

Session on “Existentialism and Our Modern Questions” held at IUST

Awantipora, September 09: A special interactive session was organized by the Department of Islamic Studies, Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST) on “Existentialism and Our Modern Questions” with Prof. Leila Chamankhah, Department of Philosophy, University of Dayton, USA as the Chief speaker. The session attended by students, scholars, and teachers were presided over by Dr. Munejah Khan, Associate Dean, School of Humanities and Social Sciences.

Prof. Chamankhah is a renowned scholar of Islamic Studies, Political Science, Philosophy, and Literature. Talking about the philosophy behind existentialism and its relevance to our contemporary society, she highlighted the history of existentialist philosophy and movement and shed light on German and French existentialism. The other issues she discussed included existentialism as a philosophy of life, the concepts of authenticity and absurdity, female existentialism, and black existentialism. Making a clear distinction between existentialism and nihilism, Chamankhah made it amply clear that the former should not be mistakenly conflated with the latter.

In her remarks about the session, Dr. Khan expressed her pleasure with the event and appreciated the department for inviting global scholars to interact with the students and scholars of the varsity. Welcoming the speaker, Dr. Afroz Ahmad Bisati, Head, Department of Islamic Studies said, “Through these interactions, the department aims to develop networks with international organizations and expose our students and scholars to advanced knowledge”. The session was moderated by Dr. Gowhar Qadir.