

# SURENDRANATH LAW COLLEGE

24/2, Mahatma Gandhi Road, Kolkata-700009

Phone No. 23503896

Email: [snlcollege@gmail.com](mailto:snlcollege@gmail.com)

Website: [snlawcollege.ac.in](http://snlawcollege.ac.in)

## BEST PRACTICE: BRIDGE & ORIENTATION COURSE FOR SEMESTER-I STUDENTS

**The Context:** Surendranath Law College organizes a week-long Bridge Course & Orientation Programme for the newly-admitted students (First-Semester) students of the B.A.LL.B. Degree course. The purpose of the orientation programme is manifold. It is meticulously designed to help students coming from diverse educational backgrounds to experience a smooth transition to a 5 Years undergraduate programme in the field of Law. These introductory lectures are valuable for students as it targets to create an interest and inner-drive to delve into the challenging, yet fascinating world of a professional career in legal studies.

**The Practice:** Students are given a comprehensive introduction to the course module, the mode of examination and the entire academic curriculum. Lectures are scheduled every day for a week for 1<sup>st</sup> semester students to cover several topics that form the foundational tenets in law studies. Besides law papers, students are also given introductory lectures on compulsory subjects of Sociology, Political Science, and Economics in the backdrop of its inter-linkages and practical use in legal education. Students are also lectured on the importance of English Language in Legal Education.

The Bridge & Orientation programme provides a healthy platform of exchange and an opportunity to connect fresher students with faculty members, staff and seniors. Students are familiarized on the use of the ERP software, given an online tour of college website, and through it of the structure, organisation and facilities in the college. Detailed information is provided about library resources, sports equipment, common-room and canteen facilities, complaint-box and every other academic and support facilities available for students including, specific facilities for women students in the college.

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Students are thoroughly informed and educated about the role and functions of Statutory Committees like the Anti-Ragging Cell, Grievance Redressal Committee, Internal Complaints Committee. They are guided to take note of the college Helpline numbers as provided in the college website. Students are also introduced to all the committees, cells and clubs that have been established for participation and overall welfare and holistic growth of students.

Students are informed about the different financial support networks and benefits available such as the Students' Credit Card Facility, Principal Welfare Fund, Merit cum Means Free-ship, as well as Government scholarships available for SC, ST, OBC, EWS and Minority Students.

## **Outcome and Success:**

- a. Introduction to the Course Module- Students gain a conceptual background on key topics and receive a comprehensive overview of the academic curriculum of the five-years BA.LLB course and non-law subsidiary subjects.
- b. Familiarization with the Code of Conduct for students in the college.
- c. Familiarization with teachers, staff, Committees/Cells/Clubs in the Campus.
- d. Students learn how to use the ERP software and navigate across the college website.
- e. They learn about all the physical and online library resources.
- f. They learn about the purpose, sports equipment, common- room & canteen facilities, complaint-box and every other academic and support facilities available for students, including specific facilities for women students in the college.
- g. Sensitisation on Statutory Committees & their Purpose -Students are thoroughly discussed and students are educated about the role and functions of statutory committees like the Anti-Ragging Cell, Grievance Redressal

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Committee, Internal Complaints Committee. They are guided on the modes of submitting grievances and complaints and use of the college Helpline numbers.

- h. Gaining Information on Financial Support & Benefits such as the Students' Credit Card Facility, Principal Welfare Fund, Merit cum Means Freeship, Merit Awards as well as Government scholarships available for SC, ST, OBC, EWS and Minority Students.

**Challenges Faced, and Way Forward:** The Bridge & Orientation Course has been implemented effectively by the institution without any major challenges. The programme has witnessed consistent and satisfactory participation from newly admitted students. Initially, it was conceptualised to familiarise students with core law subjects, but the scope of the course has been broadened over the years to include orientation on academic processes, co-curricular and extra-curricular activities, and institutional facilities. This holistic approach has contributed to the smooth academic transition of first-year students. As part of future plans, the institution proposes to further strengthen the programme by introducing additional skill-based workshops and organising guest lectures by eminent legal professionals, thereby enhancing student engagement and overall learning outcomes.