

NIAS FOUNDATION COURSE 2011
Workshop on Communication
6-7 September 2011
11.00am to 5.00pm

In connection with the writing and communication workshop organised as part of the Foundation Course this year, the second part on Communication and Presentation Skills will be held during 6-7 September from 11.00am to 5.00 pm.

Prof. Sangeetha Menon will conduct the Workshop. This workshop is open to all NIAS students (and faculty as well as research staff). If you wish to participate please send a mail to <prajnana@yahoo.com>. The workshop is mandatory for all students taking the Foundation Course.

"Communicating an Idea, Communicating an Image"

Three central processes that are involved in communication are (i) receiving, (ii) sharing and (iii) giving. We tend to use these processes in varying degrees. An optimal and inclusive use of the three processes determines the quality of communication, whether it is verbal or non-verbal. In methods where we use verbal plus non-verbal tools the visual (presenter as well as slides) that we project gets added significance. The visual will relate to the structure, content arrangement, attention to detail, flow of information and overall coherence. There is a visual component to (writing as well) speaking which conveys how we use (i) brevity, and (ii) clarity in order to present our ideas.

This Workshop will discuss about what (effective) communication is and how to engage with it. Our interactive exercises would discuss concepts that underlie, and techniques for:

- i. effective idea formation
- ii. effective concept building
- iii. effective listening
- iv. effective speaking
- v. effective presentation
- vi. mental maps

We will also examine the psychological and inter-personal principles behind the making of an effective presentation. This would help us to recognise and correct the challenges we face for effective communication in (writing and) speaking.

The Workshop will have interactive exercises, presentations, peer critique and reflective assignments. There will be final presentations by students at the last session of the workshop, which will be formally evaluated.