



'Orchid'

A mentoring program for students by students

What is 'Orchid'

- A mentoring program run by student for students.
- Students from the 5th to 2nd year, mentor students from the years below – 1st to 4th .
- It's based on a volunteering basis, lasts throughout the academic year and complete confidentiality is kept at all times.
- A mentoring program which allows academic reinforcement on a weekly basis, based on a 'one on one' sessions.
- The 'Orchid' initiative is supported and encouraged by the department.

Who's part of the 'Orchid' program

Mentors:

Students who volunteer and dedicate their time to teach, help and guide others.

Mentees:

- Students who feel they require extra guidance with various courses in addition to the lectures in class.
- Students who struggle with a particular subject and need someone how can direct them to the right path.
- Students who want to improve their academic achievements.

Logistics support is provided by the Department

Objectives

- Allow an additional method for strengthening those who don't usually ask for assistance.
- A way to bridge the gap between classes, pass on much experience and knowledge from year to year.
- Allow students with high achievements to help fellow students.

How 'Orchid' works

- Mentors volunteer to participate in 'Orchid' program.
- Students from 1st to 4th year who would like to be mentored contact their 'Orchid' year coordinator.
- A decision regarding the pairing is taken by the year coordinator & both mentors and mentees will be contacted (Specific requests will be taken into consideration).
- An introductory meeting between the mentor and the mentee takes place to discuss limitations, need, meeting times, etc.

Adds across the department can provide further details.

Benefits from this experience

Mentors:

- Personal satisfaction by contributing a lot through voluntary activities.
- Opportunity to develop your mentoring, coaching and communicational skills.
- Reinforcement of your academic knowledge.
- Stand out voluntary experience on your CV.

Mentees:

- Support and encouragement to tackle academic difficulties.
- Improvement of academic performance.
- Friendly and relaxed advice on academic related issues.
- More interaction with students from all years.

Feedback from previous years

This is the fourth year that the 'Orchid' program is running

"After participating in Orchid I feel more confident in my ability to deal with structural problems that I previously found difficult to understand fully"

"I do not believe I would have performed as well in the structural module had I not taken part in Orchid"

"Through Orchid my confidence in AutoCAD and design software usage, which is a key area in this/my subject, has greatly increased!"



Thank you for listening