

Report on the Advanced Training Program (ATP) conducted from Feb 1-23, 2022 for MBA final year students

These days the corporate world is seeking employees who are equipped with strong problem-solving skills and conceptual knowledge. Sensing the requirement, the Faculty of Management Sciences, Shoolini University, Solan (H.P) launched the Advanced Training Program (ATP), a unique endeavor to prepare each MBA final year student for careers in top global and Indian MNCs. This twenty-one-day program was exclusively organized from 1st Feb 2022 till 23rd Feb 2022 to develop the best of knowledge, skills and abilities ensuring career success through campus placements and making students industry-ready.

The fully residential program had been meticulously designed based on the inputs from the industry and a thorough in-depth analysis of job descriptions of targeted companies. The aim of ATP was to build a deep focus on general skills needed across the board by leading organizations and preparing students for aptitude, group discussions and personal interviews. In these twenty-one days, students got hands-on experience in domains like finance and investing, business process design and operations, retail, banking, insurance & wealth management, marketing and branding, human resources & people skills, business analytics, social media marketing and business research and consulting. The ATP equipped these students with cutting-edge skills which were imparted by corporate leaders and experts from academia through projects, workshops and flipped class pedagogy.

The program was developed under the guidance and supervision of our Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Atul Khosla & Dean of FMS, Dr. Kuldeep Rojhe. Dr. Prachi Kapil was the coordinator for the program and was supported by core team members, Dr. Amar Rao & Dr. Nitin Gupta. The expert sessions were taken by professionals from the industry like Prof. Atul Khosla (Hon VC, Shoolini University), Mr. Amit Khanna (Ex Mckinsey), Mr. Mukesh Goswami (Experience of 25+ years in retail), Mr. Pradeep Sharma (Ex HR Head, Mercer), Mr. Sanjeev Singh (Ex HR, P&G), Mr. Ashish Khosla (Chief Executive Officer at AADDOO.AI), Mr. Vishal Anand (CEO & Director RNAVAXBIO), Ms. Nishtha Shukla Anand (Founder TechThirsty & winner of Google Woman Entrepreneur award) & her team, Mr. Vivek Atray (ex IAS, TEDx Speaker & Author of the bestselling book "Finding SUCCESS Within"). Furthermore, the worthy experts from academia like Dean FMS, Prof. Kuldeep Rojhe, Dean UG Studies Prof. Kesari, Associate Dean Academics Prof. Narinder Verma, Prof. Devesh Kumar Sharma, Dr. Neeraj Gandotra, Dr. Chander Mohan Gupta, Dr. Sandeep Singh, Dr.

Kamal Kant Vashisht, Dr. Pooja Verma, Mr. Vijay Kumar, Mr. Shivam Kohli and Mr. Suraj Verma have also contributed immensely to the learning experience of the students. Apart from academia and corporate, the students also learnt from professionals across various other sectors. The program would not have been a success without the undying support of our office staff members Mr. Samuel David, Mr. Satish Bhatia, Ms. Anshul & Mr. Ashok.

The day-wise program schedule is presented below:

Day 1- Feb 01, 2022 (Tuesday)

The day started with registration of the students for ATP. It was led by Dr. Ankita Verma, supported by her team members Mr. Shivam Kohli, Ms. Shaba Parveen and Ms. Priyanka Goyal. The context of the 21 -days rigorous bootcamp was laid out by Hon. VC Prof. Atul Khosla. Dean FMS, Prof. Kuldeep Rojhe introduced ATP and laid out its relevance for the students. Dr. Prachi Kapil formed teams of the participants and Dr. Amar Rao took a quick session on Coursera enrolment for students. Post lunch, a session on companies lined up in the placement week was taken by Dr. Nitin Gupta. Dr. Neeraj Gandotra, Associate Professor, Yogananda School of AI, Computers and Data Science took a session on ‘Aptitude skills’ followed by a half an hour tea break. The students took their respective Coursera courses from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM, followed by a break-out session. Post dinner, the masterclass was taken by Hon. VC, Shoolini University, Prof Atul Khosla.

Day 2- Feb 02, 2022 (Wednesday)

The day started with attendance of the students followed by Current Affairs session by Dr. Amar Rao, Dr. Sandeep Singh and Mr. Shivam Kohli. Post this session, the students were divided into five groups based on their specializations and the roles most companies offer. These groups had simultaneous sessions at five different venues with their respective experts every day. The sessions on finance, consulting and process mapping were taken up by Prof. Atul Khosla, Mr. Amit Khanna and Dr. Kamal Kant Vashisht. The session was moderated by Dr. Nitin Gupta. The session on HR was taken up by Mr. Pradeep Sharma and Mr. Sanjeev Singh and moderated by Dr. Sandeep Singh. The session on marketing was taken up by Mr. Mukesh Goswami and Dr. Kuldeep Rojhe, moderated by Mr. Suraj Verma. The session on social media marketing was taken up by Ms. Nishtha Shukla Anand and her team and the moderator was Mr. Shivam Kohli. The session on Business Analytics was taken by Dr. Devesh Kumar Sharma, moderated by Ms. Priyanka Goyal. Post lunch, the session on grooming and everyday etiquette was taken up by Col. TPS Gill. It was followed by a content brush-up session

on 'Accountancy' by Dr. Chander Mohan Gupta. After the tea-break the students worked on their Coursera courses followed by a break out session. Post dinner, the masterclass was taken up by Mr. Jaiprakash Singh Hasrajani, Founder and Chief Executive and Product Officer, vExecution.

Day 3- Feb 03, 2022 (Thursday)

The day started with attendance of the students followed by Current Affairs session by Dr. Amar Rao, Dr. Sandeep Singh and Mr. Shivam Kohli. Post this session, the students proceeded towards their five simultaneous specialized classes (as explained in day 2 schedule) taken by the respective experts. Post lunch, students were divided into different groups and mock GDs and personal interviews (PIs) were conducted by faculty and experts from the industry. It was followed by a session on 'Aptitude skills' by Dr. Neeraj Gandotra. After the tea-break, students took their Coursera courses for an hour, which was followed by fun games by the respective team. Post dinner, the masterclass was taken by Mr. Aashish Khosla, Chief Executive Officer, AADDOO.AI.

Day 4- Feb 04, 2022 (Friday)

The day started with attendance of the students followed by Current Affairs session by Dr. Amar Rao, Dr. Sandeep Singh and Mr. Shivam Kohli. Post this session, the students proceeded towards their specialized classes (the same as day 2) taken by respective experts. Post lunch, Dr. Amar Rao took session on 'Delivering effective presentations.' It was followed by mock GD and PI sessions for the students. After the tea-break, students took their Coursera courses for an hour, which was followed by a break out session. Post dinner, the masterclass was taken by Dr. Devesh Kumar Sharma, Professor, FMS, Shoolini University.

Day 05- Feb 05, 2022 (Saturday)

The day started with attendance of the students followed by Current Affairs session by Dr. Amar Rao, Dr. Sandeep Singh and Mr. Shivam Kohli. Post this session, the students proceeded towards their specialized classes (the same as day 2) taken by respective experts. After lunch, a mock GD and PI session was conducted by faculty and industry experts which was followed by a content brush-up session on 'Finance' by Dr. Amar Rao. After the tea-break, students took their Coursera courses for an hour, which was followed by fun games by the respective team. Post dinner, the masterclass was taken by Mr. Pradeep Sharma (ex-HR head, Mercer) and Prof. Kuldeep Rojhe (Dean, FMS, Shoolini University).

Day 06- Feb 07, 2022 (Monday)

The day started with attendance of the students followed by Current Affairs session by Dr. Amar Rao, Dr. Sandeep Singh and Mr. Shivam Kohli. Post this session, the students proceeded towards their specialized classes (the same as day 2) taken by respective experts. Post lunch, a session on Advanced Excel was taken by Mr. Shivam Kohli, followed by mock GD and PI session for the students. After the tea-break, students took their Coursera courses for an hour, which was followed by fun games by the respective team. Post dinner, the students from different states and regions showcased their cultures through singing and dancing and also talked about their cuisines and dressing styles.

Day 07- Feb 08, 2022 (Tuesday)

The day started with attendance of the students followed by Current Affairs session by Dr. Amar Rao, Dr. Sandeep Singh and Mr. Shivam Kohli. Post this session, the students went through a mock placement drill. The experts from academia and industry presented themselves as interviewers from companies of different sectors. An intensive aptitude test, group discussion and personal interview format was undertaken by the interviewers and the selected candidates were also announced. It was conducted like a simulation exercise which gave a glimpse of how a normal placement day looks like. Post this exercise, the students were given feedback on their performance and the areas of improvement. After the evening tea, students took their Coursera courses for an hour, which was followed by break-out session. Post dinner, the masterclass was taken by Brig. SD Mehta, Director Operations, Shoolini University.

Day 08- Feb 09, 2022 (Wednesday)

The day started with attendance of the students followed by Current Affairs session by Dr. Amar Rao, Dr. Sandeep Singh and Mr. Shivam Kohli. Post this session, the students proceeded towards their specialized classes (the same as day 2) taken by respective experts. After lunch, a pre- placement talk was organized for the students which was followed by a content brush-up session on 'Marketing' by Mr. Aashish Khosla. After the evening tea, students took their Coursera courses for an hour, which was followed by fun games by the respective team. Post dinner, the masterclass was taken by Dr. Gaurav Sharma, Associate Professor, School of Advanced Chemical Sciences, Shoolini University.

Day 09- Feb 10, 2022 (Thursday)

The day started with attendance of the students followed by Current Affairs session by Dr. Amar Rao, Dr. Sandeep Singh and Mr. Shivam Kohli. Post this session, the students proceeded towards their specialized classes (the same as day 2) taken by respective experts. After lunch, a mock GD and PI session was conducted for the students which was followed by session on ‘Aptitude skills’ by Dr. Neeraj Gandotra. Post evening tea, students took their Coursera courses for an hour, which was followed by break-out session. After dinner, the masterclass was taken by Mr. Amit Khanna (ex-McKinsey).

Day 10- Feb 11, 2022 (Friday)

The day started with attendance of the students followed by Current Affairs session by Dr. Amar Rao, Dr. Sandeep Singh and Mr. Shivam Kohli. It was followed by a session on ‘Entrepreneurship’ by Mr. Vishal Anand (Successful entrepreneur and CEO & Director RNAVAXBIO). It was a very interactive and practical session. The students were engaged through team activities whereby they were given tasks related to setting up of startups. Post lunch, mock GD and PI sessions were conducted by industry and academic experts, followed by content brush-up session on ‘Human Resource Management and Organizational Behaviour’ by Dr. Pooja Verma. After the tea-break, students took their coursera courses for an hour, which was followed by fun games by the respective team. Post dinner, the masterclass was taken by Sushaant Pandita, an alumnus of FMS, Shoolini University and now a successful entrepreneur.

Day 11- Feb 12, 2022 (Saturday)

The day started with attendance of the students followed by Current Affairs session by Dr. Amar Rao, Dr. Sandeep Singh and Mr. Shivam Kohli. Post this session, the students proceeded towards their specialized classes (the same as day 2) taken by respective experts. After lunch, a mock GD and PI session was conducted for the students which was followed by content brush-up session on ‘Strategy’ by Prof. Narinder Verma. Post evening tea, students took their Coursera courses for an hour, which was followed by break-out session. After dinner, the masterclass was taken by Ms. Ashoo Khosla, Chief Learning Officer, Shoolini University.

Day 12- Feb 14, 2022 (Monday)

The day started with attendance of the students followed by Current Affairs session by Dr. Amar Rao, Dr. Sandeep Singh and Mr. Shivam Kohli. Post this session, the students proceeded towards their specialized classes (the same as day 2) taken by respective experts. After lunch,

a mock GD and PI session was conducted for the students which was followed by a content brush-up session on 'Economics' by Prof. Kesari Singh. Post evening tea, students took their Coursera courses for an hour, which was followed by fun activities by the respective team. After dinner, the masterclass was taken by Mr. Suresh Sharma, Landscape Officer, Shoolini University.

Day 13- Feb 15, 2022 (Tuesday)

The day started with attendance of the students followed by Current Affairs session by Dr. Amar Rao, Dr. Sandeep Singh and Mr. Shivam Kohli. Post this session, the students proceeded towards their specialized classes (the same as day 2) taken by respective experts. After lunch, a guest lecture was delivered by Mr. Anup Kumar Shrivastava, a senior professional in supply chain management at Luminous, followed by a session on 'Aptitude skills' by Dr. Neeraj Gandotra. Post evening tea, students took their Coursera courses for an hour, which was followed by break-out session. After dinner, the masterclass was taken by Dr. Amar Rao, Assistant Professor, FMS, Shoolini University.

Day 14- Feb 16, 2022 (Wednesday)

The day started with attendance of the students followed by Current Affairs session by Dr. Amar Rao, Dr. Sandeep Singh and Mr. Shivam Kohli. Post this session, the students proceeded towards their specialized classes (the same as day 2) taken by respective experts. After lunch, a very engaging session on 'Selling skills' was conducted by Dr. Kamal Kant Vashisht, Director, e-learning, Shoolini University. It was followed by a mock GD and PI session for the students. Post evening tea, students took their Coursera courses for an hour, which was followed by fun activities by the respective team. After dinner, the masterclass was taken by Mr. Mukesh Goswami, senior professional from the retail industry.

Day 15- Feb 17, 2022 (Thursday)

The day started with attendance of the students followed by Current Affairs session by Dr. Amar Rao, Dr. Sandeep Singh and Mr. Shivam Kohli. Post this session, Mr. Vivek Atray, ex-IAS, a TEDx speaker and an author, took a very interactive session on 'Leadership and People Skills'. After lunch, a mock GD and PI session was conducted for the students which was followed by a session on 'Aptitude skills' by Dr. Neeraj Gandotra. Post evening tea, a session on 'Making effective resumes' was taken by Mr. Amit Khanna which was followed by a break-

out session. After dinner, the masterclass was taken by Ms. Aarti Nihalani, MD and Partner, Oliver Wyman.

Day 16- Feb 18, 2022 (Friday)

The day started with attendance of the students followed by Current Affairs session by Dr. Amar Rao, Dr. Sandeep Singh and Mr. Shivam Kohli. Post this session, Col. D.S. Cheema, an expert in soft skills training and a visiting faculty at eminent institutions like Panjab University, Mahatma Gandhi State Institute of Public Administration, Punjab, Institute of Correctional Administration, GoI, etc. took a session on 'Life skills.' After lunch, a mock GD and PI session was conducted for the students which was followed by a session on 'Yoga and meditation for coping stress' by Dr. Mala Tripathi, Assistant Professor, School of Ancient Indian Wisdom and Yogic Sciences, Shoolini University. Post evening tea, students took their Coursera courses for an hour, which was followed by fun activities by the respective team. After dinner, the masterclass was taken by Prof. Narinder Verma, Associate Dean Academics, Shoolini University.

Day 17- Feb 19, 2022 (Saturday)

The day started with attendance of the students followed by Current Affairs session by Dr. Amar Rao, Dr. Sandeep Singh and Mr. Shivam Kohli. Post this session, the students proceeded towards their specialized classes (the same as day 2) taken by respective experts. After lunch, a session on 'Problem Solving and Decision Making' was conducted by Prof. Narinder Verma, Associate Dean Academics, Shoolini University. It was followed by a mock GD and PI session for the students. Post evening tea, Mr. Pratip Mazumdar, Director, School of Hospitality and Hotel Management, Shoolini University, took a very interesting session on 'Grooming and practical aspects of business operations' which was followed by fun activities by the respective team. After dinner, the masterclass was taken by Ms. Supreet Kaur, an alumna of FMS, Shoolini University and currently the Assistant Vice President, Marsh India Insurance Brokers Pvt. Ltd.

Day 18- Feb 21, 2022 (Monday)

The day started with attendance of the students followed by Current Affairs session by Dr. Amar Rao, Dr. Sandeep Singh and Mr. Shivam Kohli. Post this session, the students proceeded towards their specialized classes (the same as day 2) taken by respective experts. After lunch, a mock GD and PI session was conducted by industry and academic experts which was

followed by a session on 'Aptitude Skills' by Dr. Neeraj Gandotra. Post evening tea, students took their Coursera courses for an hour, which was followed by fun activities by the respective team. After dinner, the masterclass was taken by Mrs. Poonam Nanda, Dean Students Welfare, Shoolini University.

Day 19- Feb 22, 2022 (Tuesday)

This day was dedicated to fun and adventure. After having morning breakfast at university hostel, the students, faculty and staff of FMS proceeded towards Chail for an overnight excursion through university buses. The first stop was Kali ka Tibba, a temple dedicated to Goddess Kali at Chail. The students were spell-bound by the breathtaking views that the place offers. Then, the students were taken to Jungle Live-Inn Resort which is about 4 Kms from Chail on the Chail-Kufri Road. After settling down, the students, faculty and staff had lunch. In the evening, the students enjoyed bonfire with some snacks and tea. In the relaxed environment, students also shared their experiences of ATP, sang songs and danced. Certificates of participation in ATP were distributed to the students. Post bonfire, the students enjoyed to the fullest at the DJ party which was followed by dinner. A sudden spell of rain was an icing on the cake and the students had great fun.

Day 20- Feb 23, 2022 (Wednesday)

The day started with breakfast at around 08:00 AM. At 9:00 AM students proceeded towards the adventure activities section of the resort. Under the supervision of two trainers and guides, the students enjoyed adventure activities like walking on the Burma bridge, High Rope Climbing, Zip-line, Archery, etc. For some students and staff members, it was a first-time experience and they enjoyed to the fullest. At 11:30 AM, the students, faculty and staff checked out from the resort and proceeded back towards the university campus. The buses reached the university at 2:30 PM. The students were offered lunch at their respective hostel and after taking some rest the students checked out by 5:00 PM.

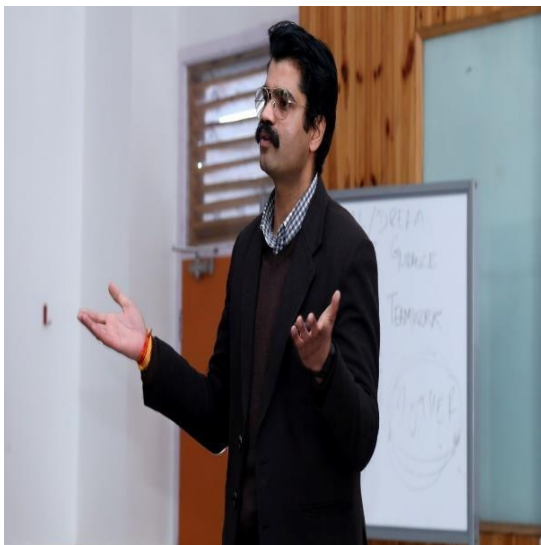


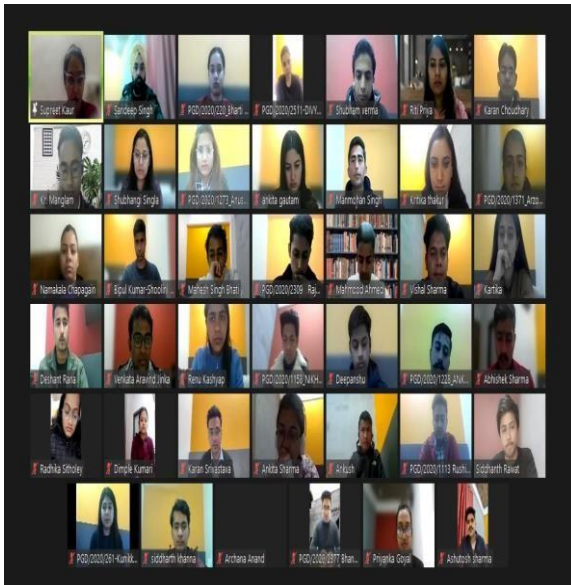
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Some glimpses of ATP, Feb 2022









Some glimpses of the excursion undertaken during ATP, Feb 2022






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