



Study Abroad Seminar 2026

Place: 206, Seminar Hall

Date: 16th March 2026, 10:00 am

E-cell MSIT has conducted a “**Study Abroad**” seminar with the objective of guiding students who aspire to pursue higher education overseas under the guidance of E-cell convener Prof. Neeru Rathee. In today’s globalized world, international education has become increasingly significant, offering students exposure to diverse cultures, advanced academic systems, and enhanced career opportunities. Recognizing this importance, the seminar was organized primarily for pre-final and final-year students who are in the crucial phase of making decisions about their future academic and professional paths.

The event commenced on a formal and respectful note. Chris Lewis, the guest speaker, was warmly welcomed with a floral bouquet by the President of the Entrepreneurship Cell. Following this, another bouquet was presented to the South Asian representative of IDP, acknowledging their role in supporting students in their journey toward studying abroad.

The seminar aimed to provide students with practical insights into international education systems, focusing on the advantages of studying at globally recognized institutions. It also sought to create awareness about how universities abroad integrate academic learning with real- world experience, thereby preparing students for successful careers.



The keynote speaker for the seminar was Chris Lewis, who serves as the Executive Director at Swinburne University. He holds a Master of Education (Management and Leadership) from the University of Sydney and a Master of Business Management from Monash University. With his extensive experience in the field of higher education, he brought valuable knowledge and perspective to the session.

Chris Lewis began his address with a light-hearted remark about his speaking style. He mentioned that he tends to speak quickly, comparing himself to an Australian fast bowler. He explained that once he gathers momentum, it becomes difficult for him to slow down. This humorous analogy immediately captured the attention of the audience and helped create a relaxed and engaging atmosphere.

His approachable and energetic style made the session more interactive and less formal, encouraging students to listen attentively. By blending humor with information, he ensured that the audience remained engaged throughout his presentation.



1. Key Points Discussed by the Speaker

1.1 Emphasis on Practical Learning

One of the main highlights of Chris Lewis's presentation was the emphasis on practical learning. He explained that Swinburne University strongly focuses on bridging the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical application. Unlike traditional education systems that often prioritize

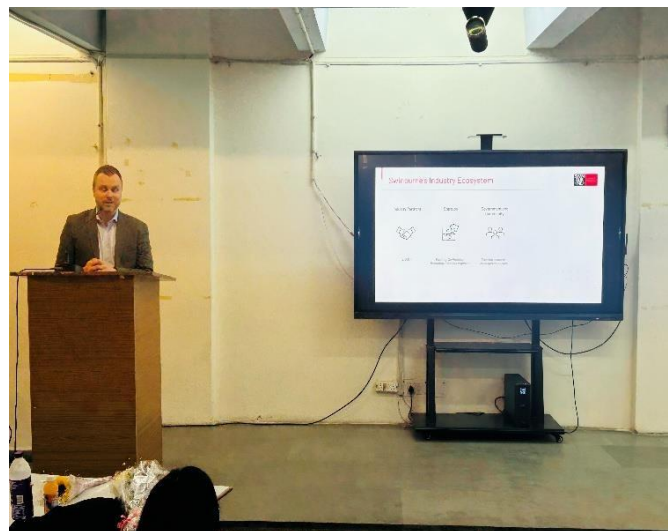
classroom learning, the university ensures that students gain hands-on experience during their course of study.

He clearly stated that no student completes their course without acquiring some level of professional experience. This approach ensures that students are not only academically qualified but also possess the practical skills required in the workplace. Such a system prepares students to face real-world challenges with confidence and competence.

1.2 Industry Partnerships

Another significant aspect highlighted during the seminar was the university's collaboration with a vast network of industry partners. Chris mentioned that Swinburne University has partnerships with approximately 2,600 industry brands. These collaborations provide students with numerous opportunities to engage in internships, live projects, and work placements.

Through these partnerships, students gain exposure to real-world work environments, which enhances their understanding of their chosen fields. It also increases their employability, as they graduate with both academic knowledge and practical experience. This strong industry connection is one of the key factors that makes the university stand out.



1.3 Career-Oriented Approach

Chris Lewis also emphasized that the university adopts a career-oriented approach to education. The curriculum is designed in alignment with industry requirements, ensuring that students develop relevant skills that are in demand in the job market.

By integrating professional experience into academic programs, the university helps students build a strong foundation for their careers. This approach not only benefits students academically but also give them a competitive edge in the global job market.

1.4 Interaction with Students

At the end of his presentation, Chris Lewis invited students to ask questions. However, during the formal session, no students came forward with queries. This may have been due to hesitation or lack of immediate questions in a large group setting.

Despite this, the seminar proved to be effective, as several students approached him individually after the session. These personal interactions allowed students to ask specific questions and gain clarity on topics such as course selection, admission procedures, and career opportunities. This indicates that the session successfully generated interest among the attendees.

2. Relevance of the Seminar

The seminar was particularly beneficial for pre-final and final-year students who are considering pursuing higher studies abroad. At this stage, students often seek guidance regarding universities, courses, and career prospects. The session provided them with valuable insights into how international education systems function.

The emphasis on practical learning and industry exposure highlighted the advantages of studying at institutions like Swinburne University. Students were able to understand the importance of gaining professional experience alongside academic qualifications.

Additionally, the presence of IDP representatives added further value to the seminar, as they assist students with applications, documentation, and the overall process of studying abroad. Their involvement ensured that students had access to reliable guidance and support.



In conclusion, the study abroad seminar was an informative and well-structured event that effectively addressed the needs of students aspiring to study overseas. The session provided a clear understanding of the benefits of international education, particularly the importance of practical learning and industry integration.

Chris Lewis's engaging presentation style and informative content made the seminar both enjoyable and insightful. His emphasis on ensuring that students gain professional experience before graduating highlighted a crucial aspect of modern education.

Although the formal question-and-answer session saw limited participation, the individual interactions that followed demonstrated the students' genuine interest and curiosity. The seminar successfully encouraged students to explore global education opportunities and take informed steps toward their future.

Overall, the event served as a valuable platform for students, especially those in their pre-final and final years, to gain clarity and confidence in planning their higher education abroad.

