

SHIV NADAR

INSTITUTION OF EMINENCE DEEMED TO BE  
UNIVERSITY  
DELHI NCR

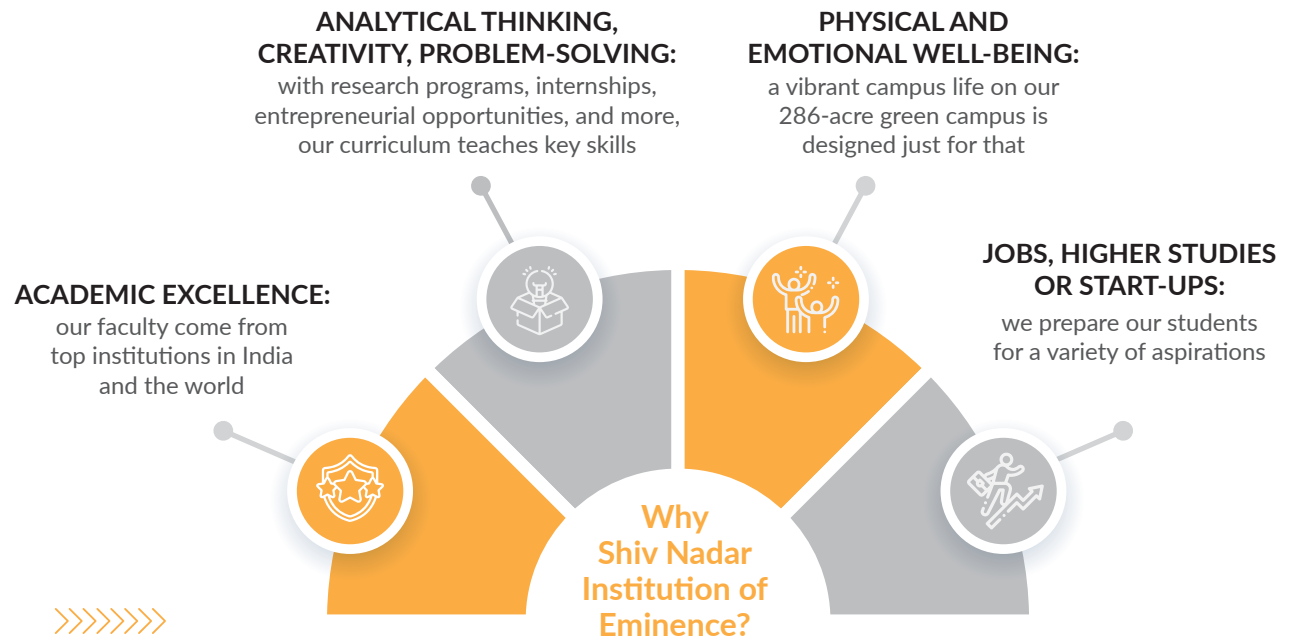
DEPARTMENT OF

SOCIOLOGY



# Why Shiv Nadar Institution of Eminence?

Shiv Nadar Institution of Eminence is a multidisciplinary research university established in 2011 by Mr. Shiv Nadar, one of Asia's foremost philanthropists and a pioneer of the technological revolution in India. The four Schools at the University offer undergraduate, postgraduate, and doctoral degrees in Engineering, Natural Sciences, Humanities and Social Sciences, and Management & Entrepreneurship. It is the youngest university to be recognized as an Institution of Eminence by the Government of India, a distinct category of higher education institutions that "strive to become the top hundred Institutions in the world over time". In the Government's National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF), the University has been the youngest institution in the 'top 100' Overall list for the last five years.



## Why Study Sociology at Shiv Nadar Institution of Eminence?

'Society' and 'social' are words used commonly; however, understanding what makes society and our living in it is an extraordinary pursuit. What cultures am I a part of, what are my customs and traditions? What explains my taste in food, music, and movies? How do I understand my place in social media or family? How do I make sense of how economic or legal institutions, wars and pandemics, global warming and foul air, artificial intelligence and information technology impact my life and society? How do I understand the vast complexity and difference of people in the world, and how do I

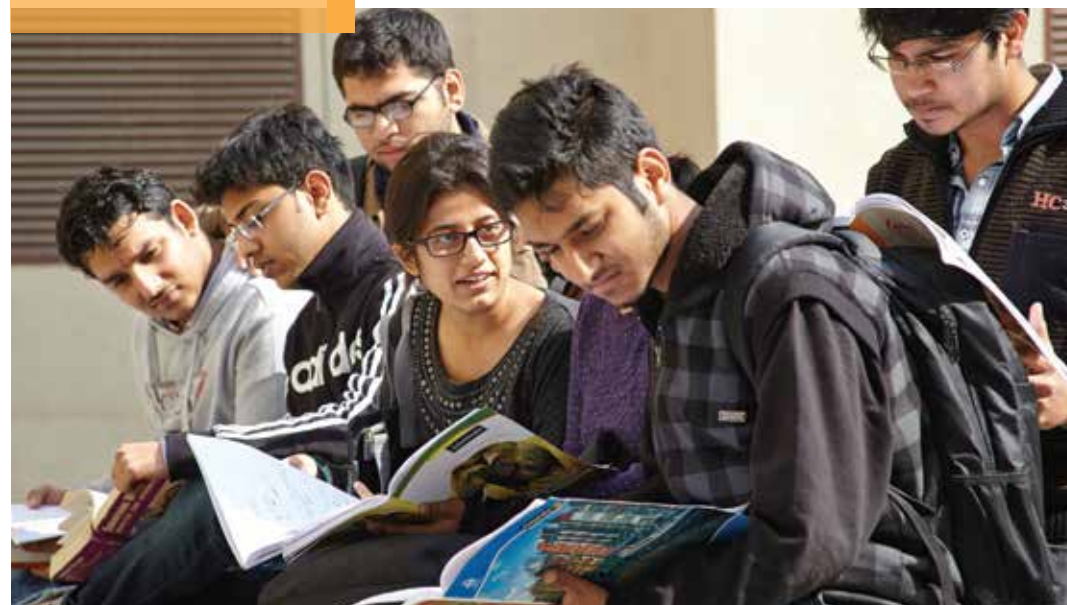
engage with it? What do we share with human life, and what makes us unique?

Whether it is a focused program to train yourself with a firm grounding for various vibrant and contemporary professional arenas or a rich enabling body of knowledge of the world around us that you seek, sociology is the stepping stone. Sociology is one of the most nuanced social sciences currently applicable in fields that range from media and communication technologies, medical and mental health issues, law and governance concerns, politics, and social movements to

climate change and sustainability issues. In classical terms, sociology provides insights into understanding continuing concerns that pervade social life, like religion, ritual, family, social class, identity, and ethnicity. Ultimately, sociology fosters critical thinking and strong analytical abilities. It prepares students to face the world with a deeper understanding of society and its profound influence on all aspects of human living. Students learn how sociology influences and is in turn shaped by other disciplines in the social sciences, humanities, and natural sciences. For example, as sociologists in training, we encourage conversations and collaborations with history to understand the impact of colonialism; we teach how research is undertaken in hospitals or with psychologists; and how we can

accompany scientists to study artificial intelligence, or understand law with lawyers, or examine editing practices with filmmakers. Students can engage with street art as part of urban environments or learn what performance means in theatre and dance. We are privileged to be part of a globally competitive School of Humanities and Social Sciences (SHSS), where we practice our intents right at our doorstep.

The Sociology Department at Shiv Nadar IoE is a growing department with faculty committed to bringing their ongoing, world-class research to bear upon everyday teaching. Our vision is to understand the contemporary with a clear sense of our past and a view of the future.



## Curriculum

### B.A. (Research)

The B.A. (Research) program includes core courses that train students in the fundamentals of sociology and elective courses that span specific research areas such as visuality, music, climate change, mental health, nomadism, and law, among others. In addition to taught courses, the B.A. (Research) degree at Shiv Nadar IoE allows undergraduate students to write a research thesis under supervision. The entire program, including the final year thesis, prepares students for a career in sociology or social anthropology and gives them insight and knowledge skills to tackle any future they choose. The pedagogical approach combines theoretical curriculum and practical hands-on training with field visits, internship opportunities, workshop style of teaching, and student-driven classroom discussions.



# Department of Sociology Faculty

Our faculty members have received their Ph.D. degrees from acclaimed universities in India and elsewhere, including the University of Delhi, Jawaharlal Nehru University, Australia National University, Yale University, and the University of Canterbury.

Our faculty is research focused and has published in highly regarded peer-reviewed journals such as the *American Anthropologist*, *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*, *Contributions to Indian Sociology*, *Cultural Anthropology*; *HAU: Journal of Ethnographic Theory*, *Society and Culture in South Asia*, *Journal of Material Culture*, and *Journal of the*

*Anthropological Society of Oxford*, among others. Our professors are authors of monographs and edited volumes on topics of timely interest. They have also received prestigious awards, grants, and fellowships. These include the Raymond Firth Thesis Prize, the Sawyer Seminar Mellon Post-Doctoral Fellowship, the Quadrant Fellowship at the Institute for Advanced Study at the University of Minnesota, the SEPHIS Doctoral Fellowship, the Nehru Memorial Doctoral Fellowship, the Wenner-Gren Workshop Grant, Postdoctoral Fellowship at the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, Paris; Nostra Aetate Foundation

Fellowship, Vatican/Italy; IEG-ICSSR Doctoral Fellowship, Commonwealth Scholarship, University of Sussex; and AO James Bequest, University of Oxford.



## Academic Collaborations

B.A. (Research) students can study a semester at an overseas university and then transfer the earned credits to the program they are pursuing at their parent institution. This is facilitated through collaborations between Shiv Nadar Institution of Eminence's International Office and several universities abroad.

In the past, students from the Department of Sociology have gone to study at Stanford University and the University of Wisconsin Madison.



## OUR Program

The **Opportunities for Undergraduate Research (OUR)** program at Shiv Nadar Institution of Eminence aims to give students hands-on experience in conducting research and doing independent work under faculty supervision. By participating in the OUR program, students are encouraged to satisfy their natural inquisitiveness and grow their expertise in research methodology. As a result, students have earned plaudits in the field of research from their early years in undergraduate studies. Some of the recent OUR projects include the following:

- Queerness, Power and Politics
- Football in Bengaluru: Memories and Futures of Football Grounds in Bengaluru

- Ghatiya Politics, Samaj and Care: Women's Engagement with the Political in Southern Rajasthan
- Cooking with Caste: An Ethnography of Food and the Modern, Urban Dalit Identity
- Death in Covid: An Intersection between the Biomedical, Social and Political
- Urban Disparities: How City Architecture and Planning Polarize Social Geography



## Pathway to Progress

Sociology as a discipline has found its place in a variety of professional avenues and opens up a range of career options in both non-academic and academic fields. As a department, we recognize our responsibility to prepare students for their paths ahead by being competitive and standing out from other aspirants. We enable this by ensuring they can think critically and sociologically analyze issues of contemporary and future relevance. Not only do we ensure that all our courses cover relevant topics and methods that prepare our students for the world ahead, but we encourage one-on-one interactions between faculty members and students to guide them individually to make important career decisions. This has, without a doubt, allowed our students to excel in a variety of fields.



Our students are trained in various methods to investigate different structures, such as groups of people and institutions, family, gender and race, formation and functioning of bureaucratic entities, nation-states and the law, geo-political policy and environmental issues, amongst others. The training equips our students to make sense of quantitative and qualitative data and use both to understand lived reality as it exists in the real world. Further, the degree inculcates a sense of social responsibility in our students in recognizing the complexity and inter-relations amongst any number of actors composing a social reality. These are essential assets for future managers, policymakers, bureaucrats,

and media professionals and allow aspirants to be noticed as they embark on their paths in these domains. In addition to academic futures, our students are well-prepared to compete for:

- the national administrative services
- professionals in think tanks and research organizations
- experts in the development sector
- journalists in electronic and print media
- future management professionals
- policy analysts
- market research experts
- local, national, and international non-profit and non-governmental organizations



## Student Outcomes

Over the years, the Sociology Department has attracted a talented cohort of undergraduate students. Our graduates have secured places for degrees in prestigious institutions such as the London School of Economics, SOAS University of London, University of British Columbia, Canada, Sciences Po, Paris, and the University of Chicago, in Sociology, Social Anthropology, Psychology, Public Policy, and Media and Communications disciplines. Our alumni have gone on to work in NGOs involved with sustainable development projects in education and public health, as interns and consultants at research-based organizations working on public policy, and as human resource associates in reputed organizations.

## What our student says:

“Reflecting on my time at Shiv Nadar IoE, I can recall feeling intimidated in my first year due to the rigorous academic atmosphere and intellectual debates in my sociology courses. As a complete novice in sociology, I feared I might not possess the necessary background knowledge to succeed. However, the faculty dispelled my worries. Discussion-based classes allowed me to analyze influential works of prominent figures such as Marx, Foucault, and Rousseau without prior understanding. It helped me build a broad comprehension of sociology while equipping me with critical thinking abilities.

At Shiv Nadar IoE’s classrooms, I was exposed to some of the most creative thinkers while being able to voice my opinion without judgment - encouraging me to become more aware and engage more actively in what I was learning. With my newfound bravery, I pursued a minor in communication/filmmaking - allowing me to explore how visual media represents culture and people. My conversations with professors about my research interests inspired me to undertake a year-long independent research project on menstruation and the body with the OUR. This opportunity allowed me to explore my academic pursuits. Further, economics, history, and business classes broadened my horizons and prepared me for my future aspirations.

Overall, I am genuinely grateful for this incredible experience at Shiv Nadar IoE - from the professors educating us with their expertise to all the opportunities given that have empowered me to make meaningful contributions through my NGO 'The Active Dreams' and Manzar: The Visual Anthropology Society where students can explore concepts from a visual point of view and get into the realm of ethnographic filmmaking. My academic growth was substantial; it taught me invaluable leadership, teamwork, and social responsibility lessons that will stay with me forever. I am truly honored to have been accepted into renowned universities such as Oxford, UChicago, UCL, and many others. However, I'm most inclined towards accepting Chicago's offer with a scholarship of \$44000.00! With the generous and supportive faculty and staff at Shiv Nadar IoE, who provided constructive feedback on my work, engaged in discussions on my ideas, and kept me motivated, achieving this was possible in the last four years.”

**Rafia Khatoon ( Final year student of B.A. Research in Sociology with a minor in Communication)**

**Research Interest: Private-Public | Embodied Space | Sleep | Gender | Identity | Politics | Urban Life**

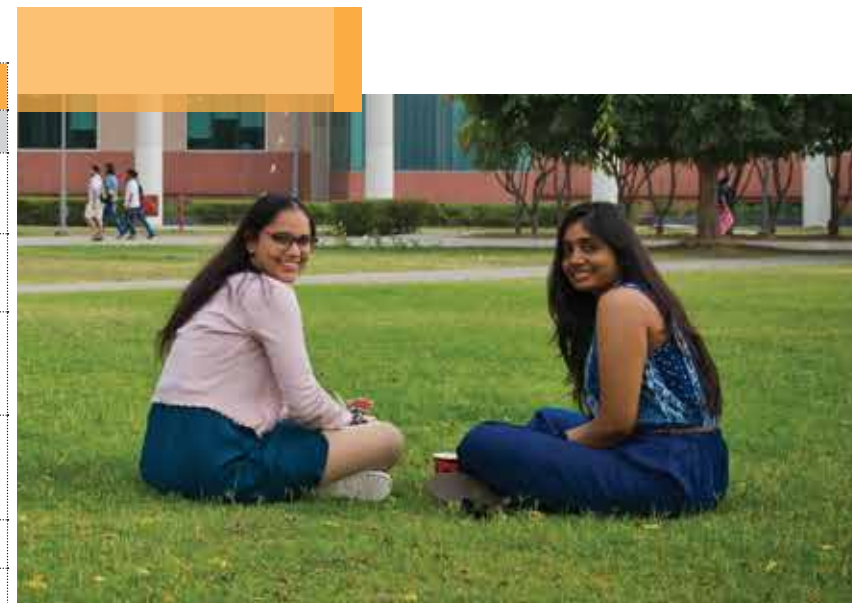


## Admissions Eligibility

Prospective students must clear the SNU-SAT entrance exam and successfully complete their class 12 exams.

### BACHELOR OF ARTS (RESEARCH) PROGRAMS

Board	Eligibility Criteria
Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, National Institute of Open Schooling, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Telangana	75% marks in aggregate in the 12th Board Exam (excluding non-academic subjects) with a minimum of 50% marks in every subject
CBSE, ISC	70% marks in aggregate in the 12th Board Exam (excluding non-academic subjects) with a minimum of 50% marks in every subject
Assam, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Punjab	65% marks in aggregate in the 12th Board Exam (excluding non-academic subjects) with a minimum of 50% marks in every subject
Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jammu and Kashmir, Maharashtra, Mizoram, Rajasthan, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, West Bengal	60% marks in aggregate in the 12th Board Exam (excluding non-academic subjects) with a minimum of 50% marks in every subject
IB curriculum	The aggregate score of 28 with a minimum of 4 in every course
Cambridge International Examinations (CIE)	Percentage Uniform Marks same as CBSE





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# Contact Details

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