



HSNC University, Mumbai

A NEW ERA IN EDUCATION

SCHOOL OF INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

Introduces

MASTERS OF ARTS IN LIBERAL STUDIES

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Why Liberal Studies?

The HSNC University's M.A. in Liberal Studies is a two-year post-graduate interdisciplinary programme curated by experts who have spent decades learning, teaching and producing interdisciplinary knowledge. Globally, liberal education is propounded as a directionary tool for critical and analytical growth. With its critical and interdisciplinary ethos, it has brought about changes in disciplines and universities across the globe.

An MA in Liberal Studies will enable students to engage, learn and grow with the help of our experienced faculties, institutional resources and overall structural support. Eventually, it will help them develop their critical and analytical abilities with key interdisciplinary skills to meet global requirements. Lastly, and most importantly, learners will become compassionate and empathetic citizens who will want to better our worlds.

HSNC University is one of the very few public universities offering a programme in liberal education. There is huge local and global demand for graduates with interdisciplinary skills. Academia and Higher education remain one of the top industries for graduates from such a programme. The demand for graduates is also seen in research organizations, non-governmental organizations, public policy think tanks, journalism, software and technology, design, and more. The faculty and staff at HSNC University will continue to provide career avenues for learners and graduates to thrive.

HSNC University at its core believes that more and more programmes should become interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary. These are the visions of this university. This programme will be a milestone in these endeavors.



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About HSNCU, Mumbai

The Hyderabad (Sind) National Collegiate (HSNC) Board is one of the most prominent education Boards of Maharashtra that has set up 17 educational institutions in and around Mumbai. In the year 2019, the HSNC Board completed 70 years of its educational journey and finally achieved the dream of its Founders- the establishment of a new State Cluster University - the Hyderabad Sind National Collegiate University (HSNC University).

The HSNC University has been approved by RUSA and the Government of Maharashtra and is the Second State Cluster University to be set up in the State, with the Hon. Governor of Maharashtra as its Chancellor and eminent industrialist, Dr Niranjan Hiranandani as its First Provost. The HSNC University comprises renowned South Mumbai colleges like H.R.College of Commerce & Economics as its Lead college and K.C.College of Arts, Science and Commerce and Bombay Teachers's Training College as its constituent colleges.

This multi-faculty University aims to set new paradigms of education. It wishes to harness the energy and enthusiasm of the young, dynamic population of India and guide it towards the path of learning and success.



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Profile of Chancellor, Shri Bhagat Singh Koshyari

Shri Bhagat Singh Koshyari who assumed the office of the Governor of Maharashtra in September 2019, brings with him a vast and varied experience of public service. Born in Palanadhura Chetabgarh, Bageshwar District, Uttarakhand on June 17, 1942, Governor Koshyari had his higher secondary education in Uttarakhand.

He was elected as the General Secretary of the Student's Union while studying at Almora College between 1961-62.

Shri Bhagat Singh Koshyari had a passion for teaching and worked as a lecturer at the Raja Inter College, Raja Ka Rampur, Etah district, Uttar Pradesh for a few years. He possesses a flair for journalism and writing. He pursued this passion by becoming the Founder and Managing Editor of 'Parvat Piyush', weekly a published from Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand since 1975. He thus had a successful career as teacher, author and journalist.



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Provost, Dr Niranjan Hiranandani

HSNC University, Mumbai strives to emerge as a centre for interdisciplinary, inclusive and integrated learning that will lead students onwards on the path of achieving their dreams. A return to interdisciplinary education and learning were the fundamental visions of the HSNC Board, even before the inception of the HSNC University. The Masters programme in Liberal Studies has been a long awaited dream that has now been realized. A two-year M.A. in Liberal Studies focused on criticality, interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary approaches, will enable a paradigm shift in our education system. This shift will not only meet global demands but also inculcate lifelong skills in the learners making them industry-ready.

The course structure, curriculum and pedagogical practices have been carefully deliberated upon and designed by renowned educators who have worked at the intersection of social sciences, humanities and natural sciences. The Advisory Board comprising Dr Gita Chadha, Sociologist; Dr K. Sridhar, Physicist; and Chayanika Shah, Physicist and Queer Feminist activist, have shared their vision and imagination of an interdisciplinary approach to education and I am truly thankful for their efforts. I am confident that this programme will create ripples in the education system. The graduates will be critical and analytical thinkers with interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary perspectives; their industry-readiness will allow them to be leaders; and enable them to address critical social realities.

I convey my best wishes for the programme to grow in leaps and bounds and for more and more of our students to benefit from it.



Vice Chancellor, Dr. Hemlata Bagla

The times are changing and as educationists, we need to be aligned with the dynamics of research, innovation, pedagogy and new trends in academia. The HSNC University is a legacy of more than six decades of quality and accessible education of premiere educational institutions of H.R. College, K.C. College & BTT College. This rich experience helps us in crafting some of the most innovative and state of the art academic and professional courses. A culmination of extensive and intensive discussions, debates and discourses has been the two-year postgraduate interdisciplinary programme - M.A. in Liberal Studies. This programme is a milestone in India's education system with HSNC being the first University in Maharashtra and one of the very few Public Universities in India to offer a liberal education programme at a post-graduate level. Our approach to this programme is rooted in criticality, interdisciplinarity and transdisciplinarity.

The faculty, experts and advisors affiliated with this programme believe in and have themselves worked at the intersections of various disciplines, including, Physics, Chemistry, Sociology, Anthropology, Biology, Queer Studies, Media and Feminist Studies and more. This programme houses a progressive and critical thought. We are assured that graduates from this programme will be in great demand across industries and will also find growth avenues in their chosen fields.



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Academic Coordinator, Dr Leena Pujari

Two years of intense deliberations and discussions have culminated in this enriching two year Post Graduate Programme in Liberal Studies. Since long, rigidly drawn academic boundaries have precluded attempts at building dialogues and solidarities across disciplines. This programme seeks to transgress those boundaries and is about integrated forms of teaching, learning and research. It seeks to re-imagine learning in ways that enable students to have a compassionate view of complex social realities and engage with novel ways to address them. We believe that complexity needs to be perceived through different prisms leading to a nuanced, well informed and holistic understanding. Criticality, reflexivity and imagination are the defining components of this programme.

The courses have been thoughtfully designed by experts drawn from diverse fields of inquiry. A wonderful mix of core courses and electives along with innovative, critical and transformative pedagogies will make learning an immersive, engaging and enriching experience for the participants of this programme. I thank Dr Hemlata Bagla, Vice Chancellor, HSNCU for her unwavering support and encouragement and for taking a keen interest in this programme. I immensely thank our stellar team of advisors Dr Gita Chadha, Dr Chayanika Shah and Dr Sridhar for their vision and imagination and for making this happen.



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Programme Vision

This programme envisages the idea of holistic and integrated learning aimed at breaking disciplinary silos between pure sciences, social sciences and humanities. The programme seeks to re-imagine learning in ways that foster intellectual curiosity, ability to raise critical questions and most important to develop a sense of social justice, equity and empathy while engaging with complex global realities. We envision graduates to participate meaningfully across industries and sectors given the interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary ethos of the programme. Diversity and inclusion would be the key components of this programme with an emphasis on critical and reflexive approaches to learning.

Programme Objectives

- To transcend disciplinary boundaries and enable interdisciplinary discourses, perspectives, methods of knowing and forms of analysis
- To interrogate binaries and dualisms that have long characterised knowledge production
- To have a dialogic and participatory approach to knowledge production
- To bring about a paradigm shift in pedagogical practices of teaching and learning so as to provide a meaningful learning environment.
- Students' worldview to be informed by multiple perspectives drawn from different disciplines so as to produce a richer understanding of complex social realities
- To explore untapped potential and abilities in students through multidisciplinary perspectives.

Programme Outcomes

- Will equip the students with an enriching perspective that will enable them to make connections across disciplines
- Will produce well informed and socially conscious citizens with an ability to have nuanced views on varied subjects.



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- Produce responsible and accountable citizens with a commitment to democratic values and constitutional principles.
- Build multiple skills thus enabling students to find placements in a broad spectrum of fields from governance and policy making, electronic, visual and print media, human resource and personnel management, economy, data analytics to civil society organizations.

Who is this programme for?

This programme is for students who have graduated from across disciplines and fields of study such as Arts, Science, Commerce, Engineering, Medical, Architecture, Law, Social Work, Humanities, Pharmacy, Design Studies, and any other. The students will benefit from the interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary approach and be industry ready. The programme is also for those who would like to contribute to below mentioned careers.

Career Specific Programme Outcomes

- Teaching
 - Research (Qualitative, Quantitative and more)
 - Policy and Lobbying
 - Design and Implementation
 - Software and Technology
 - Content Writing/Creation
 - Civil Services
 - Media and Communication (including Journalism, Digital and Social Media)
 - Non-governmental organisations (including advocacy)
 - Climate Change and Environmental Practices
 - Human Resource and Management
 - Data Science & Analytics
 - Psychology and its allied fields including Mental Health
- and any other industry aligned with the interests of the graduate

Please reach out to liberalstudies@hsncu.edu.in for counselling and to enquire further into the programme and future prospects.

Advisory Board

The Advisory Board consists of people who are experts at the intersections of science, humanities and social sciences. Their vision and imagination has richly benefitted this programme and their attempts at conceptualizing an interdisciplinary programme that transcends rigid disciplinary boundaries and fosters conversations across disciplines have been phenomenal.



Dr Gita Chadha (Special Advisor)
Sociologist,
University of Mumbai

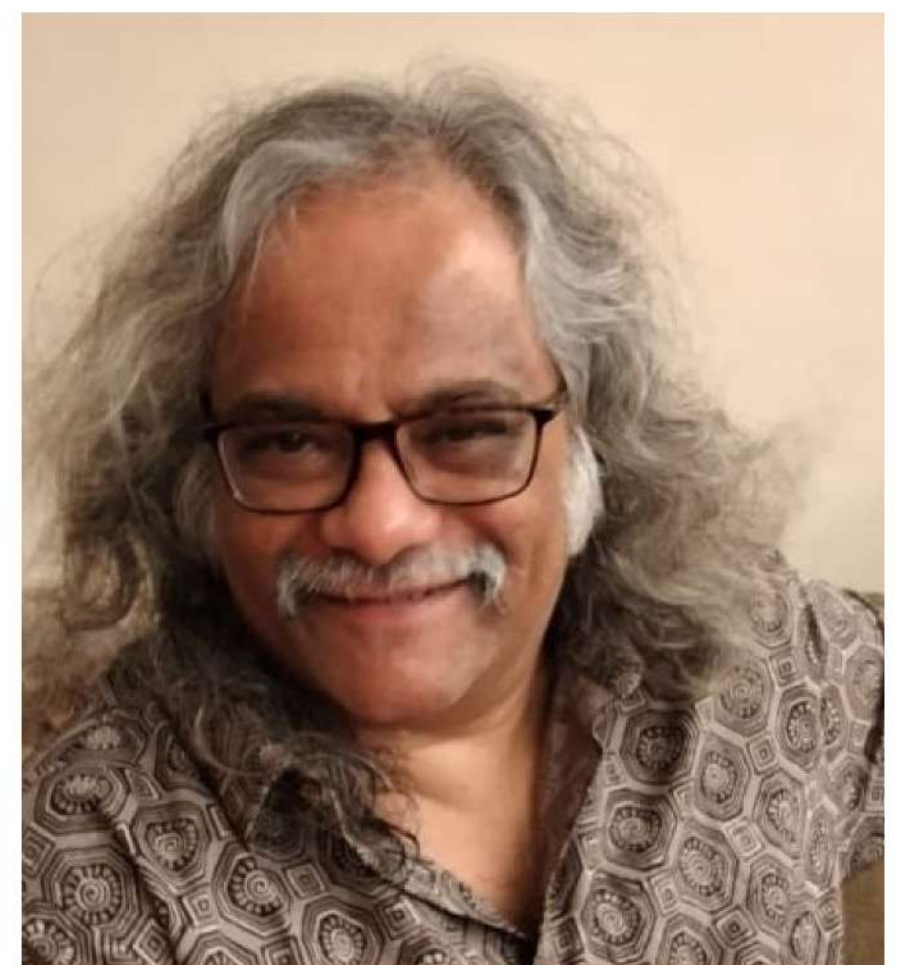
Dr Gita Chadha is a feminist sociologist. She teaches Sociology at the Department of Sociology, University of Mumbai. Her central work is in the domain of science criticism. She has contributed to building the field of feminist science studies in India. She has worked on reimagining sociology from feminist perspectives. Gita's interests also lie in visual cultures, cultural studies, pedagogy, social theory and questions of methods. Gita has designed innovative pedagogic initiatives for integrating science and social science teaching. She believes that genuine Interdisciplinarity is possible only with a firm grounding in disciplines.

Gita believes that the classroom is a site for cultural transmission and transgression.

Dr K Sridhar
Theoretical Physicist,
Azim Premji University
(formerly, Tata Institute of Fundamental Research)

K. Sridhar is a theoretical particle physicist and works at the Azim Premji University in Bangalore. He has published several papers in physics and has also published a book, Particle Physics of Brane Worlds and Extra Dimensions. He has edited a volume on Integrated Science Education, Breaking the Silo: Integrated Science Education in India.

Sridhar is also a writer of literary fiction, has published a work of fiction called Twice Written and has recently completed his second novel, provisionally entitled Ajita. He has also published several essays in the area of philosophy and he regularly writes reviews of art shows.





Dr Chayanika Shah **Physicist & Queer Feminist Activist**

Chayanika Shah is a feminist and queer rights activist, who has been involved with the women's movements in India for many years. She is an optimist activist at heart, a physicist by training and a teacher by choice. She has campaigned, researched, taught and written on politics of population control, communalism, feminist studies of science, and sexuality. She is the co-author of *No Outlaws in Gender Galaxy* (Zubaan Publications) and editor of *Space, Segregation, Discrimination* (Yoda Press).

Board of Studies

1. Dr. Leena Pujari, Associate Professor and Head, Department of Sociology, K.C College.
2. Dr Sachin Labade, Associate Professor, Department of English, University of Mumbai
3. Dr Asha Achuthan Assistant Professor, Department of Women's Studies, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai.
4. Dr. Sujata Deshpande, Assistant Professor, Department of Zoology, St. Xavier's College, Mumbai.
5. Dr Biraj Mehta, Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy, Wilson College, Mumbai.
6. Aprameya Rao, Social Media Manager, NDTV
7. Shweta Shetty, Independent Researcher

Academic Coordinators

1. Dr Leena Pujari, Academic Coordinator
2. Dr Shalini R Sinha, Academic Co-coordinator
3. Dr Nandini Sengupta, Academic Co-coordinator
4. Dr Susama Panda, Academic Co-coordinator



Course Outline

There are more than 30 courses offered in this programme along with research and dissertation. The credits of the programme are divided into: Foundation, Core, Rudimentary Tools, Electives and Research. Spread over four semesters, the programme has a total of 96 credits with 14 credits reserved for research and dissertation and 82 credits for contact teaching, tutorials and other modes of learning. The programme offers core, tools, interdisciplinary and elective courses. Four tool courses spread across semester one and two will engage learners through skill development. In these four courses, learners will engage hands-on with writing, filmmaking, non-textual ways of knowing and learning and mathematics. All courses have been designed by academic and industry experts who are themselves working at the intersections of various disciplines.

Semester 1 (20 Credits)

Foundation Papers (4 credits each)

- Philosophical Method
- Scientific Method
- Social Science Method
- Literary Method

Rudimentary Tools (2 credits each)

- Mathematical Reasoning
- Discursive Writing

Semester 2 (20 Credits)

Interdisciplinary studies (4 credits each)

- Science, Technology and Society Studies
- Cultural Studies
- Women and Gender Studies
- Development Studies

Rudimentary Tools (2 credits each)

- Audio/Visual
- Representation of knowledge

Semester 3 (26 Credits)

A Interdisciplinary studies (6 credits each)

- Environmental Studies
- Media Studies

B Elective (10 credits, any one)

- Design Studies
- Medical Studies
- Legal Studies

C. Research proposal (4 credits)

Semester 4 (30 credits)

A Elective (10 credits each, any two)

- Local, Regional, Global
- Ability, Mind and Cognition
- Law, Citizenship and Rights
- Real, Virtual, True, Fake
- Indigeneity, tribes and nativism
- Religion, Communalism and Secularism

B Research (Dissertation) (10 credits)



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Course Designers

Sr. No.	Course Designer	Designation	Course
1.	Srajana Kaikini	Assistant Professor, KREA University	Philosophical Method
2.	Sridhar K.	Professor, Azim Premji University	
3.	Chayanika Shah	Physicist and Queer Feminist Activist	Scientific Method
4.	Sridhar K.	Professor, Azim Premji University	
5.	Mitra Mukherjee-Parikh	Former Professor, SNDT University	Literary Method
6.	Akansha Tyagi	Visiting Faculty, NMIMS	Social Science Method
7.	Vijeta Kumar	Assistant Professor, St. Joseph's College (autonomous), Bengaluru	Discursive Writing
8.	Sridhar K.	Professor, Azim Premji University	Mathematical Reasoning
9.	Raile Rocky Ziipao	Assistant Professor, Indian Institute of Technology – Bombay	Development Studies
10.	Suraj Harsha	Independent researcher and Consultant	Women and Gender Studies
11.	Suraj Harsha	Independent researcher and Consultant	Cultural Studies
12.	Gita Chadha	Sociologist, University of Mumbai	Science, Technology and Society Studies
13.	Shiju Sam Varughese	Assistant Professor, Central University of Gujarat	
14.	Samina Mishra	Head, The Magic Key Centre for the Arts and Childhood; writer and teacher	Audio/Visual
15.	Suraj Harsha (mentored by Chayanika Shah)	Independent Researcher and Consultant	Representation of Knowledge



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Infrastructure and Resources:





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Eligibility

1. Candidates should have successfully completed Bachelor's Degree of three or four years duration or Master's Degree of minimum one year duration or its equivalent. Candidates in their final year of Bachelors will be eligible for provisional admission until they submit their marksheets and degree certificates.
2. Candidates should clear all their backlogs in previous semesters. For instance, candidates graduating from a 3-year degree programme should have cleared Semester 1st to 6th and those graduating from a 4-year degree programme should have cleared Semester 1st to 8th.
3. Candidates should have 55% (General category) aggregate marks in their Bachelors and 50% (for all reserved categories).
4. If at any point there are any discrepancies or misinformation found or discovered by the University, the University reserves the right to cancel their admission/application.

Admission Process

1. Counselling and Application Form
2. Personal Interview
3. Admissions

Maximum student intake: 60

Admission Schedule:

Filling up forms	14th June onwards
Counselling	14th June onwards
Interview and Admission	10th July onwards
Orientation	25th July



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Fee structure/Freeship/ Scholarship

The fees for the academic year 2022-2023 would be Rs. 1,11,000.

***Concession in fees for reserved category students shall be applicable as per govt rules duly adopted in fee fixation committee and authorities of HSNCU as applicable as per HSNCU notification.**

Student Aid - In order to further our efforts for inclusion and diversity, students at HSNC are offered a range of financial aid with respect to their financial needs. Please reach out to us at liberalstudies@hsncu.edu.in to seek financial aid and fee waiver

Frequently Asked Questions

1) How can I make sure that it is safe for my career to be in the first batch of the program?

HSNC University, Mumbai is a culmination of three prestigious colleges, namely, H.R. College, KC College, Bombay Teachers' Training College. All three colleges are accredited A grade by NAAC three times in a row. They also run PG courses in diverse fields which are operating smoothly. This particular program of MA in Liberal Studies is shaped by eminent personalities in the field. The programme goes one step ahead in providing placement avenues to the students.

2) I am unable to afford the fees for the two year programme, are there any provisions for the same?

We believe it is pertinent that financial conditions do not limit students from applying for this programme. We have a range of financial aid and scholarships to offer.

3) I am not from Mumbai. Is this a residential programme?

No, it is not a residential programme, however, you need to be in Mumbai. Please contact the Coordinator if you need our assistance in finding accommodation.

4) Does this programme offer a part-time option for working professionals?

No, this programme as per the UGC guidelines is a full-time programme which does not allow working professionals to pursue this course.

5) I am already a graduate/post-graduate. How does this programme add value to my skills?

This programme promises learning and skill development across disciplines. Our 30+ courses spread over four semesters highlight the same.