



# DEVELOPING SOFT SKILLS AND PERSONALITY

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Department of Humanities and Social Sciences  
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**INTENDED AUDIENCE :** Students, Teachers, Professionals, Trainers, Leaders, Employers

**INDUSTRIES APPLICABLE TO :** All industries/companies/organisations will recognize and value this course and recommend this for their employees and trainee programs.

## **COURSE OUTLINE :**

The course aims to cause a basic awareness about the significance of soft skills in professional and inter-personal communications and facilitate an all-round development of personality. Hard or technical skills help securing a basic position in one's life and career. But only soft skills can ensure a person retain it, climb further, reach a pinnacle, achieve excellence, and derive fulfillment and supreme joy. Soft skills comprise pleasant and appealing personality traits as self-confidence, positive attitude, emotional intelligence, social grace, flexibility, friendliness and effective communication skills.

## **ABOUT INSTRUCTOR :**

Prof. T. RAVICHANDRAN is presently a Professor of English in the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences at the Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh, India. He has written about fifty research articles/book chapters, supervised six doctoral theses, edited a special issue on Cyberpunk Literature for the Creative Forum Journal, and published a book on Postmodern Identity. He is a recipient of the Fulbright-Nehru Academic and Professional Excellence Fellowship (2014-15) for his research/teaching at Duke University, North Carolina, USA. He is honored with Champa Devi Gangwal Chair Professorship at IIT Kanpur. In his distinguished twenty-five years of teaching career, he has taught various courses in English Language and Literature. His NPTEL Video and Web courses on Communication Skills are well-acclaimed nationally and internationally. His NPTEL MOOC on Developing Soft Skills and Personality became hugely popular and well-received by about fifteen thousand participants from India and abroad

## **COURSE PLAN:**

**Week 1: Lecture 1:** Introduction: A New Approach To Learning

**Lecture 2:** Planning And Goal-Setting

**Lecture 3:** Human Perceptions: Understanding People

**Lecture 4:** Types Of Soft Skills: Self-Management Skills

**Lecture 5:** Aiming For Excellence: Developing Potential And Self-Actualisation

**Lecture 6:** Need Achievement And Spiritual Intelligence

**Week 2: Lecture 7:** Conflict Resolution Skills: Seeking Win-Win Solution

**Lecture 8:** Inter-Personal Conflicts: Two Examples

**Lecture 9:** Inter-Personal Conflicts: Two Solutions

**Lecture 10:** Types Of Conflicts: Becoming A Conflict Resolution Expert

**Lecture 11:** Types Of Stress: Self-Awareness About Stress

**Lecture 12:** Regulating Stress: Making The Best Out Of Stress

- Week 3:** **Lecture 13:** Habits: Guiding Principles  
**Lecture 14:** Habits: Identifying Good And Bad Habits  
**Lecture 15:** Habits: Habit Cycle  
**Lecture 16:** Breaking Bad Habits  
**Lecture 17:** Using The Zeigarnik Effect For Productivity And Personal Growth  
**Lecture 18:** Forming Habits Of Success
- Week 4:** **Lecture 19:** Communication: Significance Of Listening  
**Lecture 20:** Communication: Active Listening  
**Lecture 21:** Communication: Barriers To Active Listening  
**Lecture 22:** Telephone Communication: Basic Telephone Skills  
**Lecture 23:** Telephone Communication: Advanced Telephone Skills  
**Lecture 24:** Telephone Communication: Essential Telephone Skills
- Week 5:** **Lecture 25:** Technology And Communication: Technological Personality  
**Lecture 26:** Technology And Communication: Mobile Personality?  
**Lecture 27:** Topic: Technology And Communication: E-Mail Principles  
**Lecture 28:** Technology And Communication: How Not To Send E-Mails!  
**Lecture 29:** Technology And Communication: Netiquette  
**Lecture 30:** Technology And Communication: E-Mail Etiquette
- Week 6:** **Lecture 31:** Communication Skills: Effective Communication  
**Lecture 32:** Barriers To Communication: Arising Out Of Sender/Receiver's Personality  
**Lecture 33:** Barriers To Communication: Interpersonal Transactions  
**Lecture 34:** Barriers To Communication: Miscommunication  
**Lecture 35:** Non-Verbal Communication: Pre-Thinking Assessment-1  
**Lecture 36:** Non-Verbal Communication: Pre-Thinking Assessment-2
- Week 7:** **Lecture 37:** Nonverbal Communication: Introduction And Importance  
**Lecture 38:** Non-Verbal Communication: Issues And Types  
**Lecture 39:** Non-Verbal Communication: Basics And Universals  
**Lecture 40:** Non-Verbal Communication: Interpreting Non-Verbal Cues  
**Lecture 41:** Body Language: For Interviews  
**Lecture 42:** Body Language: For Group Discussions
- Week 8:** **Lecture 43:** Presentation Skills: Overcoming Fear  
**Lecture 44:** Presentation Skills: Becoming A Professional  
**Lecture 45:** Presentation Skills: The Role Of Body Language  
**Lecture 46:** Presentation Skills: Using Visuals  
**Lecture 47:** Reading Skills: Effective Reading  
**Lecture 48:** Human Relations: Developing Trust And Integrity