B.Tech Seminar

Extract from the Academic Office web-page on B.Tech. Seminar

2.4 Seminars

Seminar is a course requirement wherein under the guidance of a faculty member a student is expected to do an **in depth study in a specialized area** by doing literature survey, understanding different aspects of the problem and arriving at a status report in that area. While doing a seminar, the student is expected to **learn investigation methodologies**, study relevant research papers, correlate work of various authors/researchers critically, study concepts, techniques, prevailing results etc., analyze it and present a seminar report. It is mandatory to give a seminar presentation before a panel constituted for the purpose. The grading is done on the basis of the **depth of the work done, understanding of the problem**, report and presentation by the student concerned.

... in depth study in a specialized area ...
Guides must ensure that topics being offered to students must be within the scope of a third year B.Tech student. It could either be an extension of what the student has learned in one of his courses or a related topic of research interest. The student must meet the guide regularly and discuss what he/she has read and understood and also clarify doubts if any.

... learn investigation methodologies ...
The basic idea of this part of the seminar is to acquaint the student of methods of carrying out a literature survey on a given topic. Methods of literature survey can include journal holding index search, books, and Internet searching (Journal/conference websites). Guide providing all the relevant literature defeats the above purpose. Some basic instructions on where/how to begin the search may be provided by the guide. The minimum number of sources of literature survey must be 5. The list may not be an exhaustive collection of papers on the topic, but a few that are of immediate relevance to the topic.

... depth of the work done, understanding of the problem ...
A student who has done a very in-depth study need not necessarily have understood the problem and vice versa. It is therefore necessary to have a balance between the depth of the work and understanding of what he/she has learned in this process. Grading is to be partly based on the depth of work done and understanding of the problem. Panelists must check whether the student has understood the problem (to the extent a third year B.Tech student is expected to) on which the "in depth" study was carried out.

Seminar Report

Students must carefully go through the report preparation guidelines given on the department web-page. All instructions must be strictly followed.

The first draft of the report complete in all respects must be submitted at least one month prior to the date of submission of the final report. The student must submit

copies of referred literature along with the report. The report must clearly spell out the problem of study, the state-of-the-art of the topic, correlate work of various researchers critically and clarify concepts and techniques. The report must reflect the students' understanding of the problem. The student is expected to write his own report. Any form of plagiarism in terms of repetition of sentences from observations, discussions, conclusions etc. from literature shall not be tolerated. Such acts shall be viewed as gross violations of the guidelines for preparation of seminar report and hence shall attract severe grade penalties disciplinary action.

Presentation

Students must carefully go through the presentation guidelines given on the department web-page. All instructions must be strictly followed. Grade penalty shall be imposed on those students who do not adhere to presentation guidelines. Students also need to make a mock presentation to the M.Tech. students one week prior to the final presentation date. This would enable the student to make corrections either in the slides or in the presentation so that he/she is better prepared for the final presentation.

Merits of evaluation

1. Regularity:

Based on:
Whether the student has kept the guide updated on his progress (at least one contact hour per week).

2) Quality of work:

Based on:
Depth of work done and understanding of the problem.
Whether the student has learnt investigation methodologies described above.

3) Quality of report:

Based on:
Whether the student has expressed his/her understanding of the topic.
Whether the student has followed the guidelines given for report preparation.

4) Quality of presentation:

Based on:
Whether the student has been able to express his/her understanding of the topic.
Whether the student has been able to satisfactorily answer questions of the panel members.

The Chairman of the panel shall award one grade penalty for gross violations of the presentation guidelines.

Evaluation weightages

Merit of evaluation	Guide	Examiner	Panel member
Regularity	15%	-	-
Quality of work	15%	15%	10%
Quality of report	10%	15%	-
Quality of presentation	-	-	20%