



Utilising the Vacations

Vacation-time should be used well, to add to one's skill-sets

BY KAVERI ROY

AFTER the year's grind and haul, students give into the lure of summer vacations. They mostly feel that vacations are about having doing nothing serious and they feel that they have earned themselves a vacation. However, this is also the time when they can add to their skill-sets by opting for short-term courses that may come handy anytime.

The city has a number of vocational certificate courses to provide the students with opportunities to prepare for their careers choice. From a variety of self development courses to basic certificate courses in professional education; there is a variety to choose from and it can all be done while one is on a holiday.

Here are a few of the interesting and rewarding ways to utilize the vacations -

1. Self-development courses

Effective writing, public speaking, creative writing or professional presentation skills; These kind of one month courses would help brush the skills one needs to excel in their future professional endeavours. For aspirants or professionals, these courses could add finesse to their skills. Self-enhancement courses help in boosting confidence and endow the candidate with a universal advantage irrespective of the kind of profession one opts for. These courses are being offered at St. Xavier's College comprising Effective Writing Skills, Creative Writing, Professional presentation skills for a duration of 1 month each.

2. Fast-track specialization courses

Hobbies are often taken to the next level and developed into careers and for such kind of ambitions; vacations could be the budding ground. A 3-month cookery course or a month long basic pho-



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topography course for the aspiring chefs and photographers, respectively or a 2-month Radio Jockey course for wannabe RJs; these fast track professional courses are an add-on before stepping into the rigorous specialized training.

Some of the courses available include -

- ❑ Basic Photography course (1 month) at The Photographic Society of India;
- ❑ Certificate course in Cookery (3 months) at the Institute of Hotel Management, Catering;
- ❑ Certificate course in Radio Jockeying (2 months) at Saint Xavier's College;

3. Vocational courses

Vocational training imparts specialized skills and knowledge that helps to work in a professional environment. These courses are an addition to the qualifications one has. There is an array of vocational courses in the city, which are short term and help one to optimize the time at hand. Many of the technical professions that require a practical know-how can be learnt in such rapid courses. They help provide an overview of the choice of profession one wishes to take up. If an aspirant is



undecided on the choice of career option, these courses can serve well in understanding the practical scenario before entering the industry.

Some of the courses available include -

- ❑ Training course in Book Publishing (28 days) at National Book Trust;
- ❑ Certificate course in Portfolio Design and Presentation technique (3 months) at National Institute of Fashion Technology;
- ❑ Certificate Course in Acting (3 months) at Zee Institute of Media Arts;
- ❑ Indian Tourism specialist training programme course (1 month) at KUONI ACADEMY;
- ❑ Course in Food and Beverage Service (42 days) at the Institute of Hotel Management, Catering Technology and Applied Nutrition.

Holidays can be the best time to re-skill oneself and add to one's knowledge-base, to get that differential cutting-edge.

HAVE FUN AND LEARN

There are some interesting vacation-courses being offered at University of Mumbai. These include:

- ❖ Fun with Mathematics
- ❖ Fun with Chemistry
- ❖ Fun with Physics
- ❖ Fun with Astronomy
- ❖ Hobby Electronics And Robotics
- ❖ Conversational English (for 10th Students pass-outs)
- ❖ Cartoon Drawing
- ❖ Origami
- ❖ Hobby Magic