

SHIV NADAR UNIVERSITY

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Department of Economics

School of Humanities and Social Sciences

Prospectus  
Ph.D. in Economics

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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## Overview

The Department of Economics at Shiv Nadar University, established in 2012, has quickly established its reputation as one of the leading centres of learning and research in the country. The department has an active research environment and the faculty members are committed to guiding and supporting doctoral candidates throughout the process of writing their doctoral thesis. The expectation is that by the time of graduating with the doctoral degree, the candidates will be at the frontier of their research field and they will be able to contribute actively to advancing the body of knowledge.

The first step of the process of admission to the doctoral programme involves shortlisting of the applicants based on the application details. The next stages will be conducted at the department itself, and comprises of a written test and an interview. Shortlisted applicants will be judged on their knowledge of Economics at the post-graduate (Master's) level, and on their ability to identify potential research topics. Candidates who are selected, and subsequently join the programme, are required to satisfactorily complete one year of compulsory coursework, with the option of taking elective courses that are on offer thereafter. The areas of research of current faculty members include Macroeconomics, Microeconomic Theory, Applied Econometrics, Environmental Economics, International Trade, Mathematical Economics, Development Economics, Labour Economics, Health Economics, Economic Growth, Public Economics, Game Theory, Network Theory and Industrial Organization. The admitted candidates are provided very generous assistantships for four years.

Details regarding eligibility to the doctoral programme, admission process, programme structure, placement of graduated doctoral students and faculty information is contained below.

## Eligibility Conditions and Admission Process

Prospective candidates must have obtained at least 55% in aggregate in a post-graduate degree in any discipline. Candidates will be selected based on their performance in the admission process (subject to the minimum eligibility condition being met). Interested candidates are requested follow the online application link on the Economics department webpage. The application fee may be paid online.

Applicants who are shortlisted after the first stage of screening will be invited to the Shiv Nadar University campus for the next stage of the admission procedure, which will comprise of a written test, and an interview. The admission process will be held over two days, July 08, 2019-July 09, 2019, and the presence of shortlisted candidates in the university campus will be required on both of these days. The objective of the admission process will be to assess applicants on their knowledge of Economics at the post-graduate level and on their ability to think about formulating a research topic. The syllabus for the written test is mentioned in this document.

## Structure of the doctoral programme

Admitted doctoral candidates are expected to complete their doctoral dissertation within four years. The first year of the programme is devoted to compulsory coursework, which will provide a foundation to start with research from the second year onwards. The table below contains the list of course that must be successfully completed in the first year:

Semester I (Monsoon Semester)	Semester II (Spring Semester)
Microeconomics I	Microeconomics II
Macroeconomics I	Macroeconomics II
Mathematical Methods	Computational Economics
Statistics	Econometrics I
Programming Language (optional)	Research Methodology

It is expected that by the end of the first year, the doctoral candidates will be able to identify a research area of interest, and choose a faculty member as the dissertation advisor. After successful completion of the first year of foundational courses, the candidates also have the option of taking elective courses that are offered by the department. The following is the list of *possible optional courses* offered by the department:

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Game Theory	Econometrics II
Advanced Mathematical Economics	Financial Economics
Industrial Organisation	Corporate Finance
Public Economics	International Finance
International Trade	Time Series Analysis
Environmental Economics	Development Economics
Growth and Business Cycle	Social Choice Theory
Machine Learning in Economics	Labour Economics
Health Economics	Mechanism Design

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## Placements:

Two doctoral candidates have graduated with a PhD in economics. Their first placement is as a Visiting Assistant Professor, Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research (IGIDR), Mumbai and as a Research Associate, Chief Minister Good Governance Programme, Asoka University, NCR

## Syllabus for the Written test

### **Microeconomics:**

Preference Relations, Choice Rules, Weak Axiom of Revealed Preference, Utility Representation of Preferences, Utility maximisation, Expenditure minimisation, Aggregation of individual demand, Production Sets, Profit maximisation, Cost minimisation, Choice under uncertainty, Game theory and strategic interaction and applications (equilibrium concepts for normal form games, extensive form games, games of incomplete information)

**Macroeconomics:** Neoclassical growth model – Solow model, Dynamic optimisation, Micro-foundations of dynamic macroeconomic model – consumption as consumer’s optimisation problem, investment as firm’s optimisation problem, fiscal policy and Ricardian equivalence, monetary policy (classical dichotomy and money non-neutrality)

**Statistics and Econometrics:** Probability theory, Statistical Inference, Linear Regression Models and Least Squares, Heteroskedasticity, Multicollinearity, Misspecified models, Endogeneity and Instrumental Variables, Maximum Likelihood Estimation, Binary Choice Models: Probit and Logit.

**Mathematical Economics:** Linear Algebra, Real Analysis, Concave-convex functions, Optimisation at a level that is appropriate for post-graduate economics

## Departmental Faculty<sup>1</sup>

- **Subhra K. Bhattacharya** (Assistant Professor)  
Ph.D. (Iowa State University)  
Specialization: Public Economics, Development Economics, Game Theory, Finance.
- **Trishita Ray Barman** (Assistant Professor)  
Ph.D. (Indian Statistical Institute)  
Specialization: Growth Theory, Public Economics
- **Shampa Bhattacharjee** (Assistant Professor)  
Ph.D. (University of British Columbia)  
Specialization: Development Economics, Health Economics, Political Economy
- **Partha Chatterjee** (Associate Professor & Head of the Department)  
Ph.D. (University of Minnesota)  
Specialization: Macroeconomics, International Economics.
- **Ashokankur Datta** (Assistant Professor)  
Ph.D. (Indian Statistical Institute)  
Specialization: Environmental Economics, Development Economics
- **Abhimanyu Khan** (Assistant Professor)  
Ph.D. (Maastricht University)  
Specialization: Applied Microeconomic Theory, Applied Game Theory
- **Anup Pramanik** (Assistant Professor)  
Ph.D. (Indian Statistical Institute)  
Specialization: Game Theory, Social Choice Theory, Mechanism Design

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<sup>1</sup> For detailed faculty profile refer to departmental webpage:  
[http://snu.edu.in/humanitiessocialsciences/humanities\\_social\\_sciences\\_economics\\_faculty.aspx](http://snu.edu.in/humanitiessocialsciences/humanities_social_sciences_economics_faculty.aspx)

- **Arka Roy Chaudhuri\*\*\*** (Assistant Professor)  
Ph.D. (University of British Columbia)  
Specialization: Labour Economics, Economics of Education, Political Economy, Experimental and Behavioural Economics, Development Economics and Economic History
- **Suchishmita Tarafdar** (Assistant Professor)  
Ph.D. (Arizona State University)  
Specialization: Macroeconomics, Theory of Optimization.

\*\*\*: These faculty members are expected to join in July 2019

## Fees Structure 2019 – 23 (in ₹)

<b>Academic Fees</b>					
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Total Payable
<b>Tuition Fees - Actual</b>	₹ 1,10,000	₹ 1,10,000	₹ 1,10,000	₹ 1,10,000	₹ 4,40,000
<b>After 100% Waiver</b>	₹ 0	₹ 0	₹ 0	₹ 0	₹ 0
<b>Hostel Fees</b>					
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Total Payable
<b>Hostel Fees- Actual</b>	₹ 1,30,000	₹ 1,30,000	₹ 1,30,000	₹ 1,30,000	₹ 2,60,000
<b>After 70% Waiver</b>	₹ 39,000	₹ 39,000	₹ 39,000	₹ 39,000	₹ 1,56,000
<b>Refundable Security Deposit</b>					
<b>Security Deposit</b>	₹ 75,000				
<b>Other Fees</b>					
<b>One Time Admission Fees</b>	₹ 25,000				



## Fellowship -Stipend

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Total
Fellowship For 48 Months( ₹50,000 for 1st and 2nd years, ₹55,000 for 3rd and 4th years)	₹ 6,00,000	₹ 6,00,000	₹ 6,60,000	₹ 6,60,000	₹ 25,20,000

### Notes:

1. Medical Insurance is compulsory for all Ph.D. Students. Premium for Medical Insurance may vary based on bulk rates negotiated by the University with service provider. The current rate and coverages are as following. Detailed information can be had from SNU HR Office.

Medical Insurance Coverage	Term Life Coverage	Personal Accidental Coverage	Annual Premium as on date
₹ 1,25,000	5,00,000	₹ 5,00,000	₹ 3,500

### 2. Waivers

- a. Waivers for tuition and hostel fee is for 8 semesters only. Beyond 8th semester, the student has to pay the hostel charges and tuition fee in full.
- b. The Department reserves the right to reduce the waiver based on the academic credentials of the applicant.
- c. A Ph.D. student may retain, lose or restore her tuition fee waiver on yearly basis. From second year onwards, the retention, loss or restoration of tuition fee waiver will be based on the following conditions
  - i. At the end of 2nd Semester, CGPA  $\geq 7.00$ : The student will retain tuition fee waiver for 2nd year (i.e. 3rd and 4th semesters)
  - ii. At the end of 2nd Semester, CGPA  $< 7.00$ : The student will lose tuition fee waiver for 2nd year (i.e. 3rd and 4th semesters).  
Student has to pay fee differential as per SNU Fee Policy

- iii. Retention, loss or restoration of scholarship from 3rd year onwards: It will be based on student maintaining satisfactory academic performance every year, as defined by Dean, Graduate Studies
3. Continuation of financial assistance is subject to satisfactory performance evaluated continuously, and compliance with all University regulations. The student is required to maintain a minimum CGPA of 7.00.
  4. The Fellowship is assured for a maximum of 48 months only and cannot be combined with any other fellowship or stipend.
  5. All charges are payable at the beginning of the Academic Year as per schedule announced separately.
  6. The use of mess and laundry services from the University authorized vendor is mandatory for all students. Advances for Mess and Laundry are ₹21,500 and ₹ 2,250 per semester, respectively. Any change in these charges are communicated by Dean-Student Welfare
  7. Security deposit is refunded on Graduation after deduction of any recoveries.