

Martin Luther Christian University

Take a jump

Introduction

The Department of English and Communication strives to empower students by enabling them to acquire the language skills for communication, the employability skills for the world of work, and creative and critical thinking skills for innovation among the student community. To meet the objectives stated, the Department has ensured that the learning environment is conducive to the students. The division of the course into various levels has been a step in this direction and the department can speak of achievements in this area. The department however feels that the time has come to move ahead and address issues that still inhibit learning among a certain section of the student community.

Through the years of observation of the performance of the students in the English Classrooms, the faculty of the Department of English and Communication opine that there is a population of 'underachievers' across all courses and semesters in MLCU. It has been observed that this section of 'underachievers' have not been able to acquire basic linguistic competence. Not having this competence has hindered their progress towards achieving other skills which is presently being offered by the Department of English and Communication.

It is the responsibility of the Department to address this pressing issue through further observation, analysis and innovation. With this in mind, the Department has proposed the commencement of yet another programme under the Department of English and Communication, called the *Take a Jump* programme.

About the Course

The programme has been designed for students who have been identified of having the lowest level of proficiency in English Communication in the English classrooms. The programme aims to boost the overall confidence of the students, keeping them at par with their peers and learn various language skills that would enable them to face the world outside the classrooms.

A profile of the overall performance of the students will be drawn by the team to ascertain their level of confidence, and the intelligence used by each in learning. Their communicative competency using the language skills in English and their creative thinking ability will be graded as per University guidelines.

The 'Take a Jump' team is made up of two faculty members from the Department of English and Communication and one from the Department of Counselling Psychology. Each will be assigned a role to meet the objectives of the programme. Our faculty have background in English Literature, English Language Education and Counselling Psychology.