

**CHRIST**(DEEMED TO BE UNIVERSITY)
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Notice for the PhD Viva Voce Examination

Ms Twinkle Sara Joseph, Registration Number: 2270071, PhD Scholar at the Department of Media Studies, School of Social Sciences, CHRIST (Deemed to be University) will defend her PhD thesis at the public viva-voce examination on Thursday, 14 May 2026 at 10.00 am in Room No. 044, Ground Floor, R&D Block, CHRIST (Deemed to be University), Bengaluru - 560029, Karnataka, India.

Title of the Thesis : **The Effectiveness of Virtual Reality Training for Improving Students' Interpersonal Communication Skills and Public Speaking Abilities**

Discipline : **Media Studies**

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The members of the Research Advisory Committee of the Scholar, the faculty members of the Department and the School, interested experts and research scholars of all the branches of research are cordially invited to attend this open viva-voce examination.

Registrar (Academics)

Place: Bengaluru
Date: 04 May 2026

ABSTRACT

Communication skill is an essential component at all sectors of life from school education to job sectors. The increasing demand for this skill demands educational institutions to provide learners with training at different levels and strategies. Virtual reality is an emerging technology that immerse learners into its curriculum with realistic environments and learning modules. The medium facilitates customised learning, identifying different categories of learners. The present study is an experimental approach at identifying the effectiveness of VR training in improving communication skills among students with a specific focus on the enhancement of interpersonal communication skills and public speaking abilities. A pre- test and post- test are conducted which helps in comparing the results and understanding the improvement trajectories of the participants including their overall development. The VR training designed for 40 days reveals substantial improvements in participants highlighting the need for technological intervention in communication skill training. The in- depth interview conducted at the final phase to understand the process of skill transfer and sustainability reveals data on how successfully the acquired skills from the VR training were applied in real- life situations by each participants. By addressing the affordability and inclusivity of the medium, future studies can incorporate more immersive technologies into educational curriculum to walk with technology to generate better learning outcomes.

Keywords: *virtual reality, VR training, communication skill training, interpersonal communication skills, public speaking abilities, immersive technology*

Publications:

1. **Joseph, T. S.**, Kunnumpurath, B., Bhojan, A., & Mahalakshmi, J. (2025). AI Avatars in Immersive Environments for Communication Skill Training. In B.Sundaravadivazhagan, N. Gnanasankaran, P. Raj, & A. Saleem Raja (Eds.), *Virtual Reality and Augmented Reality with 6G Communication* (1st ed., pp. 291–327). Wiley. <https://doi.org/10.1002/9781394336081.ch12>
2. **Joseph, T. S.**, Paul, A., Sharatchandran, K., Kunnumpurath, B., & Menon, V. A. (2025). Enhancing Student Engagement and Learning Experience Through Augmented Reality: A Study on the Integration of Assemblr Studio Into Hybrid Classrooms. In J. A. Ruiz-Vanoye & O. Díaz-Parra (Eds.), *Revolutionizing Pedagogy Through Smart Education* (pp. 321–334). IGI Global. <https://doi.org/10.4018/979-8-3693-7793-2.ch015>
3. **Joseph, T. S.**, Subramani, K., & Kunnumpurath, B. (2025). User-Engaged Critical Thinking Abilities Through 360-Degree Virtual Reality Documentaries. In M. Sinha, A. Bhandari, S. S. Priya, & S. Kabiraj (Eds.), *Marketing Intelligence, Part B* (pp. 175–194). Emerald Publishing Limited. <https://doi.org/10.1108/978-1-83662-560-520251008>
4. Paul, A., Kunnumpurath, B., Balakrishnan, C., Suseelan, A., & **Joseph, T. S.** (2025). Enhancing Cultural Learning Through Spatial Audio in a Virtual Reality-Based Chettinad Experience: In T. Bradley, P. Chetti, M. Sharma, B. V. James, & S. Babu (Eds.), *Global Cultural Immersions in Learning for a Sustainable Future* (pp. 275–308). IGI Global Scientific Publishing. <https://doi.org/10.4018/979-8-3373-2508-8.ch010>
5. Effective Enhancement Of Interpersonal Communication Skills Using Virtual Reality Technology. **Twinkle Sara Joseph**, Dr Fr Biju K C. Publication date: 26/09/2025