

Information for Applicants to the MA History Programme

1. Eligibility requirements and dates of admission have already been communicated on AUD admissions page. Kindly take a careful note of dates for entrance examination and interviews. The page will also be regularly updated with list of eligible candidates and venue for entrance examinations and interviews. After the completion of entrance examination and interview process, a merit list of students who will be offered admission in the first cutoff will be uploaded on admissions page. Applicants should keep checking the website for subsequent lists subject to vacant seats.
2. Admission to the programme is through an entrance process involving a written entrance examination and an interview. Merit lists are prepared in various categories. 75% of each candidate's 'marks' come from the written entrance examination and 25% of 'marks' come from an entrance interview of 10-20 minutes for each candidate. No candidate can be offered admission unless s/he has participated in both parts of the entrance procedure on the announced dates/occasions. AUD also follows reservations norms of Delhi government.
3. *The written/entrance examination* is designed to assess (a) candidate's capacity for reading comprehension and critical reflection, and (b) his/her ability to address or make sense of the information, debates and 'issues' that are typically part of undergraduate history curricula in Indian universities. Applicants from 'non-History' backgrounds could be as well suited as History students to answering the examination questions.
4. *MA History entrance examination consists of several questions in two parts*; Part A is a **reflective reading exercise**: a text of 1-2 paragraphs in English is given along with a specific question or questions for the candidate to answer about that text. This requires interpretation of a text in light of facts or knowledge about the text and the candidate is expected to offer a judgment or opinion about the question(s) asked. The candidate is expected to offer reasons or 'grounds' for his/her opinion that would be acceptable from the standpoint of historical reasoning or understanding. Part B consists of several **free response questions**. The questions could relate to *several periods* of Indian and world history as well as to several genres (or types) of history, such as political history, economic history, cultural history, gender history, environmental history, etc. Answers will be marked according to the candidate's effectiveness in relating facts to judgments or interpretations and to the candidate's demonstration of her/his capacity for historical reasoning. Candidates could debate or disagree with the premises of any question. Very lengthy answers might not receive accordingly higher marks than shorter ones.
5. Lists of candidates scoring minimum eligible marks on the written examination—and consequently eligible for interview—will be communicated on the website according to the schedule on AUD admissions page.
6. The *interview part* of admission could involve follow-up questions from the written examination. It could involve some evaluation of a candidate's interests in history and her/his reading on those topics/periods/issues. It could involve questions intended to assess a candidate's understanding of the present (e.g., 'India today', 'current global events') in relation to past.

7. A sample question paper has been uploaded on MA History tab of PG admissions on AUD admissions page.

Dated: 12 June 2018