

SHIV NADAR

INSTITUTION OF EMINENCE DEEMED TO BE
UNIVERSITY
DELHI NCR

BA (Research)

Interdisciplinary Humanities
and Social Sciences (IHS)



MAJOR IN

SUSTAINABILITY
STUDIES

MAJOR IN

ARCHAEOLOGY,
HERITAGE, AND
HISTORICAL
STUDIES



MAJOR IN

SOCIETY,
CULTURE,
TECHNOLOGY



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Shiv Nadar University: Our distinctive history

Shiv Nadar University is India's premier multidisciplinary research university. Within just fourteen years, it has defined a new trajectory for higher education in India. Shiv Nadar University was established in 2011 by Mr. Shiv Nadar, one of Asia's foremost philanthropists and a pioneer of the technological revolution in India. Mr. Nadar's philanthropic initiative, the Shiv Nadar Foundation set up in 1994, has initiatives spanning the entire spectrum of education and art, making it one of India's largest philanthropic foundations. In 2022, the University was recognized as the youngest Institution of Eminence by the Government of India. One of the only four private institutions in the country to receive this recognition, it has set the university on a path to world-class excellence.



Overview of the program

Shiv Nadar University is a trailblazer in multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary learning. It launched the country's first 4-year multidisciplinary research degree, which has produced outstanding graduates over the last decade. Building on this success, we are now launching a new Interdisciplinary BA in Humanities and Social Sciences with a range of choices for students to specialize in

- **Sustainability Studies**
- **Archaeology, Heritage, and Historical Studies**
- **Society, Culture, Technology**

All students in the program will share a common core curriculum in the first year of study to engage in a range of disciplines. At the start of the second year, you can choose your area of specialisation and move on to pursue the courses designed to enhance your knowledge and experiential learning.

Scholarships

At least 10 scholarships per batch will be awarded to eligible students. The scholarships cover 100% tuition waiver for all four years! In addition students are eligible for other university wide scholarships.

Recognition



Recognized as an Institution of Eminence

1 of the only 4 private universities in the country to be designated as an Institution of Eminence by the Government of India



University of the year 2024 (Emerging category under 15 years)

10th FICCI Higher Education Excellence Awards 2024



Youngest university to be ranked among the top 100 of NIRF, 9 years in a row

National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF), Government of India



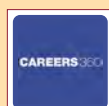
#3 Top private university in India | #5 Top private university for employability

Indian Institutional Ranking Framework 2024



Ranked #25 as a leading research institution in India

Nature Index India 2025



#1 India's Best Young University (Private) | #1 India's Best Young Multidisciplinary University (Private) | #2 India's Best Young STEM University (Public and Private) | India's Best Engineering Colleges - 2023

Careers360 Ranking



41 in India; amongst top 36% in Asia

QS Asia Ranking 2024

Degree options

1

BA Research

in Interdisciplinary Humanities and Social Sciences with a specialization of your choice

REQUIREMENTS

Complete 160 credits through course work and thesis in any of the three areas of specialisation.

2

BA Honours

in Interdisciplinary Humanities and Social Sciences with a specialization of your choice

REQUIREMENTS

Complete 160 credits through course work only.

3

BA Reserach (plus a minor)

Your degree can be BA (Research) in Interdisciplinary Humanities and Social Sciences with a specialization of your choice plus a Minor in any other program offered at the university.

REQUIREMENTS

Complete 160 credits through coursework and thesis from the IHS program and earn minor credits through coursework from other departments across the university.



Why should you choose this program?

As a graduate of this program that blends theory and practice, you will be equipped to flourish in a world that is changing rapidly. You will have the capacity to understand the big trends: in geo-politics, climate change, in AI and tech, the economy, and in cultures and communication - and a variety of other areas where you wish to work or pursue higher studies. Experiential learning will be foundational to your study.

You do not have to decide before leaving high school who you want to be! The world is opening up new opportunities every day. We will prepare you to be ready to make the best of such opportunities with skill and empathy. You will have both the capacity to pursue a wide range of careers – from higher education, to private sector jobs, the government, the UN and international organizations, or start-ups. This program is open to students graduating from any stream of study in high school.

Moreover, all students in this program will learn how to use AI responsibly and ethically and to your advantage in incorporating data to understand various contexts better.

You will learn inside and outside the classroom – through live projects, field trips, exchanges, immersions, internships and much more. These are integrated into the curriculum and you can choose any of these options at regular intervals. These will give you an outstanding student experience while cultivating key competencies.

The World Economic Forum Jobs Outlook 2025, the QS Skills Index, and the National Education Policy all point towards the need to have graduates who can combine an array of attributes. The program is designed to deliver these attributes and more.

Distinctive features of the program

Choice and flexibility

- Choose your degree – You can get a BA (Research) degree or a BA (Honors) degree or a degree with an additional minor specialization.
- Choose your Major.
- Choose your electives.
- Choose how you complete the experiential components of the program: Go abroad, intern for an organization, do an independent project. The choices are enormous.

AI and tech fluency: the innovation hub

Every student in the program will partake of a mandatory companion module in AI. This is designed to equip you with the foundational skills and knowledge of AI from a conceptual and practical standpoint, along with an understanding of its ethical and societal implications. You will be able to leverage AI responsibly and effectively in your chosen career, and engage in interdisciplinary problem-solving and collaborative innovation. Most importantly, it is designed to empower you to navigate the onslaught of changes that AI is bringing across industries.

In Year 1, you will learn the foundational aspects of AI; in Year 2 you will learn about AI in different contexts through use cases. All this will build up to Year 3 where you will participate in an Innovation Hub. You will work in groups to create AI applications and projects that allow for innovation.

Unparalleled experiential learning

We have created an array of specialized learning environments to give you a unique student experience in your chosen area of specialisation. These include

- The Archaeology Lab
- The AI Center for Excellence
- Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Labs
- The Shiv Nadar IoE Rapid Labs

International opportunities

We have many partnerships with universities in the UK, US, Asia and Europe if you wish to spend a semester abroad. We have the Office of International Partnerships and Academic Affairs to guide you through these semester-long opportunities. The credits from courses in your host university will be officially accepted at SNU and incorporated into the program. There will be regular information sessions on international and national exchange programs.

Multiple career options

Each of the Majors prepare you for a variety of career paths. You can move on to higher education or pursue professional degrees in journalism, law, heritage management, and policy think-tanks. More opportunities await you in the field of art, design, visual studies, marketing, sustainability and development sectors.

Program structure and curriculum (total 160 credits)

Mandatory core 68 credits	Major 60 credits	University-Wide Electives* 16 credits	Experiential Component 16 Credits	AI module integrated into the program
A set of 17 mandatory core courses which cover foundations in the - Natural Sciences - Social Sciences - AI - Ethics - Environment - Fundamentals of Business - Writing and Communication - Quantitative Skills - Digital Humanities	Students will choose any 1 major from the three below: Sustainability Studies Archaeology, Heritage, and Historical Studies Society, Culture, Technology Course work + - Practicum - Thesis	Any 4 courses from any department in the university	- Industry Immersion - Campus as a Living Lab - Global Exchange - Summer Internships Students can choose any combination of the above adding up to 16 Credits	AI literacy companion module

*Courses offered by departments and schools across the university are called university wide electives (UWE).



MAJOR SUSTAINABILITY STUDIES

Overview

The Sustainability Studies Major aims to produce sustainability professionals of international calibre. Our mission is to not just equip students with skills but also ensure that they enter sectors that bring them professional satisfaction. They will be prepared to tackle pressing global challenges like climate change, resource depletion, and environmental degradation, making their skills highly valued. They can find work in diverse roles, including environmental consultants, policy makers, researchers, and sustainability managers. Due to the opportunities to make positive impacts on the environment and society graduates employed in these sectors, find their work highly satisfying.



Learning outcomes

In this Major, you will develop

1. A problem solving mind-set: Cultivating a mind-set focused on addressing complex problems, fostering innovation and creativity in finding sustainable solutions. The curriculum combines lectures, lab experiments and exposure to policy professionals and case studies that show the success of sustainable solutions.
2. A global perspective with local sensitivity: The program emphasizes the importance of understanding global challenges without losing sight of local needs. For example, you will meet with pollution control board officials and learn about management of sustainable cities; you will interact with farmers to learn about ecological changes that impact agricultural yields, and how policies are enacted on the ground.
3. Ethical leadership: Ethical and responsible practices will give you a competitive advantage in future employment. This will be achieved through:
 - Internships and exchange programs with reputed institutions (see below).
 - All courses focus on solutions, technological interventions, and real world experiences, to enrich students' abilities to be sensitive to different positions of actors and the varied human and environmental impacts of policies and technologies.



Career options

- Higher studies, research, and academia.
- Environmental policy and action.
- Environmental reporting and consulting with national and international organizations
- Roles in policy analysis and research with government, private sector, chambers of commerce, think tanks, etc.
- Journalism with a focus on issues related to sustainability and development.
- Roles in the corporate sector such as Sustainability Officers, Sustainability Managers, Corporate Social Responsibility officials.
- Roles in various institutions in the public sector.

Partner organisations for experiential learning

At SNU, we have instituted partnerships with several local and international organisations working in the fields of environment, sustainability and conservation. As part of the course programme, students will be provided the opportunity to pursue internships. Some of our partners include:

- Clinton Foundation
- Council for Energy Environment and Water (CEEW)
- The Habitats Trust
- S M Sehgal Foundation
- BAIF Development Research Foundation
- Keystone Foundation
- The Nature Conservancy
- HCL Foundation
- Access Development Services
- Urmul Trust
- Nandi Water and many more.

Curriculum

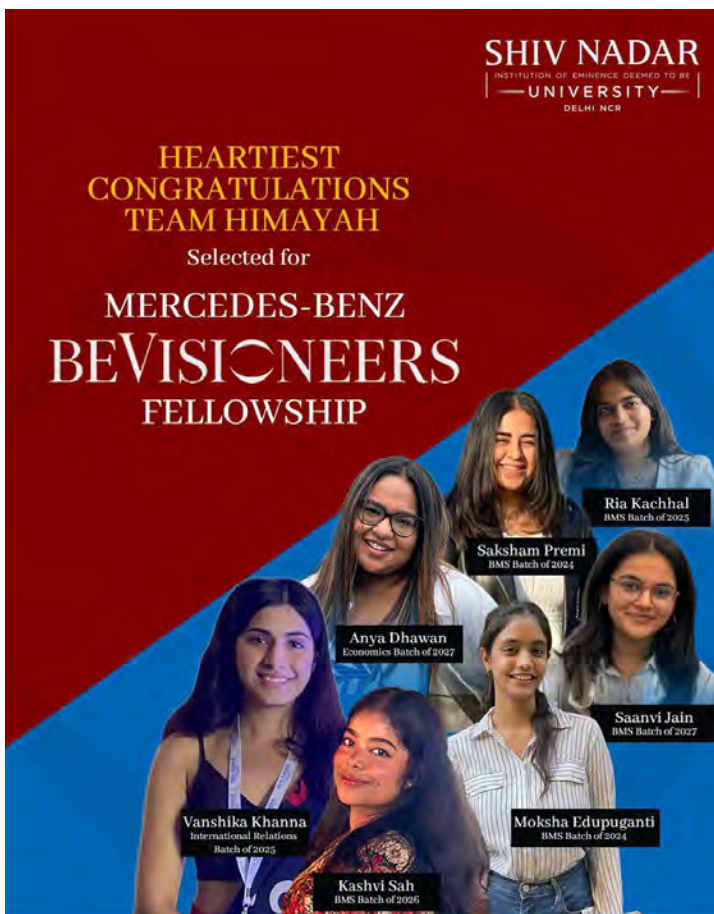
Interdisciplinary BA in Humanities and Social Science with Sustainability Major

Core courses (68 credits)	Major in Sustainability (60 credits)	Other courses (32 credits)
Reading, Writing, Thinking	Sustainability: Concepts and Measurements	Mandatory AI Module
Introduction to Philosophy	Measuring and Reporting Sustainability	Campus as a living lab project
Thinking Historically	Biodiversity	Global Exchange (preferred but not mandatory)
The Natural World	Conservation	Internship or independent project
AI, Technology and Ethics	Ecosystems and pollution: Air, water, soil	University-wide electives
Sociological Imagination	Inequality and Sustainability	
Quantitative Thinking	Sustainable Production 1: Land, Labour, Livelihoods	
Qualitative Thinking	Sustainable Production 2: Sustainable Materials and Manufacturing	
Fundamentals of Economics	Sustainability in rapidly urbanizing societies	
Geopolitics	Sustainable water and energy solutions	
Fundamentals of Business	Sustainability and disaster management	
Interpreting India - 1	Sustainability in action	
Interpreting India - 2	Practicum related to Sustainability	
Introduction to Digital Humanities	Major Thesis*	
Environment and Sustainability		
The Many Lives of Cognition		
Fundamentals of Media and Communication		

*In lieu of a thesis, students can opt for 3 UWEs from the basket of 6 courses provided in year four of the program. UWEs (university wide electives) are courses offered by departments and schools across the university.

The campus: a unique site for studying sustainability

The rich biodiversity of the campus and its story was featured in the iconic *Scientific American*



Shiv Nadar University students were recognized as **UN Millennium Fellows** based on their campus projects. Recently they won the **Mercedes-Benz fellowship** for their project to make our campus zero-waste

MAJOR

ARCHAEOLOGY, HERITAGE, AND HISTORICAL STUDIES

Overview

This Major in Archaeology, Heritage, and Historical Studies is poised to be a unique undergraduate program in the country. We are also one of the few universities that hosts an Archaeology lab for undergraduate and doctoral students.

There is no escaping the past but how do we understand it? What is heritage? Who gets to choose and decide what becomes heritage? How does archaeology investigate climate change in the past? Does Archaeology and History only serve a public good? These key questions, among others, will be addressed through a learning by doing approach. In this Major, students will explore various themes through hands-on training with the latest archaeological field and laboratory



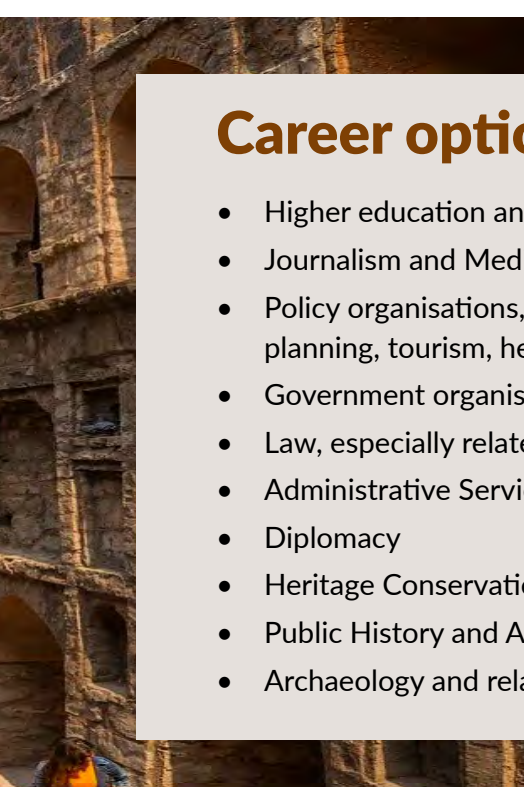
methods, protocols of collections management, understanding of archival work, and independent research projects. Through on-site lectures, you will engage with material and collections-based research and develop critical and reflexive approaches. These will enable a foundational and critical understanding about material and non-material pasts. Drawing on the latest methods, you will also be introduced to specialised sub-fields such as urban, environment, economic, and social histories of South Asia and beyond, across regions and periods.

With the coming together of Archaeology and History, students will be immersed in classroom learning, archival research, and field training. You will be equipped to raise analytical questions, undertake rigorous research projects, tell stories through diverse media, and intervene in policy dialogues. You can flourish in careers in public policy, archaeology, historical research, museum studies, archiving, cultural heritage, policy, journalism, academia, media, diplomacy, tourism development, and administration.

Learning outcomes

In this Major, you will

- Learn how archaeologists and historians investigate the past and how cultural heritage is defined. Receive hands-on training in the latest field and laboratory-based methods, protocols of curatorial practices and heritage management.
- Understand how museums and curatorial practices are self-reflexive and creative endeavours.
- Learn what makes things, people and places worthy of 'heritagization'.
- Acquire necessary skills to work in various archives and use diverse primary material.
- Engage with how scholarly and popular histories are produced through archival and documentation practices.



Career options

- Higher education and academia
- Journalism and Media
- Policy organisations, especially in the field of development, environment, urban planning, tourism, heritage conservation and management.
- Government organisations related to Archaeology and Historical research
- Law, especially related to heritage, antiquities, and conservation practices
- Administrative Services
- Diplomacy
- Heritage Conservation and Management
- Public History and Archival Documentation
- Archaeology and related fields

Partner organisations for experiential learning

At SNU, we have instituted partnerships with several local and international organisations working in the fields of Archaeology, Heritage, and Historical Studies. As part of the course programme, students will be provided the opportunity to pursue internships. Some of our partners include:

- INTACH Delhi chapter; Directorate of State Archives (West Bengal)
- Kiran Nadar Museum of Art
- The Habitats Trust
- Hamari Pahchan (NGO in Delhi)
- NewsClick Media
- Indian Red Cross Society
- Deccan Heritage Foundation for India (Pune)
- Archaeological Field Projects and many more.



Curriculum

Interdisciplinary BA in Humanities and Social Science with Archaeology, Heritage, and Historical Studies Major

Core courses (68 credits)	Major Courses (60 credits)	Other courses (32 credits)
Reading, Writing, Thinking	Introduction to Archaeology	Mandatory AI Module
Introduction to Philosophy	Cities, Kings, and Temple	
Thinking Historically	Mapping Heritage	Global Exchange (preferred but not mandatory)
The Natural World	Land, Law and Conquest	Internship or independent project
AI, Technology, and Ethics	A Modern History of South Asia	University-wide electives
Sociological Imagination	Field Methods in Archaeology	
Quantitative Thinking	Frauds and Fictions in Archaeology	
Qualitative Thinking	The Past and Present of Modern South Asian Cities	
Fundamentals of Economics	Visual History and the Archaeological Scholarship	
Geopolitics	Space Archaeology, Remote Sensing, and GIS	
Fundamentals of Business	A Global History of Business & Finance	
Interpreting India - 1	Key Debates in Environmental History	
Interpreting India - 2	Practicum related to Archaeology, Heritage and Historical Studies	
Introduction to Digital Humanities	Major Thesis*	
Environment and Sustainability		
The Many Lives of Cognition		
Environment and Sustainability		
The Many Lives of Cognition		
Fundamentals of Media and Communication		

*In lieu of a thesis, students can opt for 3 UWEs from the basket of 6 courses provided in year four of the program. UWEs (university wide electives) are courses offered by departments and schools across the university.

MAJOR

SOCIETY, CULTURE, TECHNOLOGY

Overview

The Major in Society, Culture, Technology offers a unique curriculum, so far unmatched in the country, that is designed to offer a critical understanding of the most powerful force shaping society today – technology. This Major will equip students to arrive at a well-rounded understanding of the ways in which cultures and social life are impacted by scientific and technological innovations as much as how social forces impact these developments.

It offers interdisciplinary insights into understanding the most significant technologies in our everyday environment, for example, data, information, AI and their impact on our individual and collective lives. This major will help students ask some of the



most pertinent questions of our times like, how has the history of science shaped the world we live in today and do technologies exacerbate social problems or help us address them?

The Major also entails an immersive understanding of science, technology and society with a carefully curated set of courses that explore real world social contexts. Understanding how science and technology both emerge from and operate within particular social contexts is crucial to analyse the challenges, impact, and potential of technological developments. The overall intention of the major is to train and inform students about how cultures, customs and social life are impacted and shaped by scientific developments and technological innovation, as much as how social forces impact these developments and innovations.

Learning outcomes

By the end of this major, students will be able to:

- Critically analyse the impact of technology on individual human lives, contemporary social relationships, and social institutions such as the family, religion, politics, and the economy.
- Evaluate how technological advancements are reshaping concepts of community, identity, and cultural norms in an interconnected global society.
- Reflect thoughtfully, using evidence, on how technology both constrains and empowers individuals and societies.
- Formulate critical questions about technology's role in both reducing and exacerbating social problems.
- Communicate complex ideas about the intersections of social structures and institutions, cultural norms, and technology clearly and persuasively in both written and oral forms.

Career options

- Policy analysis, specifically tech policies and its intersections with various social organizations.
- Think tanks and civil society organizations, especially those that work at the interface between tech policy and social sectors.
- Journalism, and digital media and communications.
- Administrative services and policy oriented organisations on governance related issues addressing pressing concerns such as water, health, urban infrastructure etc. Market research, public relations, and marketing.
- Research and analysis, especially in the fields of science and technology, education and technology and advocacy.
- Academia and higher education in fields like Science and Technology Studies, Sociology, Anthropology, Public Policy, Law, Media and Culture Studies.

Partner organisations for experiential learning

At SNU, we have instituted partnerships with several local and international organisations working in the fields of Society, Culture and Technology. As part of the course programme, students will be provided the opportunity to pursue internships. Some of our partners include:

- The Kala Chaupal Trust
 - INTACH (Indian National Trust for Art, Culture and Heritage)
 - Eka Archiving Services Pvt. Ltd.
 - Kiran Nadar Museum of Arts
 - Outlook India
 - SEWA
 - Eklavya Foundation
 - Teach for India
 - Collective Newsroom
 - RRAN
- and many more.



Curriculum

Interdisciplinary BA in Humanities and Social Science with Society, Culture, Technology Major

Core courses (68 credits)	Major in Society, Culture, Technology (60 credits)	Other courses (32 credits)
Reading, Writing, Thinking	Society and Culture	Mandatory AI Module
Introduction to Philosophy	Science, Technology, Society	Campus as a living lab project
Thinking Historically	Economies, Networks and Technologies	Global Exchange (preferred but not mandatory)
The Natural World	Technologies of Governance	Internship or independent project
AI, Technology and Ethics	Media, Religion, and Spirituality	University-wide electives
Sociological Imagination	Relatedness and Technology	
Quantitative Thinking	Self, Expression and Interconnectedness	
Qualitative Thinking	City Technologies and Urban Infrastructures	
Fundamentals of Economics	Technology and Sonic Cultures	
Geopolitics	Medicine and Biotechnologies	
Fundamentals of Business	Images and the Visual World	
Interpreting India - 1	AI, Data and Information Society	
Interpreting India - 2	Practicum related to Society, Culture, Technology	
Introduction to Digital Humanities	Major Thesis*	
Environment and Sustainability		
The Many Lives of Cognition		
Fundamentals of Media and Communication		

*In lieu of a thesis, students can opt for 3 UWEs from the basket of 6 courses provided in year four of the program. UWEs (university wide electives) are courses offered by departments and schools across the university.

Program chairs

All academic and administrative matters related to the IHS program will be managed by the following faculty members.

Dr. Vasundhara Bhojvaid, Department of Sociology | vasundhara.bhojvaid@snu.edu.in

Dr. Divya Kannan, Department of History & Archaeology | divya.kannan@snu.edu.in

Program Manger: Ms. Paulami Ghosh | paulami.ghosh@snu.edu.in

To learn more about the program co-chairs and faculty involved in the program, visit the program website at <https://snu.edu.in/programs/interdisciplinary-humanities-and-social-sciences/>

Your campus life at Shiv Nadar University

The library space is at the core of our university academic life for students and faculty. We subscribe to a diverse range of periodicals and have a large collection of books pertaining to various disciplines. There are also desktop facilities available for students along with group study rooms inside the library.

We have world-class sports facilities. Our students win many accolades in sports and athletics. Feel free to explore and utilise the Indoor Sports Complex with top-of-the-art sports infrastructure, and even the opportunity to learn horse-riding! Moreover, there are a host of student clubs on campus that range from astronomy to theatre, dance to debating!

SNU strive to ensure the physical safety, mental and emotional wellbeing of students and staff on campus. Students have 24/7 access to the Health Centre and consult with the counsellors/physiotherapists/doctors-on-duty. Specialist doctors are also available on certain days of the week. Regular health camps and fitness training programs are also regularly held. Besides, a large majority of faculty and staff live on campus, making them available for student needs as they arise.

At SNU, the safety of our students, staff, and faculty is a primary concern. We are committed to ensuring a ragging-free campus and take this offence very seriously. There is also an anti-ragging committee to address any of your concerns.

We and sustainable are a green campus. Students are not allowed to keep their own motorised vehicles. Instead, cycling and walking is encouraged. We also have EV shuttles running frequently across the entire campus.



FAQs

- **Is this a Four-Year degree program?**

Yes, this is a four-year degree program in Interdisciplinary BA in Humanities and Social Sciences. In the final year, a student can opt for a thesis in their chosen specialisation or complete the remaining credits through coursework. However, only students with a minimum of 6 CGPA are eligible to pursue a thesis.

- **How do students decide their Majors?**

All students in their first year pursue common core courses that extend across disciplines such as the social sciences and humanities, natural sciences, A.I. and business management. At the end of the first year, students shall declare their major and are enrolled into specific courses in year two and three, along with an option to choose University wide electives.

- **Can I also receive a Minor in any chosen specialisation/discipline in the University?**

Yes, a student completing the required set of courses pertaining to a particular discipline/Department during the course of their program is eligible to receive a Minor degree.

- **Does this program offer any fee-concessions/ scholarships?**

At least 10 scholarships per batch will be awarded to eligible students. The scholarships cover 100% tuition waiver for all four years! In addition students are eligible for other university wide scholarships.

- **Are there any internships as part of this program?**

Yes, this interdisciplinary program integrates internships into its overall framework which will provide academic credits. SNU also collaborates with important organisations towards this initiative. During the course of study, a student is expected to complete up to 12 credits through internships/research assistantships/campus jobs/independent study during two consecutive summers.

- **Can I avail study abroad opportunities?**

At SNU, we encourage students to receive larger exposure to educational opportunities and cultural settings. The University shares several MoUs with major international and Indian universities. Every Second/ Third year degree student, with a minimum CGPA as mandated by university policy, is eligible to apply for a one-semester study abroad/elsewhere in India program.

- **What are my job opportunities after completing this program?**

Plenty! This interdisciplinary program aims to equip students with foundational and critical skills alongside practical, hands-on training in certain areas of specialisation. The career options open to you are listed in the respective Majors detailed above.

Interested? What to do next?

**Any queries related to program,
Please Contact:**

Ms. Paulami Ghosh

Email: paulami.ghosh@snu.edu.in

**For queries related to admissions,
Please Contact:**

Ms Anju Hariharan

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Toll free: 18001021768

Apply now: www.snuadmissions.com



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