

MA Development Studies, School of Development Studies

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS

School of Development Studies (SDS)

School of Development Studies was one among the first Schools that were created at Ambedkar University Delhi. Over the years the School has made its presence felt in India and abroad by intensely engaging with different development questions from an interdisciplinary perspective.

Ambedkar University Delhi began its operation by offering a Post Graduate Diploma in Development Studies. At present, School of Development Studies offers a MA and PhD in Development Studies. Both the programmes equip students with the ability to do research and address the challenges of development and public policy as they affect developing societies. The programmes are structured around development theory, an understanding of growth and development, and broad debates around the structures of economic and political arrangements epitomised by states, markets and society.

The Faculty members at School of Development Studies (SDS) are highly qualified and are drawn from premier academic institutions in India and abroad. It is an optimal combination of experience and youth, teaching with field-based research. They are from the broad domains of development studies, economics, sociology and political science.

MA Development Studies

The two-year MA Development Studies Programme is transacted through classroom lectures, workshops, seminars, and field projects. The programme emphasises research and analytical skills, oral and written communication, and exposure to development practice. The programme lays a strong emphasis on training students in social research in the broad space of development.

Programme structure

Core (Compulsory) Courses: 8 (Total credits: 32)

Optional/Elective Courses: 22 credits

Internship: 2 credits

Dissertation (including 2 credits Dissertation Writing Workshop course): 8 credits

Each course offered under this programme is structured around a range of topics (or modules). Whereas 4 credit courses are transacted through 4 contact hours each week throughout the semester, 2-credit courses involve 2 contact hours per week for the whole semester or 4 contact hours per week for half semester. Study modules are a combination of lectures, student presentations and classroom discussions. Students are expected to read 50-100 pages for each module. Optional courses are offered in the areas of expertise of faculty members. Guest faculty is frequently invited to supplement the knowledge and provide exposure to the world of practice. Faculty members of SDS are actively involved in mentoring and guiding students for course work, internship, and dissertation. While the teaching schedule includes specified hours for classroom interaction, students are encouraged to consult faculty members outside the classroom

space. Students with language difficulties receive special attention from faculty members. When possible, field trips are organised keeping academic interest in mind. Field trips involve close interaction with and teaching of students in an extra-mural environment.

Careers

After successful completion of the MA in Development Studies programme, it is expected that graduates will be equipped to work in development organisations, government agencies, corporations and financial institutions, non-government organisations, consultancy firms, civil society initiatives, media, and academia.

Eligibility

BA with at least 45 per cent marks (or equivalent grade) from a recognised University in any discipline (relaxation of 5 per cent for candidates belonging to ST/ SC/ PWD categories).

Candidates appearing for the final year examination of degree programme can also apply.

Total seats: 42

Medium of instructions: English

Fees:

Tuition fee of Rs. 100480/- (Rs. 25120/- per semester i.e. Rs 1570/- per credit) + 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.1570/- 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.

Instructions for Entrance Examination:

Selection for this programme will be done through a combination of multiple criteria. The entrance test will comprise of essay type questions based on readings uploaded in the website in advance and multiple choice questions around general awareness of developmental issues and logical reasoning and quantitative ability. Candidates shortlisted based on written test performance will be called for personal interview where their aptitude and orientation towards development studies will be assessed. Appearing for the interview is mandatory for shortlisted candidates to be considered for admission. Final selection will be based on performance of candidates in both written test and interview. Candidates are advised to regularly check the relevant pages of AUD website for additional information that may be updated from time to time.

