

MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF SERVICE LEARNING INITIATIVES: A STUDY OF ASSAM DON BOSCO UNIVERSITY

THEMATIC AREA: 2. INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE-LEARNING PROGRAMS
Central theme: 2.1. Monitoring and evaluation of institutional
programmes

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Background

- Service-Learning (SL) = integration of academic learning + community engagement + structured reflection
- Aligned with National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 emphasis on holistic, experiential, and multidisciplinary education
- Assam Don Bosco University: SL as a creditbased, institutionalized program (achieved through capacity building initiativesorientation, training, self-paced learning, SL fellowship for students and faculty)
- Framework guided by Andrew Furco's (2002) five dimensions of self-assessment rubric; Dewey, Piaget, Vygotsky's theories; and 3H approach (Head, Heart, Hand)









Theoretical Underpinnings

Experiential Learning

- Based on Dewey's and Kolb's experiential learning theories, emphasizing concrete experience, reflective observation, abstract conceptualization, and active experimentation in service learning contexts. (Ord, 2012)
- > Concrete experience- through community service
- Reflective observation- of service outcomes and processes
- ➤ Abstract conceptualization- linking theory to practice

Constructivist Approach

- Incorporating Piaget's and Vygotsky's constructivist theories, focusing on social interaction, collaborative learning, and knowledge construction through meaningful community engagement and peer interaction. (Nandi & Das, 2023)
- > Social interaction- in community settings
- > Collaborative learning- through group projects
- Knowledge construction- through practical application











© Aim / Purpose

- To analyze the structure and assess the effectiveness of ADBU's Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) framework in SL, focusing on its role in tracking-
- √ Student engagement
- ✓ Community impact
- ✓ Learning outcomes

Objectives

By the end of the study, we sought to-

- ✓ Examine the components of ADBU's SL M&E framework
- ✓ Evaluate its effectiveness in linking academic outcomes with community needs
- ✓ Identify strengths and gaps in the current M&E process
- ✓ Recommend strategies for enhancement through a MEAL framework









ADBU's Structured M&E Framework in Service-Learning

Quality & Impact ensured through a structured Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) framework [also founded on the dimensions of Furco (2002)]

XFramework bases:

- Faculty mentoring
- ☐ Use of digital tools (MOODLE as LMS)
 - Student reflection activities
- ©Community feedback mechanisms

② Evaluation Levels:

Formative: session quizzes, reflection logs, ongoing mentoring

Summative: final reports, presentations, viva voce

Institutional Review: biennial review meetings (every semester)









Institutional support (pictorial- AC/ review meeting/student induction)

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						SHSS-ECO - PhD Progress Seminar SHSS-PSY- Workshop on Literature Review	31
			09-Aug-25	Sat	16	Class Day SHSS -ENG- CT 1 -PG (3rd) Notification and Question Submission Notification SHSS-MSW — Alumni Talk SHSS-FCO - PhD Progress Seminar	
						ADBU-SLA- Service-learning Review Meeting SFAS-PHY- Departmental Meeting SHSS-MAS: Research Methodology Workshop	3
			10-Aug-25	Sun			
			11-Aug-25	Mon	17	Class Day: Commencement of 1 st Semester for non-B.Tech & AICTE Programmes SHSS -ENG- Academic Orientation for 1 semesters: Accountability of Class In-charges SHSS-MSW 1 — Orientation on Academics, Fieldwork and selection CRs	•
						SCM-MBA - Semester 3 classes start SFAS-CHEM: PhD progress seminar SFAS-PHY- Academic orientation for BSc 1st and MSc 1st semester	Q

Announcement in the Academic Calendar















Review Meeting with SL Faculty in-charges

Faculty Induction by Prof. Maria Rosa Tapia



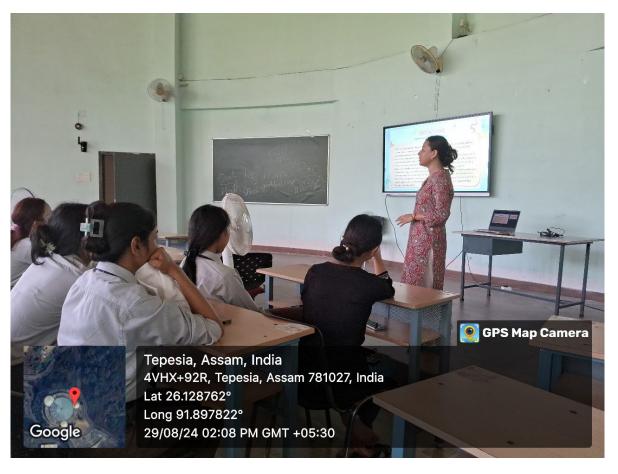












Student Induction by SL Coordinator





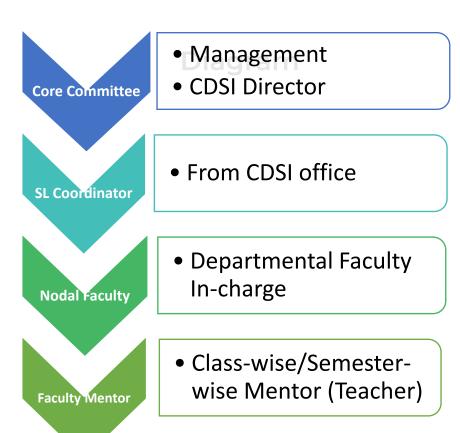






Key strengths of the M&E System at ADBU

- Structured, multi-tiered evaluation process
- Integration of digital learning management (available at moodle.dbuniversity.ac.in)
- Active faculty involvement in mentoring and assessment
- Participatory approach: student engagement + community engagement + feedback from all stakeholders
- Student reflection and self-assessment
- Institutional review and continuous improvement

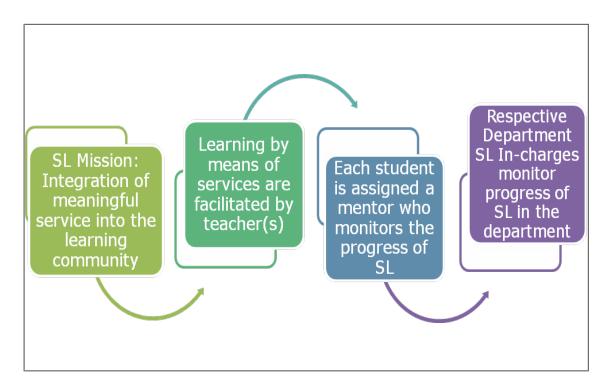


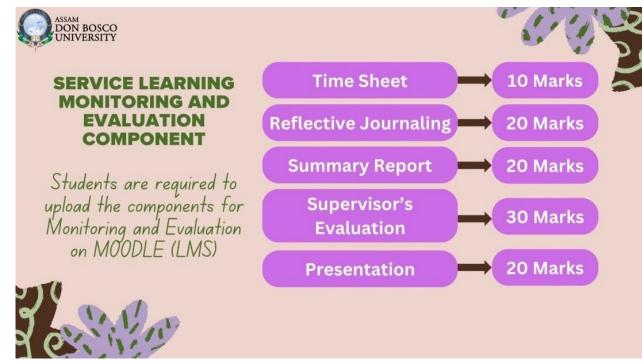












Basic monitoring process of SL

SL M&E Components



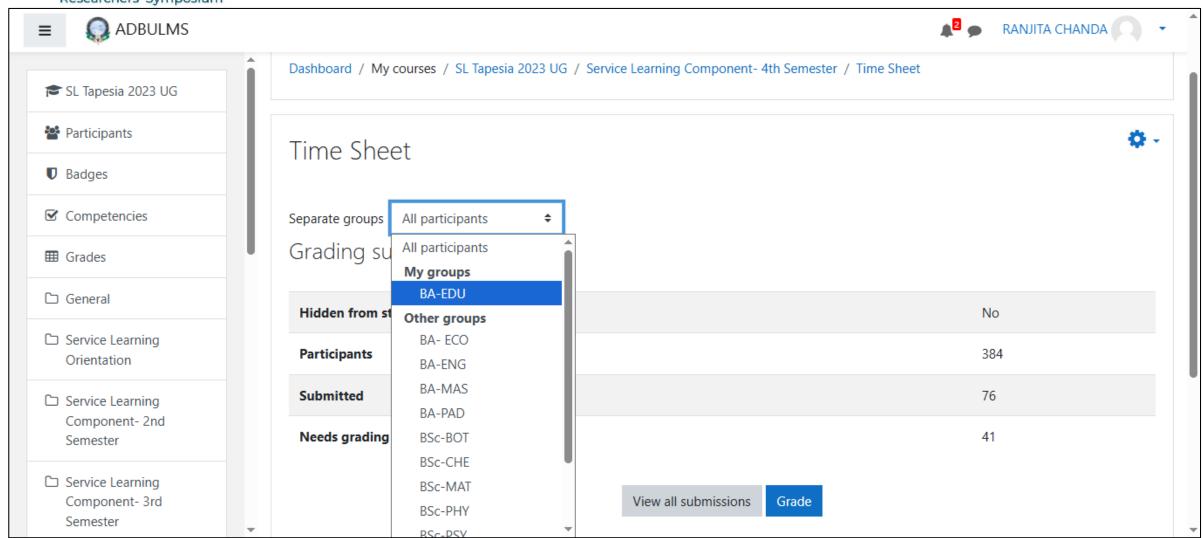








Interface of MOODLE (LMS)

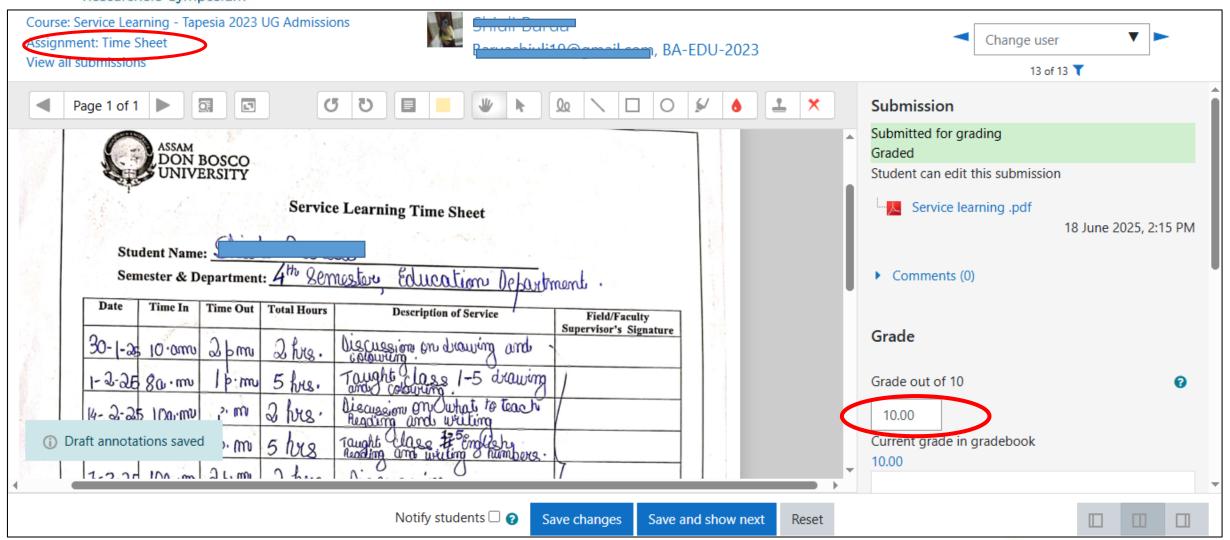








Student Time Sheet Upload on MOODLE (LMS)

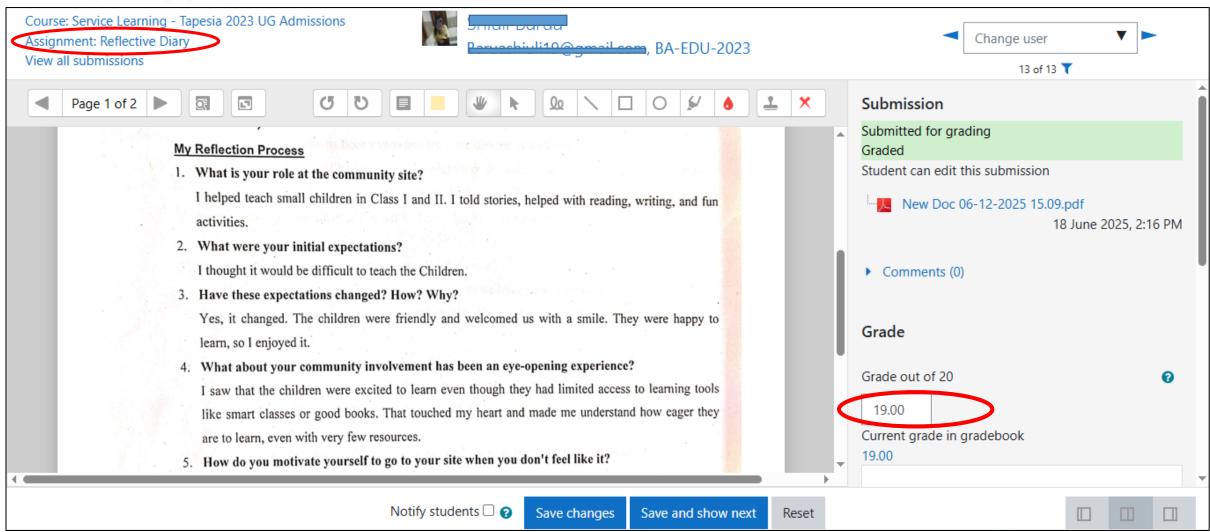








Student Reflective Journaling Upload on MOODLE (LMS)



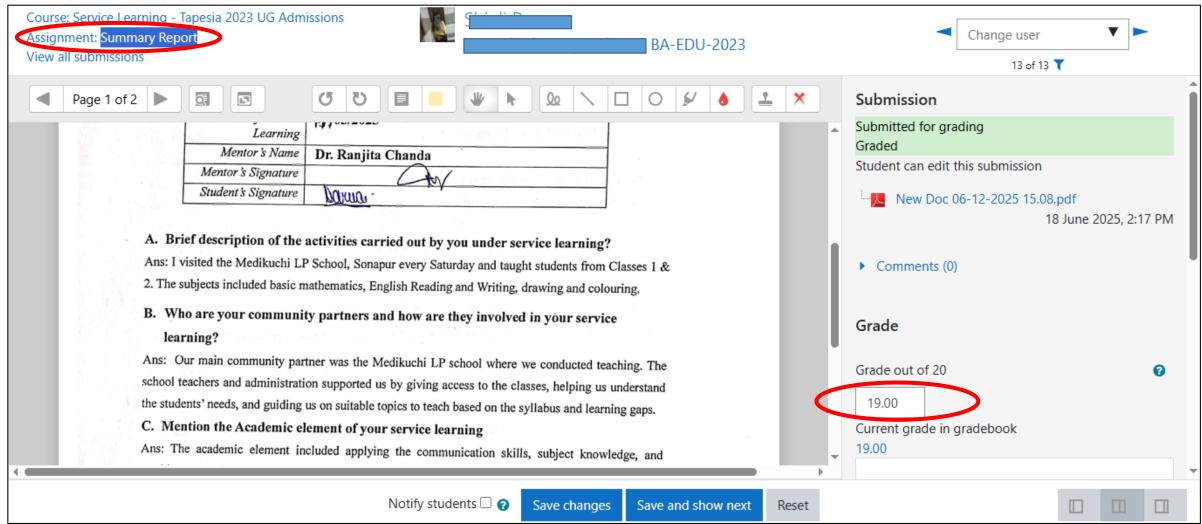
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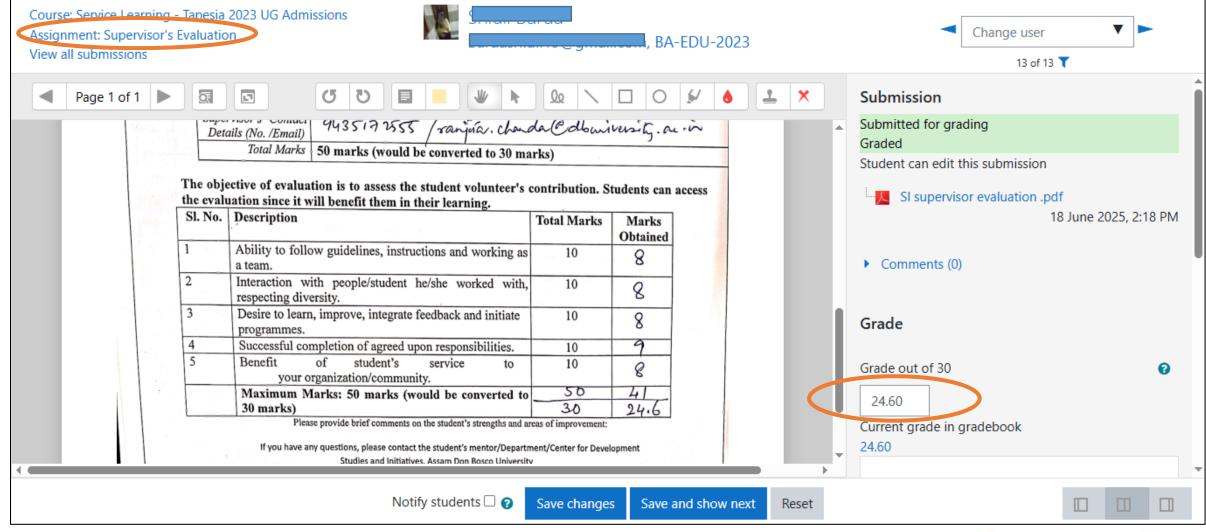
Student Summary Report Upload on MOODLE (LMS)



















Example - Bilingual Instructional Videos

To evaluate M&E's effectiveness in linking academic outcomes with community needs

- Interdisciplinary student collaboration (Education + Mass Communication + Social Work)
- Activity-based, bilingual content creation for primary learners (created by the students)
- Teacher training on video creation (by student and faculty)
- Measured outcomes: improved comprehension, engagement, vocabulary acquisition by the primary learners (through pre-test & post-test); Receiving community feedback















SWOT Analysis

Strengths

- Structured & institutionalized framework
- Integration of digital tools (MOODLE)
- Participatory feedback culture
- Alignment with NEP 2020
- Awareness about community and community processes (reaching out to community) (Dept. of SW & Centre for Development Studies & Initiatives as anchoring body)

Weaknesses

- Limited depth in documenting community impact
- Inconsistent integration of community feedback
- Varied student commitment levels
- Occasional dependency on faculty availability

Opportunities

- Expansion of SL to new disciplines/ transdisciplinary approach
- Capacity building & research dissemination
- International collaboration & best-practice sharing

Threats

- Tech infrastructure challenges in rural areas
- Breaking through the community
- Sustainability with growing student numbers
- Possibility risk of over-standardization reducing innovation











Proposed MEAL Framework

- Monitoring → tracking activities & participation
- Evaluation → measuring outcomes & impact
- ➤ Accountability → ensuring transparency with all stakeholders (e.g. taking their feedback with the help of standardized tools/triangulating through qualitative methods like Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis), systematize impact documentation, sustainable resource allocation and support
- ▶ Learning → integrating insights into future SL design (good practices from the field)

Goal: Improve learning outcomes, refine evaluation techniques, generate
 evidence based research and strengthen community impact, enhance quality,
 sustainability, solidarity and global relevance





References

- Furco, A. (2002). Self-assessment rubric for the institutionalization of service-learning in higher education [PDF]. Campus Compact at Brown University. Retrieved April 2, 2025, from https://talloiresnetwork.tufts.edu/wp-content/uploads/Self- AssessmentRubricfortheInstitutionalizationofService-LearninginHigherEducation.pdf
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