

**Ph.D Program
Department of History
Shiv Nadar University**

Overview

The Department of History at Shiv Nadar University offers Ph.D programs in both History and Archaeology. The Department emphasizes a critical engagement and rigorous use of the sources, as well as the ability to generate data themselves to undertake innovative and creative research into past societies. Candidates can submit proposals for undertaking research on any aspect of History, subject to the expertise of the current Faculty. Proposals on the Archaeology of the South Asian past, with an emphasis on field archaeology, as well as Museum and Heritage Studies are welcome.

Application Procedure

The Department of History, Shiv Nadar University invites applications for its Ph.D programme (starting August 2020) in both History and Archaeology.

Eligible applicants should have at least 55% in their Masters degree. Applicants who have completed their Masters or M.Phil may apply. We strongly encourage applications from the disciplines of Archaeology, History, Museology, Heritage studies and related fields.

Applicants can submit proposals for undertaking research on any aspect of History and Archaeology, relating to the expertise of the current Faculty.

A completed application must include a Curriculum Vitae, a preliminary research proposal, and a writing sample. Letters of Recommendation from two referees should be emailed to iman.mitra@snu.edu.in.

New application Dates

Due to the continuing situation concerning the outbreak of Covid-19, the department has decided to further extend the deadline for submission of applications. The changes are as follows:

All applications must be received by **15th September 2020**. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

The information regarding the written examination and interview will be communicated to candidates at a later date.

The session will start in the beginning of January 2021.

Duration

The duration of the Ph.D will be for four years, extendable by a maximum period of two more years. The minimum period for completing a Ph.D is three years, while the maximum period is six years.

Structure of the Program**Course work**

The first year of the program will be dedicated to course work, of which the first semester will engage with sources, methods, and historiography. In the second semester of course work, students are expected to take two intensive seminar courses that are geared towards their area of research. One seminar course will be structured around the collection of data for their thesis, whether in the field or in the archive, and the second, on an integral issue related to their thesis.

Candidates are expected to complete their credit requirements with a total of 16 credits, to be accomplished through four 4-credit courses, as listed below:

Semester 1

- 1) Research Methodology for Archaeology/Research Methodology for History (4 credits)
- 2) Historiography: readings of secondary sources related to their research theme (4 credits)

Semester 2

- 1) Seminar course on pilot study: Students will be expected to develop their preliminary research proposal into a pilot study for the purpose of data collection (4 credits)
- 2) Seminar course/Language course (4 credits)

Scholars are expected to obtain a minimum of Grade B overall in their course work in order to continue in the system.

Data collection

Data collection can be in the form of a field archaeological project, or in an archive, or museum. The second, third and fourth semesters will be spent on archaeological field work or archival/museum work. An additional semester can be used for the same purpose.

Advancement to Candidacy

The pilot study substantiated by data will be presented to the combined Department faculty as a Comprehensive Examination, prior to Advancement of Candidacy. The presentation should comprise about 40% of the work including sources, methods, chapterization, and one sample chapter. This presentation should be made at the end of the 4th Semester.

Students are expected to spend the third and fourth years on documentation and writing. During this period, candidates will be expected to contribute, as Teaching Assistants, to the undergraduate program of the department.

A final presentation has to be made at least three months prior to submission of the thesis in front of at least one member of the Research Advisory Committee (apart from the Research Advisor), other interested faculty and students, following which suggestions and feedback can be incorporated into the final draft of the thesis.

Presentations

Research students are expected to present their work in seminars/workshops/conferences within and outside the University and have published one paper prior to submission of their thesis.

Research Advisory Committee

Each research scholar will be guided in their work by a primary Research Advisor and two other advisors, all together who will form the Research Advisory Committee (RAC) for that scholar. If a particular expertise is not available in the Department, or in the case of a multi-disciplinary research proposal, the Research Advisor can suggest a person in another Department in the University, or in another institution. The Research Advisory Committee will meet the scholar once a semester to gauge the progress of the work and to give feedback. The primary Advisor will schedule meetings twice a month with the student to oversee the progress of the work and to give feedback.

History Faculty and their Areas of Specialization

Ajay Dandekar, Professor, Ph.D. (Jawaharlal Nehru University)

Pastoral Nomadism; Tribes, Regions Governance, Central India; Agrarian Crisis; Denotified Tribes

Sudeshna Guha, Associate Professor, Ph.D. (Deccan College)

Histories of Archaeology; Historiography of Pre-Colonial India; Visual Anthropology; Museum Studies

Hemanth Kadambi, Assistant Professor, Ph.D (University of Michigan)

Material Culture and Anthropology, Early Medieval South Asian Archaeology and History, Sacred Landscapes

Divya Kannan, Assistant Professor, Ph.D (Jawaharlal Nehru University)

History of Education; Christian Missions; Childhood studies; Global Histories of Empire, Gender Studies; South Asian Literary History

Anubhuti Maurya, Assistant Professor, Ph.D (Jawaharlal Nehru University)

Medieval and Early Modern South Asia; Kashmir; Mughal Empire; Indo - Persian Literary Traditions; Urban History

Jaya Menon, Professor, Ph.D. (Jawaharlal Nehru University)

Bronze Age; Ancient Technology; Social Archaeology

Iman Mitra, Assistant Professor, Ph.D. (Jadavpur University)

Colonial and Postcolonial Economic Histories, Intellectual History, Migration, Urbanisation, Postcolonialism

Shrimoy Roy Chaudhury, Assistant Professor, Ph.D. (Syracuse University)

History of Medicine in British Empire; History of Medical Jurisprudence and Crime in South Asia; History of Life Insurance; Post-Colonial History of Health

Meera Visvanathan, Assistant Professor, Ph.D. (Jawaharlal Nehru University)

Epigraphy; Writing systems; Translation; Ancient Indian Social History

Contact

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