Managers (Copywriters and Publicators), and Theme Tracker. Monthly rotating roles include the Moderator, Logistics Team, and Quote Collectors.
- **What Has Been Done So Far:**

1. April meeting in celebration of Women's Month under the Women's Affair Unit of Baghdad's Medical College. Book discussed: The Doctors Blackwell: How Two Pioneering Sisters Brought Medicine to Women and Women to Medicine

2. June meeting discussing the future of the Book club, its team structure, and goals

3. July meeting: When breathe becomes air book (Doctor-patient relationship theme)

4. August meeting: The life of Henrietta Lacks book (Ethics and consent theme)

5. September meeting: The yellow wall paper book (mental health theme)

- **Resources & Branding:** Stethoscope & a book. Theme: purple, promotion via email
- **Outcomes:** We have 10-15 participants as a number each month and we invited faculty guest members
- **Links:** non

4. Enhancement & Evaluation System

How do you *assess and improve* your activity?

- Feedback forms are sent at the end of each session to discuss feedback and what to improve.
- Based on the feedback, we can collect recommendations for further sessions/workshops in medical education

5. Future Plans

Where do you see this initiative going?

- Short-term: Getting officially approved
- Long-term: I envision this club as a way for students to start new initiatives with new leaders leading the club each year

6. Contact or Team Lead (Optional)

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