HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
POST GRADUATE PROGRAM
HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

The Department consists of five major disciplines:

- English
- Fine Arts
- Philosophy
- Psychology and Sociology

Each of these disciplines has a Ph.D. programme. The Ph.D. programme of the department is committed to producing research work of high quality in theoretical and applied fields and in interdisciplinary areas. Several doctoral dissertations produced in the Department have received encomiums in India and abroad.
POST-GRADUATE PROGRAMMES OFFERED

Ph.D. PROGRAMME

• The Ph.D. programme includes both course work and dissertation. The two-semester course work consists of a minimum of six advanced level courses. The courses are designed to enhance the students’ knowledge of their own disciplines and to expose them to new areas. After successful completion of the course work, but not later than the fifth semester, a student has to pass the Comprehensive Examination which is a necessary requirement for candidacy into PhD programme. The entire programme is expected to extend over eight to nine semesters. The following are among the important areas of specialization offered by the department.

ENGLISH


FINE ARTS

• Art History, Art Criticism, Craft theory and practice, Far-Eastern Art, Indian Art, Visual Aesthetics, Visual culture, Film Appreciation, Folk and Tribal Art, Participatory/Community Arts, Studio Art Practices, and Western Art.

PHILOSOPHY

• Ethics, Metaethics, Social and Political Philosophy, Metaphysics, Existentialism, Phenomenology, Hermeneutics, Philosophy of Language, Philosophy of Mind, Cognitive Science, Philosophy of Science, Philosophy of Social Sciences, Formal and Philosophical Logic, Epistemology, Evolutionary Epistemology (Cognitive Perceptual Mechanisms /Theories), Formal Epistemology, Social epistemology, Philosophy of Religion, Gandhian Studies, Philosophy and Literature, Plato, Aesthetics

PSYCHOLOGY

POST-GRADUATE PROGRAMMES OFFERED

SOCIOLOGY

LABS/FACILITIES

The Department has full access to the Computer Centre of the Institute. In the Department, there are three academic laboratories. The Language Laboratory is a language teaching and testing laboratory containing 50 booths. The Psychology Laboratory is well equipped for demonstration of various experiments and also has a good collection of psychological tests. The Fine Arts Studio provides facilities to the students to develop their artistic creativity. It has adequate equipment and studio space for this purpose. The Studio has built an infrastructure in the area of design development and design and aesthetics. In addition to these discipline-specific laboratories, the Department also has a general Research Laboratory facility for the administration and execution of sponsored research projects undertaken by the Faculty from time to time. Continuous modernization of the laboratories ensures that these are provided with latest equipment and facilities. For more on facilities, visit: http://www.iitk.ac.in/hss/
**FACULTY LIST**

- **Bagad, Prashant** (University of Southampton): Aesthetics, Philosophy and Literature, Existentialism, Gandhian Studies, Plato.
- **Bhushan, Braj** (Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar Bihar University): Cognitive Neuropsychology, Cognitive Factors in Design, Trauma Psychology.
- **Chandran, Mini** (University of Kerala): Modern British Literature, European Literature, Indian Literature & Aesthetics, Translation Studies.
- **Chatterjee, Esha** (University of Maryland, College Park): Demography; Gender, Work, and Family.
- **Chattopadhyay, Sayan** (University of Cambridge): Indian Writings in English, Postcolonial Studies, Life Writings, Literature of Colonial Bengal.
- **Jha, Munmun** (University of Glasgow): Indian Society, Human Rights, Social Movements, Design Anthropology.
- **Lakshmana R. P.** (University of Hyderabad): Reading strategies, Reading strategy instruction, Critical reading, Academic writing, Classroom research, Teacher education, English Language Teaching.
- **Mathur, Suchitra** (Wayne State University): Indian Writing in English, Feminism and Standpoint Theory, Dalit Studies.
- **Neelakantan, G.** (IIT Kanpur): Twentieth and Twenty-first Century American Literature, Modernism and Post-Modernism, American Jewish Literature, Memory Studies, Trauma Studies, and Literary Theory.
- **Priya, Kumar Ravi** (University of Delhi): Disaster Psychology and Disaster Management, Cultural Psychology, Health Psychology and Alternative Paradigms of Psychology.
- **Puttaswamy, Chaithra** (SOAS, University of London): Language Documentation and Description, Historical Linguistics, Language Typology, Language contact, Dravidian Linguistics.
- **Ravichandran, T.** (Pondicherry University): Postmodern American Literature,
FACULTY LIST

Literary Theory, Ecocriticism, Posthumanism, Climate Fiction, Cyberpunk Literature, Indian Writing in English, Anthropocene Literature

- **Sam, Jillet Sarah** (University of Maryland, College Park): New Media Studies, Sociology of Money, Social Geography, Sociology of Consumption.
- **Saraswat, Lalit** (IIT Bombay): Philosophy of Science (Biology), the relevance of Evolutionary Biological Theories for understanding the nature and origin of Perception, Cognition, the notion of Emergence, Causation (multi-level), Creativity, along with interests in the conceptual issues in Neurophilosophy, Neuroethics, and Genetics.
- **Sahu, Vineet** (University of Hyderabad): Philosophy of Mind, Ethics, Political Philosophy, Philosophy of Social Sciences and Philosophical Anthropology.
- **Sengupta, Rajarshi** (University of British Columbia): Printmaking, Art History and theory, Artisanal histories, Textiles, Theory-practice interface.
- **Somokanta, Thounaojam** (Central University of Gujarat): Discourse analysis of water governance, shifting ecofeminist discourse and emerging debates over dam removals.
- **Sushruth Ravish** (IIT Bombay): Moral epistemology, Metaethics, and Social epistemology.
- **Swaranakar, Pradip** (IIT Kanpur): Environmental Sociology, Social Network Analysis.
Eligibility criteria for PhD Admissions in the Humanities and Social Sciences

Applications to the PhD programme in HSS are screened on the basis of a written exam and, if shortlisted based on your performance in the exam, an interview. The following are the eligibility criteria for appearing in the entrance exam. If you meet these criteria, you will be invited to appear for the exam in the discipline to which you have applied.

• A master's degree in any subject
• Minimum 55% marks or a minimum CPI of 6 on a 10-point scale in the master's degree
• One of the following, unless you have a master’s degree from the IITs in any subject with a CPI of at least 8:
  • JRF/NET certification in the discipline to which you are applying. The NET certificate should be less than five years old at the time of application.
  • A valid GATE (Humanities and Social Sciences) score in the discipline to which you are applying
  • You do not require NET or GATE certification if you have a master’s degree from the IITs in any subject with a CPI of at least 8.
• Those applying under the SC/ST and OBC-NCL categories require only passing marks in their master’s degrees. In addition, they must have NET certification (less than five years old at the time of applying) or a valid GATE (X/H) score in the discipline to which they are applying.

• You can find the link to the online application portal here: https://iitk.ac.in/doaa/pgadmission/index.php
HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES DEPARTMENT

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