

BA in Sustainable Urbanism (BA-SU)

Ambedkar University Delhi's Undergraduate Studies programmes at our Karampura Campus aim to offer its students a unique liberal arts education that acquaints them with diverse approaches to knowledge. The undergraduate programmes at AUD encourage students to think critically and creatively, to analyse and reason, to communicate effectively, and to draw evidence-based conclusions. It aims to achieve a balance between the range and depth of the subjects studied.

The unique aspect of Undergraduate programmes at AUD is that there are common courses for foundational skills comprising language, writing skills, communication skills, analytical reasoning as well as introductory orientation to the social sciences. This is done through a blend of common foundational courses, languages, Major courses and a wide range of elective courses. Students experience the flexibility of choosing courses from more than one interdisciplinary area in order to develop a broader perspective on social sciences and humanities. They also have the opportunity to transfer from one programme to another, provided they meet certain criteria.

The AUD Karampura Campus undergraduate programmes are delivered through a total of 96 credits over six semesters to be earned in the following manner:

Courses	Minimum Credits
Foundation Courses	24
Major Courses	48
Non-Major courses offered at Karampura Campus, AUD by the various undergraduate programmes.	24

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The progressive urbanisation of the world's population has multiple implications that range from the social to the ecological. Even as cities are widely seen as the embodiment of aspiration, infrastructures are severely under stress and ecological crisis, manifesting in many instances through disasters, awaits the urban future. South Asia is home to five of the ten largest megacities in the world, even as smaller urban centres are growing faster.

There is a clear need for a cadre of engaged practitioners to respond to the urban challenge. The BA in Sustainable Urbanism is designed to prepare technically strong, analytical, and socially-engaged practitioners. Graduates should be in a position to evaluate existing urban technologies in terms of their design, social interests, and control including the potential for democratic governance. The programme draws on the broad fields of urban studies, sustainability and planning, while adapting them to the specific Indian urban context. Existing programmes in the

field require a background in the sciences in school, thus closing the field to a great number of school graduates. In encouraging students from all disciplinary backgrounds to apply, we believe that the humanities are as critical to urban practice as are its more technical aspects.

We realise that many of our graduates may not immediately seek higher education upon finishing their undergraduate degree. It is therefore our special emphasis to prepare them for the world of work in the field and beyond. Three elements of the programme follow from this: first, the strong skill component. Each graduate will undertake 16 credits of coursework in various analytical methods—quantitative, ethnographic, mapping, and visualisation—using tools like ArcGIS. Second, several courses are designed to offer a glimpse of the world of work through practice-oriented content and field engagement. These include courses in areas like waste and sanitation, housing, and ecology. Third, a practicum component based on groupwork includes 8 credit of studio projects.

BA-SU Programme Structure

Students admitted to Sustainable Urbanism will complete their discipline requirement by taking four courses each in the following three core areas: 1) Urbanism and Governance; 2) Technology and Environment; 3) Analytical Skills. Details of courses under each of these are as follows (precise titles and content may change over time):

<i>Urbanism and Governance</i>	<i>Technology and Environment</i>	<i>Analytical Skills</i>
ways of living and belonging in urban worlds, and their legal and administrative environments	urban infrastructures and technologies, the biophysical context and materiality	sharpening analytical skills to prepare for research and the world of work
Urban Worlds	Urban Metabolism	Working with numbers
Urban Planning and Municipal Governance	Housing	Oral histories and everyday narratives
Right to the City	Waste and Sanitation	Basics of Mapping
Land, Property and Real Estate	Risk and Resilience	Advanced Mapping and Visualisation

Electives on offer will be of two kinds: those in areas within the two domains and related skills, and those collaboratively developed with other BA programmes at Karampura and with AUD's Centres in crossover areas.

Studios: Two of the final year core courses will be transacted in studio mode. These courses will involve collaborative work around questions emerging from engagement with a specific site. This includes delineating the problem, breaking it down into different components, drawing on diverse material—especially local knowledges—to understand each part, and using domain knowledge to iteratively generate practical responses.

Graduate Paths:

Experts consulted during course planning have highlighted the growing opportunities available to graduates in the field, from municipalities to civil society and consultancies. A background in requisite skills, domain knowledge, and practical familiarity with the urban administrative landscape will place our graduates at an advantage in growing areas like waste management, low-cost housing, transportation, and climate-resilient urban design.

On the other hand, for those graduates who choose to continue on to PG programmes, there are several opportunities at hand:

- 1) Continue in the field at AUD with the MA in Urban Studies programme, also on the anvil. We hope to offer a five-year integrated option for interested students who maintain a prescribed GPA.
- 2) Move to other programmes in broadly-related interdisciplinary fields such as Development Studies, Environment and Development, Social Design, Global Studies at AUD, or similar programmes at institutions like TISS, Azim Premji etc.
- 3) Shift to discipline-focused masters programmes in fields like Sociology, Political Science, Geography etc, to which end, the foundation, some of the core courses, and open electives act as preparation.

In short, this is a relatively-new but growing area of interest with a clear link to practice, while AUD's stamp of strong foundations in the liberal arts adds a unique signature to the programme.

Additional Information

Total Seats: 50 seats at Karampura Campus

Medium of instruction: English

Eligibility: The candidate must have passed the class XII or an equivalent examination from a recognised Board and secured the minimum cut-off marks prescribed by the University.

Fees: Tuition fee of Rs.1,34,400/- (@Rs. 1400/- per credit i.e. Rs. 22,400/- per semester) + Rs. 5000/- (one-time, refundable caution deposit) + Rs.500/- per semester for student welfare fund. If a student opts for extra credits, an additional fee of Rs.1400/- per credit will have to be paid.

Partial/Full fee waiver and scholarships are available. Full fee waiver of tuition fee will be extended to students belonging to SC/ST/PwD categories.

Selection procedure: The selection will be based on merit on the basis of the marks obtained in class XII, which will not include any vocational subject.

Reservations norms of Government of NCT of Delhi will apply.