

SHIV NADAR UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

Doctoral Programme

The department of sociology at Shiv Nadar University (SNU) is establishing itself as a centre of research and runs a vibrant doctoral programme that is alive to the plurality of South Asian cultures and societies and welcomes comparative analyses from field sites around the world. While individual faculty members have varied interests in unfolding contemporary processes, the department as a whole emphasizes a critical empiricism that is central to the fieldwork and ethnographic tradition of sociology and social anthropology. Simultaneously, we foreground sustained theoretical training and encourage interdisciplinary work.

Some of the research areas indicated by the faculty are: law; anthropology of the body; sonic cultures; military cultures; ethnographic research; political anthropology; visual anthropology; atmospheres and ecology; privilege and dispossession; nomads, borders & state; contemporary religiosities and material culture.

The Doctoral Programme is for a duration of 4 years and in exceptional cases may be extendable up to a maximum of 1 year.

During their doctoral programme, Ph.D. scholars will undertake coursework, conduct a pilot study and write an extended proposal on their area of research. Subsequently, students will engage in fieldwork, participate in a writing programme, and present their work to the faculty of Sociology and the School of Humanities and Social Sciences (SHSS). Students will be expected to contribute as teaching assistants for the undergraduate programme in Sociology. All Ph.D. scholars will work with a faculty advisor and a thesis advisory committee. Completed theses will be examined by two external examiners.

Coursework

Ph.D. scholars will have to complete 6 courses for a total of 24 credits in their first year in residence.

In the first semester, Ph.D. scholars are required to take 2 intensive reading and writing courses.

The first course – *Objects, Codes, Techniques* – will train students on the relation of theory to practice and the world of everyday objects. The course will be structured around readings that show the relationships between material artifacts, rules of their organisation, and the values that are embedded in such artifacts.

The second course – *Field, Archive, Ethnography* – will emphasise the significance of field-based research along with comparative traditions of enquiry and will help in interrogating and affirming disciplinary boundaries.

In addition, in both the first and second semesters, each scholar will be required to take a course called *Independent Studies in Sociology*. This course will be designed to address critical areas of scholarship or other requirements for individual projects and will be pursued under the supervision of a faculty member.

Pilot and Research Proposal

In their second semester, students will develop a pilot project around their specific areas of enquiry and prepare an extended proposal for doctoral research. The proposal will serve as a qualifying examination for proceeding to candidacy in the programme. At the end of the semester, each student will prepare an oral presentation of her project and proposed fieldwork. Students will be required to demonstrate proficiency in the language/s spoken in their proposed field sites.

Fieldwork

Generally, fieldwork will be carried out during semesters 3 and 4, with the option of extending it through another semester (i.e. 12-18 months). During their fieldwork, scholars will be registered at SNU and will remain in touch with their faculty advisor. They will submit semester-wise fieldwork reports to their thesis advisory committee.

Writing Up

Scholars will typically spend 18-24 months (ie. 3-4 semesters) writing up their theses. During this period, scholars will participate in a thesis writing group in the School of Humanities and Social Sciences (SHSS), where they will present their field research and draft chapters, as well as critically engage with other scholars and with faculty members. Ph.D. scholars will also be required to contribute to the undergraduate teaching programme during their writing up period.

Departmental Life

Ph.D. scholars play an active role in all aspects of departmental life, contributing to a dynamic and growing community of students and scholars of sociology at SNU. In addition to gaining teaching experience, scholars help organise and participate in a whole range of intellectual activities, including academic seminars, conferences, exhibitions, library and archive projects, reading groups, and ongoing research initiatives and collaborations.

The Department is committed to fostering a collegial life at SNU, where research scholars will be strongly encouraged to participate in the intellectual and social activities of SHSS and the University.

Doctoral Programme in Sociology | Overview

Requirement	Semester/s	Credits
Objects, Codes, Techniques <i>Seminar Course</i>	1 st Semester	4 credits
Field, Archive, Ethnography <i>Seminar Course</i>	1 st Semester	4 credits
Extended Research Proposal	2 nd Semester	4 credits
Fieldwork: Pilot Study	2 nd Semester	4 credits
Independent Studies in Sociology	1 st and 2 nd Semesters	4 + 4 credits
Fieldwork	3 rd & 4 th Semesters + 1 additional semester, if required	
Writing Up	Upto 8 th Semester (18-24 months)	

Faculty Profiles

For information on the Department and faculty profiles, please visit:
<https://sociology.snu.edu.in/people/faculty>

Fees, Assistantship and Grants

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 research and teaching assistantship consisting of 100% tuition-fee waiver and 70% hostel-fee waiver**. The student shall also receive a **monthly stipend of ₹50,000 for the first two years, and ₹55,000 for the next two years** subject to bench-marked performance. The assistantship is subject to satisfactory performance in the program evaluated continuously and compliance with all University regulations

Guidelines for Application

The Department of Sociology at SNU invites applications for its PhD programme, commencing in August 2020 (**postponed to January 2021**)

Eligibility

Interested students must have a Master's degree in any discipline, with a minimum of 55% or the equivalent grade-point, and/or a minimum of 55% or the equivalent grade-point in M. Phil.

Selection Process

All candidates who qualify the minimum eligibility criteria (as above) and successfully submit the completed application form of SNU will be called for an Entrance Examination comprising a written test and an interview.

The merit list of successful candidates will be determined on the basis of the score in the entrance examination and the written material supplied in the application. For this academic year, the department of sociology has a maximum of 3 positions for Ph. D scholars. The department reserves the right to admit less number of or no candidates.

Application Fees

Applicants will be required to pay a non-refundable application fees of 1200 ₹ by credit/debit card.

Application Deadline Extended

Due to the current situation concerning the outbreak of Covid-19, the department has decided to extend the deadline for submission of applications.

Please note that the application deadline for Ph D in Sociology has been extended to **September 15, 2020** in view of the present conditions of the pandemic. Candidates will be informed about the Entrance Examination after the deadline.

The Ph D course will begin in January 2021.

Application Instructions

All interested candidates are advised to go through the faculty research themes before they apply.

All interested applicants shall apply online from the link given below or on the website. Please follow the instructions carefully. The last date for submission of application is June 17, 2020.

- Fill all the mandatory fields
- **Online upload** of the following document is required
 - Passport size color photograph
 - Current CV

- All Mark sheets/Degree Certificates (10th Standard onwards)
- Standardized Examination certificate- CSIR, UGC, GATE etc. (If applicable)
- **Names and contact information of 3 Referees**
- **A Statement of Purpose which includes Research Topic, Conceptual Engagement and Review of Relevant Literature including a list of references/bibliography(minimum 4000 and maximum 5000 words, excluding the list of references/bibliography)**
- **A Writing Sample (minimum 3000 to maximum 8000 words)**

Please note that the application is not deemed complete until we receive all the necessary prescribed documents and application fees.

Supporting documents may be sent by Speed Post to:

Ms. Mamta Nagar

EA to the Department of Sociology

School of Humanities and Social Sciences

Shiv Nadar University

NH-91, Tehsil Dadri

District Gautam Buddha Nagar, UP 201314

India.

Questions? If you have questions of an academic nature write to Dr. Devika Bordia on devika.bordia@snu.edu.in for clarification.

Deadline: 15 September, 2020