

## Shiv Nadar University

### Department of International Relations and Governance Studies

#### Ph.D. Admission Announcement

#### Commencing from August 2019

The Department of International Relations and Governance Studies at Shiv Nadar University invites applications for admission to its PhD programme. This announcement covers information related to the programme, fellowship, application process and the timeline.

#### Philosophy

The Doctoral Programme in International Relations and Governance Studies provides research scholars an excellent opportunity to acquire and consolidate a diverse set of skills. Scholars will get a ringside view of the discipline of International Relations – covering disciplinary history, theory and empirics – as well as of global currents in the study of political thought, governance and development. They will participate in debates on the philosophy of science/social science while developing a 'nuts and bolts' pragmatism when it comes to operationalizing their doctoral projects.

The threads that runs through the PhD programme are, first, an understanding of the significance of context – historical, cultural, economic, among others – when it comes to thinking about the world and, second, a keen awareness of the need to address asymmetries and deeper imbalances of knowledge production, circulation and consumption between the global North and the global South. The objective at the SNU, therefore, is to develop an Indian approach to international relations and global governance.

#### Duration

The programme spans 4 years or 8 semesters. It entails 1 year of course work and 3 years of thesis writing. Progression from coursework to thesis writing is contingent on performance in the coursework. The programme commences in Monsoon 2019 semester, around end-July/early-August 2019. Once selected, doctoral candidates are expected on reside on campus for at least 2 years and participate in the Department's activities.

#### Fees and Financial Assistance

Detailed information about the fee structure and the nature of assistantships are available on the website.

All full time PhD students admitted into the program shall receive a **doctoral fellowship consisting of 100% tuition fee waiver and 70% hostel fee waiver**. The student shall also receive a **monthly stipend of ₹ 50,000 for first two years and ₹ 55,000 for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> year**

subject to satisfactory performance. The assistantship is subject to satisfactory performance in the program evaluated continuously, and compliance with all University regulations.

### Areas of research

The programme enables rich possibilities of both disciplinary and interdisciplinary research as they pertain broadly to the fields of International Relations (IR), Development, Governance, Political Theory/Philosophy and Area Studies. Areas of current interest and expertise of the Departmental faculty are listed below. Interested candidates are also requested to see the profiles of our faculty members (click here: <https://irgs.snu.edu.in/people/faculty>).

- Development and Political Economy.
- Chinese domestic politics, and Chinese foreign and security policies in India's neighbourhood.
- International Relations Theory, Disciplinary Histories of International Relations, Global Governance and the Global South, Comparative Political Thought, Security Studies, Heuristics in the Social Sciences, and Cognition and World Politics.
- Political Theory, International Relations Theory, Politics of Identity, Performativity and Symbolism, Politics of Space and City, Politics of South Asia, Gender Studies (South Asia, Africa and West Asia), Research Methods (especially Visual Ethnography).
- Agricultural and Rural Innovation, Institutional Economics, STS (Science, Technology, Society Studies), Environment and Governance Studies.
- Political Philosophy, Critiques of Normative Theory and American Pragmatism.
- Contemporary international politics (especially the democratic order); Indian foreign policy; International relations of modern South Asia; International thought in modern India.

### Application

#### Minimum eligibility criteria

A master's degree in any of the social or natural sciences with a minimum of 60 percent marks or its equivalent in grade point from a UGC recognized university. An applicant must have exceptional academic credentials and strong aptitude for research.

#### Fees

All applicants to the Ph.D. program are required to pay a **non-refundable** application fee of ₹ 1,200.00 (Rupees One Thousand Two Hundred Only). The application fee may be

paid online or through a Demand Draft (drawn in favor of “Shiv Nadar University” payable at NOIDA) sent to the address mentioned below.

**Note:** No request for refund of the application fee shall be entertained under any circumstances.

#### Application instruction

Application to this PhD programme involves a combination of online and offline component.

An interested applicant must apply using our online portal by clicking on “Apply Now” button. Here is the link to the online portal:

<https://applications.snu.edu.in/OnlineAppPG/public/application/register/index>

Please follow the instructions given below carefully:

1. Register yourself on the portal
2. Fill all the mandatory fields
3. Upload the following documents:
  - i. Passport-size color photograph
  - ii. Latest CV
  - iii. Photocopy of marksheets of all previous degrees and certificates from class 10 onwards. Marks/grades as well as name of awarding institution must be clearly visible on each document.
  - iv. A Statement of Purpose (SoP) of 1200 words that clearly spells out the candidate’s reasons for interest in the PhD programme (in 400 words) and the research idea they want to work on (in 800 words).
  - v. A writing sample (of minimum 3,500 words)

**Note:** In addition to the above-mentioned documents, two academic letters of recommendation have to be emailed directly by their writers to the Department of International Relations and Governance Studies at shweta.bali@snu.edu.in. Mention ‘LoR – IRGS PhD – Name of the Candidate’ in the email subject field.

#### **Hardcopy submission by post**

After online submission, print the completed form and send by speed post to the University at the address given below along with the Demand Draft for application fee (if online fee payment mode is not used).

Please write “IRGS - Ph.D. Application Monsoon 2019” at the bottom left of the envelope.

**Note:** An application that does not contain the above-mentioned documents and follows the procedure laid out below may be rejected at the screening stage by the Graduate Admissions Committee.

## **Selection process**

The Department follows a three-stage selection process overseen by its Graduate Admissions Committee.

**Stage one** involves screening of received applications to ensure submission of all required documents and their verification as well meeting of the minimum eligibility criteria for applying. Applications that do not pass scrutiny at this stage are rejected.

**Stage two** comprises a combination of written exam and interview. These are marked components where 70 percent weightage will be assigned to the written exam and 30 percent for the interview.

**Stage three** involves evaluation of written exam and interview performance, merit list creation, and declaration of result.

Qualified applicants will be invited to take a written exam and appear before the Departmental committee for an interview. The format of the written exam as well as the syllabus are mentioned below.

The written exam and the interview will be conducted on the Shiv Nadar University campus on 17 and 18 July 2019. Candidates appearing for these will be provided local transport – from the nearest metro station and back. We will not be able to provide Travelling Allowance or accommodation.

## **Written exam**

The written exam will test for knowledge of relevant domains, that is, international relations and governance, as well as research methodology. It will carry 70 percent of the total weightage.

### **Exam format**

Shortlisted candidates will be asked to write an essay of 20 marks and 5 short notes of 10 marks each. The exam will be of 150 minutes duration.

### **Areas covered for the written exam**

International Relations  
Indian foreign policy  
Global political economy  
Regional security environment in the Indo-Pacific  
Contemporary debates in governance  
Political theory  
Indian government and politics

Development

**Interview**

Shall involve conversations about the candidate’s academic trajectory, domain knowledge, and research idea as articulated in the Statement of Purpose. It will carry 30 percent of the total weightage.

**Key dates**

- Publication of advertisement: 15 May 2019
- Last for applying online: 15 June 2019.
- Intimation to shortlisted candidates: 25 June 2019
- Written exam: 17 July 2019
- Interviews: 17-18 July 2019
- Intimation to selected candidates: 22 July 2019
- Coursework commencement: late-July/early August 2019

**Address for sending in hard copy of the application via speed post**

Head of the Department  
Department of International Relations and Governance Studies  
School of Humanities and Social Sciences  
Shiv Nadar University  
PO: Shiv Nadar University  
NH-91, Tehsil Dadri  
Greater Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar  
Uttar Pradesh, PIN: 201314

**Contact for queries**

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**APPLY NOW**