

M. A. Performance Studies, 2022-2024

School of Culture and Creative Expressions

The School of Culture and Creative Expressions (SCCE) is visualized as a location that implements a new vision of art pedagogy and practice in the country. The School will provide a nurturing ground for the development of new and different art-making practices and theoretical insights across the areas of Visual Art, Literary Art - Creative Writing, Performance and Cinematic Art.

M. A. Performance Studies

MA in Performance Studies is a unique programme and the first of its kind in India. In the present context of globalized culture and its products to study it in transition and to reconnect with

society, "Performance Studies" has been established as a discipline in many renowned universities. "Performance Studies" being an interdisciplinary field of research, draws on the social sciences, the humanities, art and theatre. It focuses on the pervasiveness of performance as a central element of social and cultural life, including not only theatre and dance but also such forms as rituals and practices of everyday life, avant-garde performance art, popular entertainment, sports, political demonstrations and potentially any instance of expressive behaviour or cultural enactment. Thus, the programme aims to contribute to the development of engaged scholarship in the field with a unique perspective given the rich and varied experience situated in and informed by the culture and heritage of India. This programme allows the students to develop unique critical thinking in the field of performance, which can be further implemented in their own practice.



Medium of Instruction

English

Seats

18

Eligibility

The minimum eligibility criterion is a B.A. degree in any discipline with pass marks (or an equivalent grade) from a recognized university. Candidates must display a keen interest in literary history and genericity, in addition to some knowledge and appreciation of a range of literary texts. Candidates appearing for the final year examination of a degree can also apply.

Structure

The Programme is of two years duration with four semesters. A semester is 16 weeks long. A 4-credit course meeting twice a week for the duration of a semester enables students to earn these credits. Students should register for a minimum of 16 credits each term and need to earn 64 credits to complete the programme successfully. They may register for more credits on payment of extra fees.

All students of SCCE in the four different MA programmes offered need to take three common Foundations courses, one each in the first three semesters, for 12 credits in all. In the spirit of fostering interdisciplinary learning, they are encouraged to take four Elective courses offered by the School or in any other School in the University, one in each of the four semesters, to comprise 16 credits in total. They need to take seven compulsory core courses pertaining to their respective discipline for 28 credits in total. Their MA Dissertation work in the final semester will earn them 8 credits.



Courses

The foundation courses common to all students in the School provide them with exposure to key texts in Critical Theory and Cultural Studies.

The Core Courses draw upon Theories of Performance, which provides an overview of various theories of performance, both modern and pre-modern and across the globe. It places emphasis on the theoretical developments in contemporary times, especially in the context of inter-/multi-disciplinary approaches such as the avant-garde, post-dramatic, digital and internet-based performances. History / Historiography of Performance is envisaged as an attempt to look at the history of performance breaking away from the linear model of historical studies. The advanced course, Aurality and Movement in Popular Performance is about understanding the realms of the 'aural' and of 'movement' in and as popular performance in the contemporary period, as the bearers of creative processes embedded in the social and historical context of modernity. Performance as Research conceptualises performance as research in itself rather than separating and focusing on research as a background of/ backdrop to performance practices. Reading/Decoding Performance imparts tools to critically review and interpret various kinds of performance.

Apart from these Core Courses, there is a pool of Elective Courses which explore the interdisciplinary grounds of all the four programmes at the school, which are historical, conceptual and practical in nature. Some of the elective courses offered by Performance Studies are Space and Spectatorship, Post-Dramatic Theatre, Body in Performance, Performance in Digital Age, Materiality and Performance Art, and Uses of Tradition.

Careers

On successful completion, graduates can pursue a broad range of careers. The choices could be as varied as the interests of the students. The basic thrust of the Programme is to push forward expertise and innovation in the field. They would be able to make use of the exceptional variety of critical thinking stimulated by a performance-based programme of study. This research-orientated MA programme would encourage the graduates to pursue further specialisation in the field in the form of a PhD, which in turn would create a new cluster of scholars as faculty, curators, performers, writers, directors, independent researchers and community activists in this emerging field with a strong social connect.

Fees

Tuition fees of Rs. 36,490 [(Rs. 28490/- per semester) + Rs.5000/- (one-time, refundable caution deposit) + Rs 2500/- per Extra Mural cost +Rs.500/- per semester for the student welfare fund]

If a student opts for extra credits, an additional fee per credit.
Partial/Full fee waivers and scholarships are available. Full fee waiver of tuition fees will be extended to students belonging to SC/ST/PwD categories.

Application Fees

Rs. 540/- for Unreserved candidates.

Rs 210/- for SC/ST/PwD/ D-OBC (NCL)/Defence/KM candidates.

Selection Procedure

The selection will be based on an entrance test and an interview. Reservation norms of the Government of NCT of Delhi will apply.

Application Open ONLINE (ERP- based)

Last date for filing application: Till 31 July 2022

The candidates are advised to keep visiting the AUD admissions webpage for the latest updates: https://aud.ac.in/admissions/pg_admissions/2022.

Admission Test Date

To Be Announced.

Venue of the Admission Test

AUD Kashmere Gate Campus, Delhi- 110006.

Interview Date

To Be Announced.

Instructions for Entrance Examination

The entrance test will generally check your familiarity with formal elements of various forms of performance, critical appreciation of performance genres, broad historical outlines of performance, and the development of performance studies as an academic discipline (both in the Indian and international contexts). Since M.A. Performance Studies is designed as a specialization programme, some basic familiarity with the world of performance is expected. Candidates are advised to have sustained interest and/or experience in performance practice, watching, discussing and learning about performance formally or from elders and peers.

The question paper will consist of four sections with internal choices:

Section A is on General Awareness and consists of 10 questions, carrying 2 marks each; each question is in the form of multiple-choice questions (MCQ) and carries no negative marking.

Candidates may be asked to identify performances, performers and allied questions regarding various performance genres. [Total = 20 Marks]

Section B is of short/brief descriptions and consists of 6 questions out of which 3 (Three) are to be answered carrying 5 marks each. (200 words each) [Total = 15 Marks]

Section C is to test descriptive, historical and/or analytical skills and contains 4 questions out of which 2 (two) are to be answered, with 10 marks each. (500 words each). [Total = 20 Marks]

Section D tests analytical, critical and creative skills, consists of 2 questions out of which 1 (one) is to be answered, and carries 20 marks. (1000 words each). [Total = 20 Marks]

Sample Questions:

Section A:

The author of the book "Indian Classical Dance" is :

(1) Kapila Vatsayan (2) Arundhati Roy (3) Geeta Kapur (4) Birju Maharaj

Section B:

Explain three terms:

1) Tabla 2) Tillana 3) Rukmini Devi Arundale 4) Kalakshetra, Chennai. (200 words each)

Section C:

Write a short essay on Gharana in the context of Indian Classical Music history. (500 words)

Section D:

Critically analyse a performance choreographed by Rukmini Devi Arundale. (1000 words)

Tips for preparation:

Candidates are advised to go through introductory literature on performance studies that are easily accessible online. (Richard Schechner, Victor Turner, Patrice Pavis).

Familiarity with key practitioners and artists and their contribution to artistic practice in the field of theatre, dance and music in contemporary times is also anticipated. Knowledge and experience of watching, participating, and reading about 'classical' and 'traditional' forms of theatre, dance and music genres in India will be useful for the entrance exam.

Candidates are encouraged to bring forth conceptual understanding and insights from their previous studies, especially from the arts and social sciences. Candidates are also advised to update themselves on recent developments and events in the fields of music, dance, and theatre nationally and internationally.

Email:

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