

## Frequently Asked Questions

### B.A. (Honors) Humanities & Social Sciences

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#### ***Q. What is Cluster Innovation Centre?***

Cluster Innovation Centre (CIC) is a Centre set up by the University of Delhi with the objective of fostering an ecosystem of innovation and connecting research with application for the benefit of society. The aim of the CIC is to support application oriented research to solve real world problems by developing ideas into innovative applications successfully. Cluster Innovation Centre (CIC) fosters an environment of innovation and facilitates collaborations and partnerships with industry, academia and other segments of society.

#### ***Q. What is B.A. (Honors) Humanities & Social Sciences?***

B.A. (Honors) Humanities & Social Sciences is an interdisciplinary Undergraduate programme that is based on the idea of “*education beyond boundaries*”. The programme envisages education for students that liberates ideas and foster creative, imaginative and analytic skills in students through a study of various courses in Humanities and Social Sciences. A degree in B.A. (Hons) Humanities & Social Sciences is thus a degree that breaks the traditional discipline-specific boundaries and instead approaches education by holistically engaging with the eclectic gamut of Humanities and Social Science courses.

B.A. (Honors) Humanities & Social Sciences fulfils the mandate of the New Education Policy framework as a four year Honors degree programme in interdisciplinary courses. The highlights of the programme are ‘design your degree’ and ‘meta-college’ concept which foster an interdisciplinary approach in true sense to the study of Humanities and Social Sciences.

The concept of this course can be summarised as:

1. Design your own degree
2. Hands-on group projects, virtual learning, internships
3. Learn beyond the classroom
4. Connect education with society and industry
5. Inter/trans-disciplinarity for holistic education

***Q. What are the programme objectives?***

**PO1:** To inculcate inter- and trans- disciplinary approaches in students for better understanding of the society and problems it faces.

**PO2:** To bring out holistic solutions to the social problems especially in the clusters of education, industry, slums and villages and implement these solutions through intervention in tandem with public, private and non governmental organisations.

**PO3:** To develop an attitude of social entrepreneurship and innovation.

**PO4:** The programme aims at bridging the gap between academia, industry and society through practicals, solution-based approach learning and social experimentation.

**PO5:** The programme expects students to develop an approach of critical thinking and provide them an exposure to research at undergraduate level.

***Q. What is Design your Degree?***

The programme allows students to design their degree in consultation with their mentors by selecting courses from the pool of Humanities & Social Sciences courses offered at various constituent colleges of University of Delhi. The courses selected by the student must fulfil the mandate of the degree which is to engage with ideas and social problems through the lens of multiple disciplines.

The “design your degree” concept which is a key feature of B.A. (Hons.) Humanities & Social Sciences is fulfilled by offering courses at Cluster Innovation Centre that lay the foundation of interdisciplinary study. These unique courses are an attempt at nurturing minds to question and respond to the changing demands of knowledge and the world at large.

Hence, the students benefit from the eclectic knowledge reservoir available at CIC from the areas of Environmental Science, Geography, Tourism, Literature, Media and Communication Studies, Natural Sciences, and Psychology as well as experts in different colleges.

***Q. What do you mean by meta-college concept?***

Meta-college concept is one of the unique features exclusive to B.A. Honours programme at Cluster Innovation Centre. University of Delhi comprises more than 80 colleges offering a wide variety of discipline and professional courses and students registered for the B.A. (Honors) Humanities & Social Sciences programme can choose any of the constituent colleges of the University to study courses that are in line with their chosen streams. This enables them to

choose the best among a large pool of resources available at the UoD. Meta-college concept, thus challenges the traditional institutional boundaries and provides students a unique opportunity to design their degree by deriving knowledge from a variety of expert resources.

The programme allows:

- Flexible learning environment
- Skill-based learning
- Entrepreneurship
- Linking academia with society and industry
- Exposure to undergraduate research
- Solution-based hands-on learning
- Social intervention

***Q. What kinds of projects are undertaken by the students?***

All projects undertaken by students have to be socially relevant which try to solve the problems of society for example social development issues in urban slums and villages. These projects are aimed at social innovation and social intervention. Most of the projects are carried out in collaboration with governmental or non-governmental organisations like Delhi Jal Board (DJB), Aman Biradari, Delhi Police, National Deaf Society etc.



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\* University of Delhi has the right to change the number of seats.



***Q. What is the fee structure of the B.A. (Honours) Humanities & Social Sciences course?***

The fee\* for the course is Rs. 10,000/- per semester and Rs.1000/- which is refundable (Library Security) one time. In addition to this the student shall have to pay the university examination fee at the time of the end-semester examinations. In case a student gets hostel accommodation he/she shall have to pay the hostel charges separately.

***\*The fees is subject to change.***

***Q. Is hostel facility available for students?***

Yes, hostel facility is provided to a limited number of students only on the basis of merit/rank in entrance test examination and continuous evaluation throughout the course.

***Q. Do students get an opportunity to do internships?***

Yes, internship is an important aspect of this course. Some of the organisations where our students have worked as interns are: Planning Commission of India, Oxford University Press (OUP), National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC), Harper Collins, IAVE (a United Nations based Organization), IBM, IIM, Ahmedabad, Institute of Human Behavior and Allied Sciences, Institute of Rural Research and Development (IRRAD), Vani Prakashan (leading Hindi Publisher), The Hindu (leading English daily newspaper), Rural Immersion programme, techaloo.com, Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL), Katha, IGNC, DU Community Radio, Prayas, etc. However, the Centre does not provide internships to the students. The students are expected to find the internship themselves.

***Q. How does this degree foster the culture of research at UG level?***

This course has semester-long project work as a compulsory component which has the component of both: theory and field work. Students are expected to identify social problems and go on field surveys to collect the primary data. Students then work out solutions for resolving the problems. They are encouraged to participate in seminars and conferences and present their findings there. Many of our students regularly participate in seminars and conferences in India and abroad. They have also published their work in research journals of repute.

**DISCLAIMER:** All the above information is subject to change as per the relevant decisions of University of Delhi in this regard at any point of time.

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