



MA *in*
Rural Management
Admissions 2023-24

SHIV NADAR
INSTITUTION OF EMINENCE DEEMED TO BE
UNIVERSITY
DELHI, NCR

**SCHOOL OF
HUMANITIES AND
SOCIAL SCIENCES**



Shiv Nadar Institution of Eminence announces the launch of a 2-year MA in Rural Management program, beginning 1st September 2023. This is a one-of-a-kind multidisciplinary program, the like of which does not exist anywhere else in the country.

The Ministry of Education, Government of India, has conferred upon Shiv Nadar University the status of Institution of Eminence Deemed to be University in August 2022. This recognition makes the university a part of the distinguished league of top public and private institutions empowered to elevate Indian universities to become world-class teaching and research institutions.

In recent years, rural India has been a focus of great national attention. It has been witness to major crises like farmers' suicides; it has also been a hub of enormous dynamism, becoming the largest and fastest growing market for India's industrial sector. Central and state governments also invest hundreds of thousands of crores every year to provide better amenities and secure livelihoods to rural Indians.

There are many talented young people in rural India who, with the appropriate training, can lead this dynamic, rapidly transforming region in the years to come. These are the professionals our program will create. We will develop gen-next innovators and creative leaders with the requisite understanding and skill-sets demanded by the emerging challenges and opportunities of rural India, which no other comparable program offers.

What is unique about our program is that it will not only provide students with an in-depth multi-disciplinary understanding of the problems of rural India but it will also nurture their capacity to find innovative and far-reaching solutions. The program is based on a unique pedagogy, combining

innovative class-room and studio teaching, with two full semesters devoted to field education, including internships with the very best practitioners in rural India. All students will have mentors through and beyond the program. Another distinguishing feature of the program is that all its courses will not merely aim to build professional competencies but will pay equal attention to cultivating the necessary value-systems that develop compassionate human beings, with the capacity for deep listening and necessary sensitivities to the world-views of those they will be working with in future.

Students who graduate from this program will be eagerly sought after by civil society organisations, major government programs, CSR organisations, donor foundations, UN agencies etc. Our program has been crafted with specific inputs from potential employers, many of whom are already in touch with us offering to employ our graduates. Thus, demand for our students is built into the program.

Rural India is also a huge untapped market for emerging entrepreneurs. But there is no program offering the comprehensive education required for such aspirants, which needs to include deep understanding of rural economy and society, with both its challenges and possibilities. We are setting up a fund to offer seed capital to enable start-ups for aspiring rural entrepreneurs from among our students.

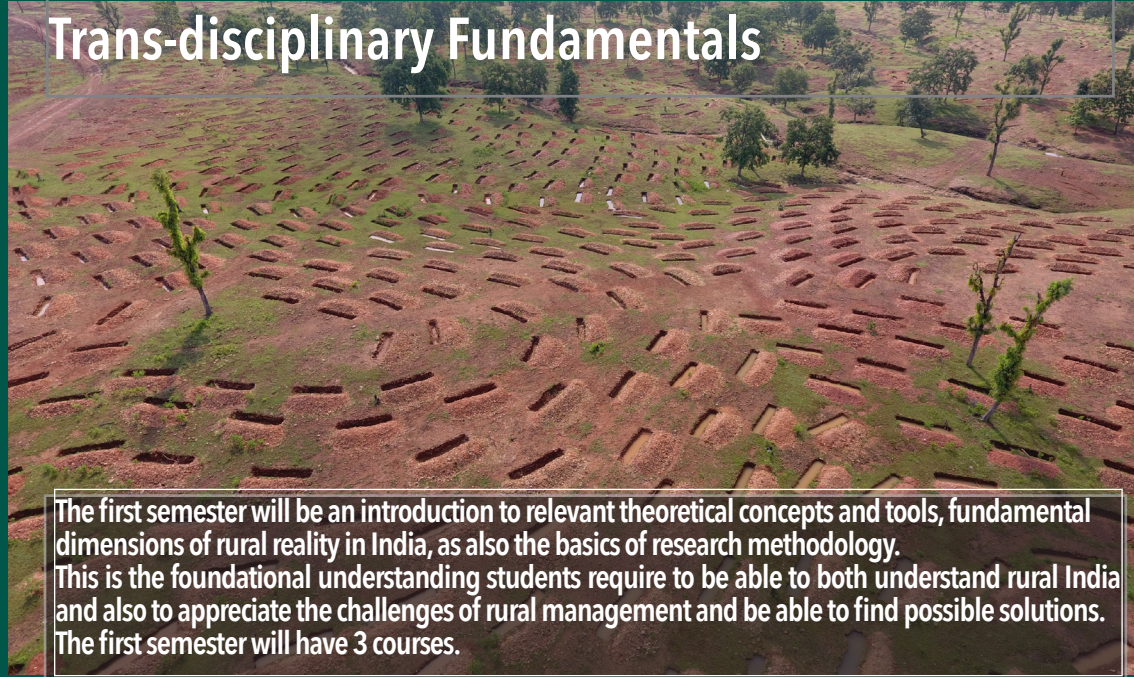
If you are a young person with a passion for and commitment to serving in rural India, this is the program for you. Preference will be given to applicants from disadvantaged regions and communities. Preference will be given to women candidates.

A large number of scholarships are available for qualified and eligible students, including several full scholarships for deserving candidates.



Semester One

Trans-disciplinary Fundamentals



The first semester will be an introduction to relevant theoretical concepts and tools, fundamental dimensions of rural reality in India, as also the basics of research methodology. This is the foundational understanding students require to be able to both understand rural India and also to appreciate the challenges of rural management and be able to find possible solutions. The first semester will have 3 courses.

Political Economy of India's Development since Independence 8 credits

As India won a hard-fought independence from British rule, the government and the people set about trying to build a free nation, where each person would at least have access to the basic needs of life, in an atmosphere of freedom, liberty and equality of opportunity. This set of lectures is a reflection on the last 75 years, the achievements and the failures, a review of the most important government policies and programs, the thinking behind them and why, how and in what ways these need to change. Building upon the political economy perspective of the "founders" of Economics from the 18th and 19th centuries, even while incorporating the exciting new insights of 20th and 21st century heterodox economists, the course provides a unique trans-disciplinary framework, within which students can understand the most pressing problems facing rural India and study the effectiveness of government programs and policies since independence. The idea is also to introduce students to ideas from beyond academia, in order to enable them to understand how solutions to rural India's most important and neglected problems, such as water, food and livelihoods, could potentially be crafted. A running thread of the course is ecology, which provides a critical lens through which to examine development paradigms in this era of the Anthropocene.



Sociology of Rural India

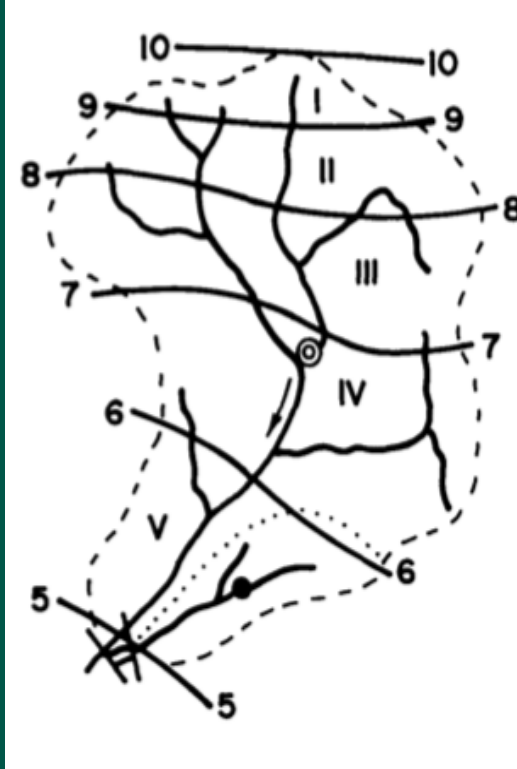
4 Credits

It is a truism that every person in society is endowed with multiple identities, so it should be equally obvious that relations of power and domination are also multi-dimensional. But as the history of both the social sciences and of social movements shows, it has proved remarkably difficult to sustain sensitivity to the plurality of power relations. This course has two main objectives. The first is to show that, in order to be effective, all power including economic power must be translated into social power – that is, it must employ modalities that are compatible with existing political and cultural structures. The second is to introduce students to the challenges of “intersectionality”, the most recent conceptual label for the multiplicity and mutual entanglement of different dimensions of power. The approach is primarily empirical, with theoretical issues being discussed mostly through specific examples or instances. Students will be encouraged to choose a particular dimension/ axis of power that interests them and will make individual presentations based a historical event or issue of their choice. The purpose of the presentations will be to highlight the co-implication of the multiple axes of power.



Research Methodology 4 Credits

This course is intended to give a comprehensive introduction to research methodology and methods used in social sciences. The course is expected to equip the students with capabilities for formulating a research problem and identifying research questions, collecting data, analysis and interpretation of data using quantitative and qualitative methods and presenting the findings in the form of reports, research papers or dissertations. The emphasis throughout the course is that a mix of inter-disciplinary and quantitative-qualitative methods will give useful insights and conclusions for policy.



Semester Two

Management Challenges in Rural India



The second semester will be a deeper dive into the most important and most neglected management challenges in rural India, enabling the students to understand the problems, as also critically assess the various attempts at finding solutions to these problems. The second semester will have 4 courses.

Agriculture, Livestock, Forestry and Fisheries 4 credits

This course provides a historical perspective on agriculture, livestock and fisheries and reviews the frameworks adopted for bringing change in the organisation of these activities. While contributing about 16% of the GDP, they engage nearly 50% of the workforce and hence are the largest sources of livelihoods in rural areas. The "Green" and "White" revolutions marked a fundamental break in the way these activities are organised. They firmly established a high cost and high external input framework, which has become the new normal. This course will analyse these frameworks in some detail, highlight their limits and the need to look beyond them. The course emphasises the diversity of Indian agriculture, livestock systems and fisheries and the need to adopt a differentiated approach to meet the challenge of this diversity. A major part of this course is devoted to discussions on alternative approaches and low-input systems in agriculture, livestock and fisheries, which enables advancement of multiple livelihood options for rural communities. The course also contains lectures on the key sources of published, secondary data on agriculture and allied activities and how they can be utilised to study contemporary issues in these sectors.



Ecology, Water and Climate Change 4 credits

This course attempts to introduce the students to the concept of the ecosystem and how human life is shaped by ecosystem functions and processes. It builds on the basic concepts of ecology as an integrative discipline, focusing on landscapes, ecosystem boundary, scale, diversity, stability, balance, adaptation, sustainability, resilience, externalities vs. joint products, time, and feedback loop. It then covers the evolution of the notion of sustainable development and why that has now become a priority in any development discourse, and how water is central to all material exchanges in ecosystems and between ecosystems and the economy. The course brings understandings of ecosystem processes in water and energy and how access to and control of both water and energy are mediated and structured by social relations of class, caste, tribe, community and gender. In the current context of climate change and the challenges posed by planetary boundaries in the era of the Anthropocene, keeping agri-food systems and rural development as the focus, the course examines alternative perspectives of food security, sovereignty, food justice and nutritional security on the one hand, and water and environmental security on the other, showing how an integration is possible only using an ecological lens.



Education, Health and Nutrition 4 credits

This course will trace the history of education from the colonial times, through the first four decades post-Independence, and then the next three decades following the international call for Education For All. The course will examine the successes and failures along the way. It will grapple with the multiple facets of the issue – the deep impact of caste inequalities on education; how the most progressive policies are lost to poor implementation; the languishing public school system and how it is eminently possible to turn it around; the fallacious discourse that private schools are the only answer to education in India; and why our classrooms are stuck in a 19th century pedagogy, failing to integrate the rich international research on learning.

Students will learn the political economy of health and the impact and consequences it has for poor people. The course seeks to equip potential rural development practitioners with enough knowledge and strategic skills to work on health interventions in rural areas. These include the state of health and health care services in rural India; the determinants of health such as food,

landholding, environment, state of health care services, the pharmaceutical industry, connectivity etc; analytical sessions on the political economy of health, especially the way structural violence plays out in poor health; addressing inequity in health - such as working with health systems, health workers and other determinants of health. to draw lessons from the better performing States for the laggards.





Management of Institutions: Social Entrepreneurship 4 credits

The absence of powerful institutions of the disadvantaged sections of Indian society is widely regarded as a key factor explaining the persistence of deprivation. This course will cover a wide range of such institutions such as Panchayati Raj Institutions, Self Help Groups and their Federations, Farmer Producer Organisations, cooperatives across various sectors etc. Besides these formal organisations, India has also had social movements which have impacted state and national policies. Many informal collectives have been formed around managing common property sources, and the use of technology has enabled collectives where members are distantly located. We will introduce students to these various forms of collectives and institutions, their importance in any sustained development process, their design principles, and why some are effective and some are not. The course will teach students the basics of business management practices such as marketing, HR, finance (including financial services in rural areas, insurance) etc. Students will also learn basics of project management: What is a project cycle? How are development projects designed? What are the key elements of a project proposal? What are the planning and monitoring tools for project management? etc.

Semester Three

Field Education



Field Education

16 credits

During the third semester, students will travel to select field locations across the country, where they will learn from our carefully selected partners, who over several decades, are recognised as the best practitioners on each of these themes about how they have, crafted solutions to some of the most difficult management challenges facing rural India. Students will choose any 4 of these 4-week courses (each 4 credits) located in rural India (indicative list):

1. Women's Self Help Groups and Federations
2. Participatory Water Management
3. Drinking Water & Sanitation
4. Sustainable Agriculture
5. Social Enterprises for Livelihoods
6. Health Management
7. Innovations in Education



Semester Four Group Projects (Specialisations)

Group Projects 16 credits

Students will be divided into small groups. Each group will do a Group Project. These will be done by students while being located in organisations in the field where they will complete internships for 8-12 weeks. As far as possible, project topics would be chosen from:

- Hitherto neglected issues or
- Emerging challenges or
- Those reflecting what potential employers require

After returning from the field, students will write up a Project Report on which they will be evaluated

Selection Criteria

Basic Qualification: Bachelor's Degree in any discipline. Medium of Instruction: English. Students will be supported in developing their English language, computer and other skills as required, even before they begin studying in the program.

In the application form, candidates are expected to answer questions in writing related to their reasons for applying for this program, how they hope to benefit from the program, as also their future plans. These answers will be evaluated and the shortlisted candidates will be called for an interview, which will be the final step in their selection.

Selection Timeline

- Applications for the program will be open from 20th January 2023 to 21st April 2023.
- Shortlist of candidates to be interviewed will be released by 1st May 2023
- Interviews of shortlisted candidates will be held at the university campus around 15th May. International candidates will be interviewed virtually.
- Final list of selected candidates will be announced by 25th May 2023
- 1/6/23-31/8/23: Focus on enhancing English, computer and other skills of selected students
- Program begins: 1st September 2023

Application Instructions

To apply, log on to – <https://applications.snu.edu.in/>

Applicants will be required to pay a non-refundable application fee of Rs. 2000.

All interested applicants shall apply online. Please follow the instructions carefully.

- Online upload of following document is required
- Passport size color photograph
- Current CV
- All Mark sheets/Degree Certificates (10th Standard onwards)

Admission Fees

All selected candidates will be required to pay a non-refundable admission fee of Rs. 25000 and a refundable security deposit of Rs. 25000 at the time of admission.

Fees Structure (2023-2025)

| | 2023-24 | 2024-25 |
|---------------------|----------|----------|
| Tuition Fees | 4,00,000 | 4,00,000 |
| Other Fees | 2,70,000 | 1,10,000 |
| Total Fees | 6,70,000 | 5,10,000 |

Core Faculty

The program will be taught by some of the most eminent academics, practitioners and thinkers the country has known, covering the entire gamut of issues taught under this program. They have spent their entire professional lives working in, and around issues related to, rural India.

1. Dr. Mihir Shah, Distinguished Professor, SHSS
2. Dr. Rajat Kathuria, Dean, SHSS
3. Dr. Ajay Dandekar, Professor, SHSS
4. Dr. Darryl Reed, Distinguished Professor, SHSS
5. Dr. Rajeswari Raina, Professor, SHSS
6. Dr. Himanshu Kulkarni, Professor of Practice, SHSS
7. Mr. P S Vijayshankar, Professor of Practice, SHSS
8. Dr. Sreedeeep Bhattacharya, Associate Professor, SHSS

Advisory Group and Guest Faculty

1. Dr. Gita Sen, Distinguished Professor & Director, Ramalingaswami Centre on Equity & Social Determinants of Health, Public Health Foundation of India
2. Dr. Satish Deshpande, Professor, Department of Sociology, Delhi School of Economics
3. Dr. Yogesh Jain, Public Health Physician
4. Shri SM Vijayanand, IAS retd, Former Chief Secretary, Government of Kerala
5. Shri R. Subrahmnayam, IAS retd, Former Secretary, Higher Education, Government of India
6. Ms. Sushma Iyengar, Founder, Kutch Mahila Vikas Sangathan
7. Shri Gagan Sethi, Founder & Chair, Janvikas and Centre for Social Justice
8. Ms. Smita Aggarwal, Head Education CSR, TATA Steel
9. Shri Apoorva Oza, Global Lead, Aga Khan Foundation
10. Dr. Rahul Ghai, Associate Professor, IIMR University
11. Shri Biraj Patnaik, Executive Director, National Foundation for India
12. Shri Sunil Chavan, Director, Dr. ML Dhavle Trust & Chief Mentor at NIRMAN
13. Shri KJ Joy, Senior Fellow, Society for Promoting Participative Ecosystem Management

Life in the Campus



All students will participate in and help organize a wide range of intellectual activities, like academic seminars, exhibitions, on-going research projects, library, publication and other outreach activities in SHSS and any other School or Department that ignites an academic interest in them. The students are encouraged to participate in all intellectual and performing arts and sports activities promoted in the University.

INDOOR SPORTS COMPLEX

The state-of-the-art Indoor Sports Complex has won NDTV's Design and Architecture Awards in 2017. The building has table tennis, basketball, and badminton courts on the ground floor. It is equipped with a unisex gym, four squash courts, and a 200-meter-long indoor running track on the first floor. Additional activities include wall climbing, billiards, football, chess, and playing carrom while relaxing on bean bags.

LIBRARY

The library houses 40,000 academic resources and textbooks, and has a light reading section to encourage the habit of reading among students. Its facilities include discussion rooms, 24/7 study room, wi-fi access, and a digital database that provides access to e-books, periodicals, and dissertations made available from various national and international archives.



SACRED GROVE

Located near the Dargah on the eastern side of the campus, this Date Palm Grove consists of 900 individuals covering an area of 0.75 hectares. According to the elders of Chithara village, these are 300-400 years old, relics from Mughal invaders who came from West and camped here in the wetland area. The seeds of date left along their camping trail, which later grew into date palm trees, spreads across through North India, including Shiv Nadar University's campus.

LAKE

The campus lake is part of the Dadri wetlands, also called the Bil Akbarpur wildlife habitat. The lake was almost dried up when the University was founded. Its immediate revival has allowed a rich number of fish and aquatic plants to thrive in it, such as Nitella, Chara, and Hydrilla. The lake attracts resident and migratory birds mostly in winters.

Life in the Campus

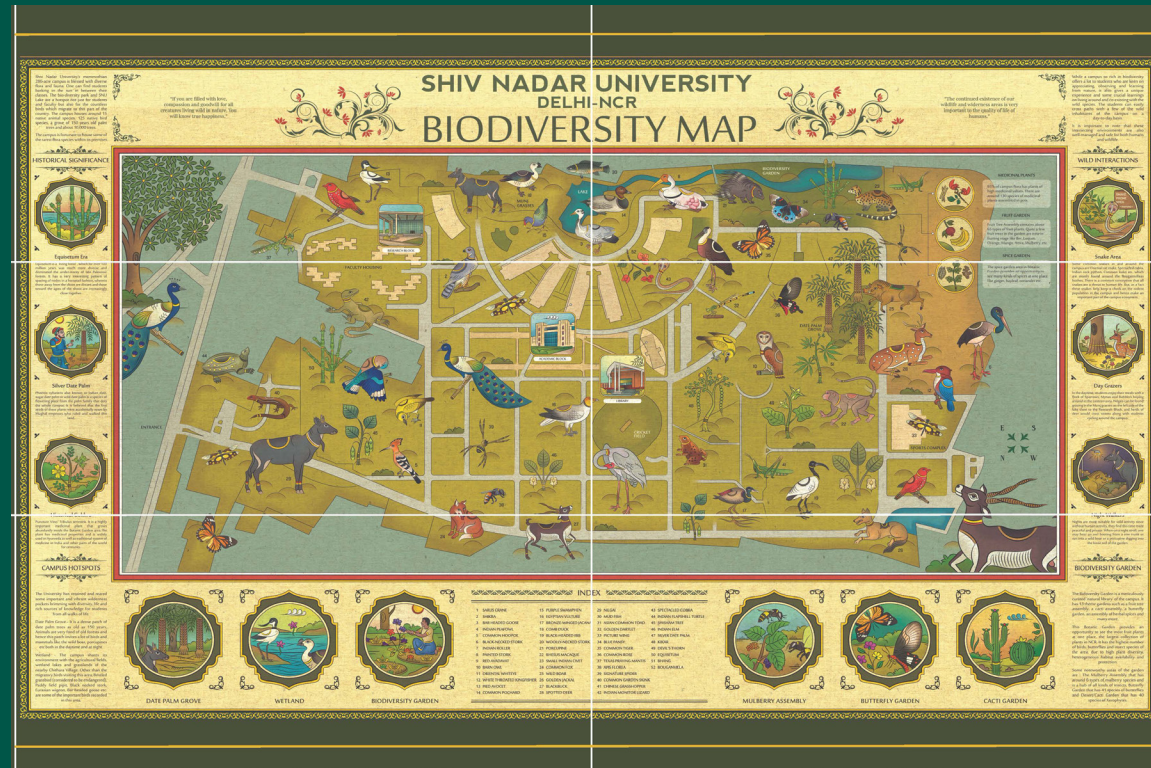
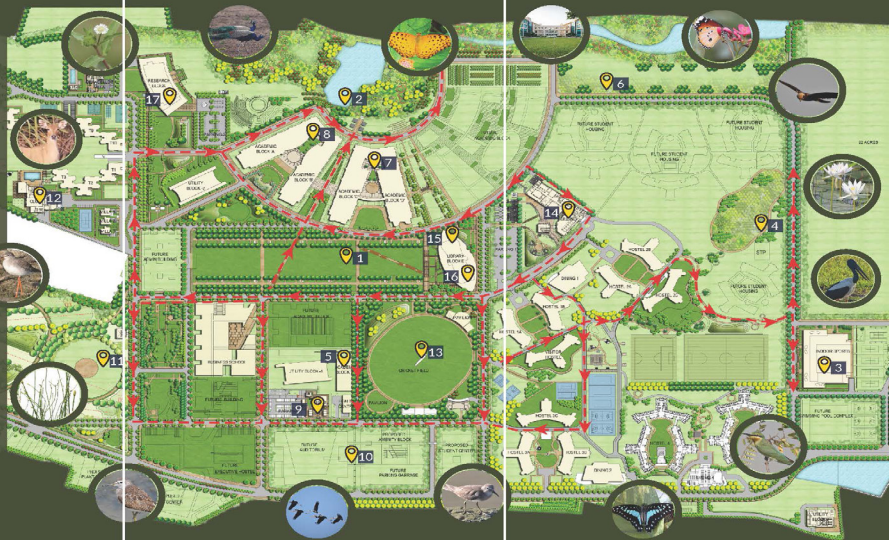
SHIV NADAR UNIVERSITY

CLASSIC HANGOUT

- 1 Central Vista
- 2 Campus Lake
- 3 Indoor Sports Complex
- 4 Sacred Grove
- 5 F Block- Art Walk
- 6 Botanic Garden
- 7 C&D- Naaveen Tea House
- 8 A&B- Anna's Cafe
- 9 Shopping Arcade
- 10 Golf Course
- 11 19th Hole- Restaurant
- 12 Clubhouse
- 13 Cricket Ground
- 14 Student Activity Center
- 15 Central Library
- 16 Atal Incubation Center (AIC)
- 17 Research Block

HOW TO TOUR

The tour will cover the most important attractions at the campus, which are suggested on the map with the yellow pins and can be tracked by following the red broken lines. Find yourself in the lap of nature and wonderful flora in the Botanic Garden. Try the scrumptious dosas and rolls at A&B and C&D. Need a bit of peace and quiet? Try the amazing view from our lakeside. Enjoy the various attractions and we hope to find you back here soon!





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