

SIU English Voices

Issue II, December 2025



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Mr. Roger Cohen, Regional English Language Officer, U.S. Embassy, Nepal is speaking at a recent session of Beyond the Classroom: Expert Insights, one of the most popular lecture series by the Department of English.



Amid the regular rhythm and rigor of academic life, the Department of English values the importance of students' physical well-being and recreational engagement. Here's a glimpse of a recent sports event, where our honorable Vice Chancellor, Professor Dr. Ashraful Alam, is seen presenting prizes to the participants.

My Inspiring Journey in the M.A. English Program

When I first joined the M.A. in English program at Sylhet International University, coming from a National University background and joining a bit late in the semester, I was a bit unsure. I had some initial confusion and hesitation. But with the constant support and encouragement from my teachers, I soon found my rhythm and even achieved the highest standing in the department in my first semester. Over time, I also discovered how unique our department's learning environment is. The teaching environment here is friendly, interactive, and supportive. Teachers always motivate students to think critically and express their ideas freely. They create a space where everyone feels encouraged to participate and learn. The teaching techniques are also modern and engaging. Being part of this department feels like being part of a supportive family, where we get to grow not only in our studies but also in many other dimensions.

This dynamic learning environment provided me with many valuable experiences, and one that stands out most was our first Presentation Day. It was actually the very first presentation of my life. Since I came from a different academic system, I had very little exposure to this kind of activity before. I was a bit nervous at first, but the encouragement from my teachers and classmates gave me confidence. Presenting my ideas in front of everyone helped me overcome my nervousness about public speaking.

Looking back, this journey has taught me that adapting to a new environment is always possible, and every step brings an opportunity to learn something new. I hope my experience will inspire others.

Sabiha Chowdhury

Roll : 2606, 1st year 2nd Semester, M.A. in English

The Department of English

Not Just a Department, but a Hub of Arts & Academics!

The Department of English is one of the unique and vibrant departments of Sylhet International University. The department motivates students to explore, express, and grow beyond textbook boundaries through its combination of academic rigor and co-curricular enthusiasm.

Through its flagship initiatives, students find their voice and perspective. **English Voices** provides a space where students articulate ideas and thoughts. **Mentor Talk** establishes a link between experience and ambition, connecting students with mentors who guide with wisdom and care. Through interactive activities and outreach, **Beyond the Classroom** turns education into real-life experience.

Literary creativity thrives in **LitVerse**, the department's WhatsApp group that captures the pulse of students' imagination. The **English Language Forum** shapes articulate communicators ready to take on global challenges, while the **English Sports & Cultural Forum** promotes teamwork and mutual understanding through arts and recreation. At the same time, the **English Reading Forum** promotes a passion for reading and intellectual curiosity.

At SIU, English is more than a discipline—it's a journey of self-discovery. The department empowers students to dream, learn, and lead, making language and literature a lifelong passion and purpose.



Student Excellence Award Ceremony- a pioneering effort to honor and celebrate students' outstanding achievement

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Time flies!

Our days were quite good. We had classes, then we all hung out and had a great time. I was a bit of a lazy student; I attended all my classes and never skipped any. My goal was to gain experience, which is why I got involved in extracurricular activities from the beginning of my journey. As a result, I feel like I've been able to differentiate myself a little and improve. It seems to me that these four years of university life have passed very quickly. Still, I feel like I've accomplished a lot in this short time. As a result of regular classes, I have been able to get good results and also do well in presentations. I never missed any facilities like cultural, social, and academic programs, which were provided by the department for the students. Besides attending my classes regularly, I've improved myself in many ways by participating in various extracurricular activities. These activities have enhanced my communication skills, boosted my confidence, improved my teamwork, and helped me become more active and responsible in university life. The English Language Forum is a place where I practiced and engaged in English communication, built confidence, shared ideas and improved fluency through casual discussions. I took part in many debates and had real-life conversations. The Reading Forum motivated me to develop my reading habit. Through reading sessions and discussions, I also learned how to analyze texts, recite poems, interpret meanings, and appreciate the beauty of literature. LitVerse is another unique and exciting group that engaged me with students and mentors. The advisor asked interesting literary questions, such as about literary terms and figures of speech, and I confidently responded with my own creative answers. This interaction built my confidence, improved my comprehension, and encouraged me to think artistically. Beyond the classroom, I was introduced to experts who shared real-world insights and advanced knowledge outside the usual academic setting; mentor talks also helped. Since the beginning of university, I've taken part in many programs that have helped me grow my leadership qualities and taught me lessons on how to impress others and how to control critical situations, which are very useful in real life. Such programs include Freshers Reception, the poster presentation, which is a supreme unit, and recently, the Instant Speaking Challenge, where I got the opportunity to represent students. As a student in the English department, SIU, I can say that our department offers extensive facilities for students and extends a space of trust and support. Above all, I wish the very best of luck to my department!

Jakariya Ahmed

Roll: 36020, 4th year 2nd Semester



The *English Language Forum* is a place where students gather to practice English communication, build confidence, share ideas, nourish uniqueness and innovation, and improve fluency through casual discussions, debates, and real-life conversations.



A few glimpses of Mentor Talk — one of the leading events of the Department of English, where guidance meets inspiration and connects our students with global scholars.

A moment from the Debate...



The Department of English continues to introduce engaging and creative teaching ideas in the classroom, furthering students' confidence, critical thinking, and overall development.

English Reading Forum



The *Reading Forum* motivates students to read with understanding and curiosity.



Department of English

The Immaculate Path of Mastering Ability

As a traveller, I want to explore every corner of English Department. This glorified department not only contributes the spiritual methods but also creates the thirst of learning and reading literature.

With the feeling of deep satisfaction, I would love to express that we have been watching the outgrowth of English Family. Yes, we are family where— all the members (students) are guided by their respected teachers. However, we have many wonderful activities that always keep us a step ahead if others. Everytime I walk into my department, I feel truly proud and amazed — what do not have here? We have our **Language Forum**, **Reading Forum** and **Litverse Group**, among many other things.

Just imagine being in such an environment where learning happens naturally — even if you do not plan to, you still end up learning something new everyday. That is exactly what our English Department offers us. **Beyond the Classroom**, there are **Seminars**, **Competitions**, and many inspiring events. Recently our seniors from 3rd year 2nd semester, organised a seminar where they beautifully presented their thesis papers, which really influenced me to do research in the future.

Now, coming back to what I mentioned earlier — **Litverse**. Do you know why I am highlighting it so much? Because **Litverse** is an online platform where students actively revise, memorize, and share their thoughtful messages on what they learn.

I also want to talk about our **Reading Forum**. It is such a wonderful space where anyone can express their thoughts, share their reading experiences, and discuss books in a way that even someone unfamiliar with a text feels inspired to start reading.

Recently, our department hosted a **Guardian meeting**, and my mother attended it. When she came home, she told me how surprised and happy she was to see how respectfully our teachers spoke and created such a smooth atmosphere. She also said : "This is what true education means." hearing that made me deeply connected and proud.

Lastly, as I mentioned before that I call myself a traveller, because within my department — my second family, I love to explore, learn, and share my experiences with everyone. The word **Traveller** holds a subtle meaning for me. With pride, I say that I wish my department continues to grow, and I warmly welcome everyone to be a part of this little yet precise family.

Naima Rahman Tanni

Roll: 40022, 2nd year 2nd Semester



The Department of English embraces real-life education, taking learning beyond classrooms and into the lap of nature. Here, students explore imagery, metaphor, symbolism, personification etc. not only in books but in the living world around them — in every leaf, breeze, and birdsong. This immersive experience cultivates deeper imagination, sensitivity, and a poetic way of seeing life itself.

PROGRAMS OFFERED

B.A. (Hon's) in English

M.A. in English (Final)

M.A. in English (Preli. & Final)



The Department of English paid a heartfelt tribute to eminent scholar and writer Professor Syed Manzoorul Islam, a former member of the Academic Council of SIU. On this occasion, Professor GQM Alamgir, his childhood friend, shared cherished memories and reflections, adding warmth and depth to the moment.



Students of the Department of English showcased their confidence and spontaneity in this exciting speech event, speaking their minds with clarity and creativity. The activity nurtures swift thinking, eloquence, and the power to express ideas with impact.

Join us & Explore
your future

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A glimpse of our vibrant academic culture — Md. Tawhid Ahmed, a student of 3rd year 2nd semester confidently presenting in a seminar organized by the Department of English. Such sessions nurture rational thinking, research skills, and articulate expression, reflecting the Department's commitment to dynamic and participatory learning.

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Sylhet International University regularly hosts discussions on contemporary issues. In this photograph, Professor Md. Anwar Hossain Chowdhury, Chairman, Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education, Sylhet is seen delivering his speech at a recently organized meeting on enhancing the quality of education.

The Department of English has always prioritized research, seminars, and conferences as essential pathways to continuous learning and academic growth. In this spirit, the Department recently hosted the BELTA-SIU-THT 19th Teachers' Professional Development Conference. Here is a proud and memorable moment of welcoming the distinguished THT Team from Japan to the Department of English.



English Cultural Forum



The Department of English wholeheartedly values students' holistic development through co-curricular and cultural activities. Here's a glimpse of a vibrant cultural performance by our talented students on the occasion of the Freshers' Reception.



Poster Festival

The Department of English regularly hosts its signature **Poster Presentation Festival**, celebrating creativity, and the boundless power of imagination. True to its vision, the Department always promotes innovation and 21st-century teaching-learning skills, supporting minds that think analytically and create passionately.



Professor Dr. Mohammad Anwar Hossain, Member of the University Grants Commission (UGC), paid a visit to the Department of English during his recent official visit to Sylhet International University.

WHY STUDY ENGLISH AT SIU?

- Most affordable tuition Fees
- Scholarship upto 100%
- Highly qualified faculty
- OBE curriculum
- Research opportunities
- Free language club facilities
- Co-curricular activities
- Regular seminar, workshop arrangement
- Wide employment prospects

The Department of English regularly organizes **Guardian Meetings** to foster meaningful collaboration between teachers, students, and parents. These sessions create a valuable platform to share insights, exchange feedback, and discuss students' academic and personal growth. The Department deeply values guardians' opinions, believing their support and perspectives play a vital role in the continuous advancement of teaching and learning.



Career Talk

The Department of English remains deeply committed to preparing its students for the professional world through insightful **Career Talk** sessions. These interactive discussions connect learners with industry experts, helping them explore career paths, build confidence, and develop essential workplace skills.

SIU English Voices is a news bulletin published on December 2025 by the Department of English, Sylhet International University. It is a platform that captures the vibrant academic, cultural, and creative life of the Department of English. This bulletin highlights key events, achievements, and initiatives, reflecting the dynamic spirit and intellectual engagement of our students and faculty. We warmly invite you to read and reflect on this issue. Your valuable thoughts are greatly appreciated. Happy reading.

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