

Case Study

Symbiosis Centre for Distance Learning (SCDL)

SCDL chooses WizIQ Virtual Classroom to promote quality higher education

Solution Overview

Industry – Education

Challenges

Provide quality higher education by facilitating direct interaction between academic faculty and students.

Benefits

- Integrated WizIQ Virtual Classroom quick and easy, without any additional investment.
- Takes advantage of WizIQ Virtual Classroom to facilitate direct interaction between academic faculty and distance learning students.
- Overwhelming response within 7 months of integration, almost 250 classes with an average time of 75 minutes each, attended by approx 4,500 students.
- Promotes quality education and freedom from confines of traditional classroom

Solution

WizIQ Virtual Classroom



Symbiosis Centre for Distance Learning (SCDL), Pune, India, is one of the pioneering institutions for Higher Learning. A centre of excellence, offering quality Distance Education with the latest technology, innovative teaching methodologies and quality education blended together to create a unique learning experience.

SCDL in their endeavor to provide quality learning was challenged with a major constraint - absence of direct interaction between academic faculty and distance learning students. International and remote area students could not access lectures and seminars conducted by eminent academicians. How to reach students who cannot reach us?

Also, mechanism of solving doubts and queries through phone and emails was available but not very effective as it did not encourage discussion.

WizIQ proposed to solve this challenge by integrating its Virtual Classroom with SCDL's learning management system.

Live interaction with WizIQ Virtual Classroom

The WizIQ Virtual Classroom allows students to see a faculty, hear the lecturer, ask questions by raising their hand and even re-play a lecture after it is over. This creates a sophisticated learning experience similar to a live classroom.

Students of distance education benefit tremendously by the flexibility and convenience that WizIQ Virtual Classroom sessions offer. The Online chat sessions allow students to be in constant contact with the faculty and get the queries resolved immediately. Also they have the privilege to interact with the teachers using mic and headphones.

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Students can see and refer to all the questions and answers asked in a particular session, which facilitates supplementary aid to their learning and understanding of a particular topic. Students require only a computer and an Internet connection to participate in Virtual Classroom sessions.

With the use of live video, audio, chat and asking questions by raising hand virtual classroom session simply emulates a normal class. Also every virtual classroom session is recorded so that students who have missed the class or want to revise again can view or download the recorded session.

Finally, SCDL started using WizIQ Virtual Classroom on and from July 24, 2010. Since then they got a tremendous response from the students. The overwhelming data of the class and its attendees support the fact! In this span of 7 months, almost 250 classes with an average time of 75 minutes each were conducted and attended by almost 4,500 students.

“*The initiatives are an attempt towards bridging the distance' between the teachers and the taught. All that a student requires is a computer and an Internet connection to participate in the virtual classroom and online chat sessions without any extra cost.*”

Swati Mujumdar, SCDL Director

Overwhelming response

WizIQ's virtual classroom received overwhelming response both from students and teachers of SCDL. This integration is proudly titled by SCDL as "Freedom from the confines of a classroom."

SCDL educators heralded this initiative as learning "Anywhere Anytime", validating the constant endeavors of Symbiosis Centre for Distance Learning (SCDL) to provide quality distance education.

Sushant Jagtap, IT Head, SCDL, appreciated WizIQ's Technical and Support team for their relentless assistance with the integration of Virtual classroom and expeditious turnaround time for queries. He sees this integration as a value growth in SCDL's overall offerings of the educational services.

WizIQ conducting training sessions for SCDL faculty

WizIQ will also be conducting training sessions for SCDL teachers to help them optimize teaching-learning experience through Virtual Classroom. With more than 55,000 enrolments every year across 136 courses and students hailing not only from India but 40 other countries, WizIQ Virtual Classroom is an innovative and pioneering initiative to stimulate an enriching learning experience.