



DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS
FACULTY OF MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES
UNIVERSITY OF DELHI, DELHI-110007



Future Ready: Industry Insights & Interview Hacks

A Guidance Session with one of our Alumni

Date: 05th April 2025

Location: Room 19, Satyakam Bhawan, University of Delhi

Type of event: Guidance Session

Duration: 02 hrs

No. of participants from our batch: 84

Departments involved: Department of Statistics

Alumni: 'Kanika Tayal'

ABOUT THE SPEAKER:

Kanika Tayal is currently working at Citi as a Manager in Model Validation, where she focuses on validating machine learning and deep learning NLP models. She completed her M.Sc. in Statistics from the Hindu College, University of Delhi, in 2021.

She has nearly four years of industry experience. Before joining Citi, she worked as a Data Scientist at HDFC Bank, where she gained deep insights into risk scorecards, campaign design, and the use of alternate data in banking.

Her areas of expertise include model validation, data science, project management, and deep learning and NLP. Outside of work, Kanika has a strong interest in public speaking.

INTRODUCTION:

Credence, the Placement Cell of the Department of Statistics at the University of Delhi, successfully hosted the first session of its flagship series, "Alum Connect", with our esteemed alumna, Kanika Tayal. Kanika is currently working as a Manager-C11 in Model Validation at Citi and is a proud alumna of the M.Sc. Statistics batch of 2021.

In this informative session, Kanika discussed her transition from campus to corporate life, focusing on various aspects of campus placements. She provided valuable tips on how students can prepare for the placement season, including insights on the interview process, what interviewers look for, and how to present oneself as a strong candidate. Additionally, she emphasized the importance of selecting the right types of projects that align with the specific industry students are targeting, as different industries require different skills and project experiences from fresh graduates.

Kanika also spoke about the growing demand for statisticians in the industry and the wide range of opportunities available today. The session was filled with practical advice, honest reflections, and motivating insights that helped students better understand the real-world applications of statistics and how to approach their careers with confidence.

KEY TAKEAWAYS:

The session mainly focused on preparation for campus placements. Kanika Tayal emphasized the importance of maintaining a strong GPA, practicing aptitude questions, and thoroughly reviewing the job description (JD) before interviews. She highlighted the value of engaging in real-world projects and having a solid understanding of basic statistics. Additionally, knowing the interviewer's background can provide an advantage. For consulting roles, students should be prepared for logical reasoning, puzzle, and estimation questions. Common positions available during campus drives include Data Analyst, Business Analyst, Consultant, and Core Data Scientist.

She also pointed out the importance of Python and SQL, noting that they are crucial for most data-related positions. Additionally, she highlighted cold emailing as an effective strategy for seeking off-campus placements and internships, encouraging students to take the initiative in building professional connections.

PARTICIPATION HIGHLIGHTS:

Participants actively engaged in the session by seeking clarifications, asking insightful questions, and sharing their perspectives on various topics related to the Data Industry. Their involvement contributed to a dynamic and thoughtful exchange of ideas, making the session both informative and interactive.

IMPACT:

The session proved to be highly informative and beneficial for the students. Some of the notable outcomes from the session are as follows:

- Students gained a better understanding of preparing for campus placements, including the importance of GPA, aptitude practice, and hands-on project experience.
- The session clarified that interview questions and expectations differ by sector, emphasizing the importance of understanding job roles.
- Overall, the session gave students more confidence and clarity to plan their placement journey effectively.

CONCLUSION:

The session was organised by Credence, the Placement Cell of the Department of Statistics at the University of Delhi. It successfully achieved its goal of providing students with valuable insights into the data industry, current job market trends, and effective strategies for placement preparation.



