



Since 1881

THE AMERICAN COLLEGE, MADURAI

(An Autonomous Institution Affiliated to Madurai Kamaraj University)
Re-accredited (2nd Cycle) by NAAC with Grade "A" CGPA – 3.46 on a 4 - point scale

SSR Cycle – 3

Criterion VII – Institutional values and Best Practices

7.3 Institutional Distinctiveness

7.3.1 Evidences to substantiate the write-up on Institutional Distinctiveness

Draped in sylvan attire, suffused with tranquility, sprawled over sixty acres, set on the foothills of Western Ghats, stands the **SATELLITE CAMPUS**, at Chatrapatti, fifteen kilometers away from the din and bustle of Madurai city. A beacon of light to those groping in darkness, a welcome refuge to the dispossessed, a satellite-tower for those who are unreachable, and a veritable gateway of higher learning to the underprivileged rural folks. No wonder, the **SATELLITE CAMPUS** is a stark reminder of the object of the college i.e. to give students of all creeds, liberal Christian Higher Education and also the College's single-minded devotion to impart knowledge for the holistic development of learners and also socially uplift the disadvantaged lot.

Imbued with extreme sensitivity to the needs of the community and responsiveness to societal expectations, The American College founded the **SATELLITE CAMPUS**, way back in 2015 to bring the less privileged people of the neighbouring villages within the ambit of the vast canvass of 'Education.'. As it stands today, the American College is the only pioneering institute of Higher Learning which has launched an additional campus for offering the much-sought-after, socially relevant, employment-oriented undergraduate and postgraduate programmes in this part of the country

Well set in serene and picturesque environment, 'far from the madding crowd,' the **SATELLITE CAMPUS** creates the perfect atmosphere to mould the all-round personality of students. It is a boon to the rural students who prefer getting quality education in their own rural surroundings. Students from the neighbouring villages of Madurai have the privilege of studying in this idyllic setting as well.

Sculpting of the stunning ‘architectural grandeur’ of the buildings and the layout of the **SATELLITE CAMPUS** were designed by the celebrated Canadian Architect, Mr. Julian Smith, a long- time friend of the college and also the former international- exchange student from Oberlin College, Ohio, United States. In keeping with the rural surroundings, the basic style of architecture is based on the **CHETTINAD TRADITION**, constructed with techniques that respond to the local weather conditions. Planned around extensive courtyards and deeply-shaded verandahs, this campus establishes an excellent inside-outside connect bringing in ample natural light, allowing cross-ventilation and keeping the classrooms cool against the onslaught of summer heat.

Conserving and nurturing biological diversity, the eco-friendly campus displays an abundance of flora and fauna. Utmost care is taken to rear the rare flowers and medicinal plants and also conserve the wild life in the mountainous regions. Natural ponds located inside the campus enhance the tranquillity of the campus. In other words, the campus has been designed on the concept of sustainable development with adequate eco-friendly initiatives keeping in mind the future.

The **SATELLITE CAMPUS** offers ten undergraduate programmes such as Bachelor of Management Science, B.A. English Language and Literature, Bachelor of Commerce, Bachelor Commerce with Computer Application, B.Sc. Mathematics, B.Sc. Physics, B.Sc. Computer Science, Bachelor of Business Administration, Bachelor of Computer Application, and B.Sc. Data Science. Besides, Masters Programme in Business Administration is also offered here. Students have easy access to the aforesaid courses which are in great demand. But for this facility available on **SATELLITE CAMPUS**, rural students would have been forced to run from pillar to post seeking admission elsewhere.

FACILITIES PAR EXCELLENCE

Buses ply between the Main Campus and the Satellite campus transporting Students, Faculty and Staff safely for a nominal fee college collected along with semester fee. **TELFER MOOK HALL** – Hostel for boys is fully functional with all the facilities. It has well-ventilated rooms designed to accommodate around two hundred students on sharing basis, comfortable dining facility, and reading rooms, enabling and ensuring a conducive atmosphere for serious learning.

VIBRANT ACTIVITIES:

Village Adoption - To further its commitment towards social responsibility, a village has been adopted near Chatrapati, by the Service-Learning unit of The American College, for intensive social development. Students actively engage in serving these villages at the micro level, organizing awareness programmes and camps. Through volunteer services, the students create awareness about pandemics, General Hygiene, Health Care, and also help the residents of villages to keep their neighborhood clean and beautiful. Community service is a great way to help others and improve our own community,

Visit to Old-Age Homes: Driven by their ‘offices of tenderness,’ students of the SATELLITE CAMPUS visit the Old Age Homes periodically and help the inmates.

HIGHPOINTS:

The focal point of SATELLITE CAMPUS is to bridge the ever-widening gap between the urban elite and underprivileged ruralites and offer them a lot programmes on par with international standards and ward off their ‘sense of low-esteem’ that may lurk on their psyche, and ‘withdrawal symptoms’ that they may suffer from.

The SATELLITE CAMPUS has fully equipped state-of-the-art laboratories, well ventilated and spacious classrooms, a much needed Multipurpose Resource Centre for conducting seminars and conferences. These facilities foster collaborate learning, promote learning tasks across the curriculum and create novel, creative-learning opportunities. This is well backed by a strong team of highly qualified and experienced faculty who are willing to walk an extra mile for the welfare and well-being of students. The faculty-student relationship is adorably excellent.

‘Go back to the community to serve the dispossessed at their own door step’ and ‘Give back to the community’ are the lofty tasks performed by the **SATELLITE CAMPUS**. Otherwise, these first-generation learners have to take all the pains to reach out the cities looking for admission in college which may be well beyond their abilities.

In sum, the **SATELLITE CAMPUS** – is extension of the college in action. A few pages from the annals of the college prove that the history of the college has come full circle with the inception of **SATELLITE CAMPUS** in a village. Our journey in the ‘service of God and Humanity’ started in Thirumangalm, moved on to Pasumalai, then on to the Main Campus in the city, and only to move on to the SATELLITE CAMPUS in Chathrapati- a neighbouring village. This proves that the grand legacy of the American College continues farther and farther into the future.