

Loyola College (Autonomous)

Chennai - 600034

Creative Writing

PRAVEENA SHIVRAM, Editor of ARTS ILLUSTRATED magazine, delivered a Guest lecture on “Creative writing” to the PG students of the department of KAUSHAL Kendra, Loyola College, Chennai.

Students always need a well-rounded educational approach to their curriculum, and Loyola has had a long-standing tradition of offering that to all our students. Creative writing, by nature, cannot be taught in classrooms alone and requires hands-on reporting and guidance from working creative artists, such as writers and editors directly associated with the industry. Hence in this session, Ms. Praveena Shivram worked with the objective of teaching students what writing short stories is all about, introducing the concept and theory of the craft to budding writers at Loyola's B.Voc. degree program.



The first session was a lecture session for PG students, and the second, a powerpoint presentation. In both sessions, students were given the techniques to dissect a short story and learn from the individual 'sections' of the story. They also were given a short story as homework, and exercises were targeted around the topics:

- How to plot a story
- How to arrive at a story's Climax
- How to write effective scenes

At the end of the session, the students had a better understanding about the principles and techniques of short fiction, and were able to appreciate the art and craft of short stories both from a reader's and writer's point of view.

BIO: Praveena Shivram is the Editor of Arts Illustrated, a pan-India arts and design based magazine. She holds a Masters in Writing for Performance and Publication from the University of Leeds (UK) and a PG Diploma in Social Communications Media from Sophia Polytechnic (Mumbai). Over the last decade, she has written for several national publications, including the Times of India, India Today, the Hindu, Business Line, Culturama and Biblio: A Review of Books. She recently won the Prof. Barbra Naidu Memorial Contest 2017, for her essay, "An Ode to a Walk Gone By."