

**Ahmedabad
University**

Ahmedabad University is a private, non-profit institution established in 2009. We provide a liberal education, preparing students to reflect deeply and creatively across fields to become independent thinkers and compassionate leaders. This unique learning process is mediated by projects, fieldwork and a belief that a strong theoretical grounding leads to robust practice. As a student-centric, research university, we are committed to the discovery of ideas that can enhance our understanding of issues facing our world at the intersection of various axes of influence defined by: disciplines (data, materials, biology, and behavior), nature (air, water, forests, and land), sectors of impact (health, transport, energy, and education) and society (individual, community, civilization and constitution).

PhD Programmes in ARTS AND SCIENCES

The School of Arts and Sciences forms the core of Ahmedabad University's educational experience. We offer graduate learning to the highest standards in a variety of academic disciplines, spanning the range from visual arts to life sciences, from physics to history.

The spectacular new School of Arts and Sciences building, designed by Rahul Mehrotra of RMA Architects, was opened in December 2019. It stands near the entrance to the University's 180-acre campus, and contains spaces that include psychology and biology labs, interactive classrooms, a two storey reading room and a unique double height black box theatre space. The environmentally sensitive building is a spectacular home to a dynamic educational initiative, and was conceived in the Indian modernist architectural tradition.

The School is a friendly and welcoming entity that engages with the wider society, and has since its formation hosted around one hundred eminent academic and specialist speakers from India and across the world to seminars or lectures. Students are encouraged to take part in this intellectual exchange. We are driven by a sense of social purpose and a passion for international cultural interaction. We hope that all those who join us as students will aspire to the pursuit of academic excellence, and

our faculty are committed to providing the teaching and research support required to achieve this ambition.

As the world is obliged to address challenging new questions around technology, existential risk, the role of artificial intelligence, rapid social change and the complex moral and political demands these make on our existing understanding, we seek at Ahmedabad University to act as a welcoming bridge not only between the liberal arts and sciences, but between academic and intellectual life.

Committed to offering students an excellent liberal education, the School practices collaborative, inter-disciplinary learning. We support a stimulating intellectual environment that enables our faculty and students to excel in their scholarship, develop new knowledge and build rewarding careers. The School of Arts and Sciences asserts the centrality of the arts and sciences in a broad, fulfilling education and a diverse public sphere.

The School comprises of five divisions: Humanities and Languages; Social Sciences; Biological and Life Sciences; Mathematical and Physical Sciences and Visual and Performing Arts.



▼ RESEARCH AREAS

■ **Humanities and Social Sciences:**

The PhD programme in Interdisciplinary Humanities and Social Sciences (IHS) at Ahmedabad University is unique in India. Unlike conventional doctoral programmes, the framework of our IHS programme recognises the inherently interdisciplinary nature of knowledge production. The programme integrates theoretical training with a focus on cutting-edge research methods, and allows for flexibility in designing interdisciplinary and disciplinary research projects. Students who wish to design an interdisciplinary PhD project are trained to pursue novel research questions that transcend disciplinary silos across the humanities and social sciences. The programme is equally committed to cultivating disciplinary depth and also supports scholars who are interested in pursuing research in the following disciplines: Psychology, History, Political Science Philosophy, Urban Studies, Anthropology and Sociology.

- **Life Sciences:** Biochemistry, Cancer and Stem Cells, Physiology and Neuroscience, Systems Biology, Host-pathogen interactions, Bioinformatics, Ecology, Evolution, and Conservation, Forensic Science, Nano-biotechnology and drug delivery, and Parasitology

- **Physics:** Atmospheric Physics, Air Pollution, Climate Change; Gravitation and Cosmology; Plasma and Ion Beam Physics; Quantum Computing; Statistical Physics; Magneto-optics; Optical Magnetrometry.

- **Mathematical and Computational Sciences:** Additive Combinatorics, Combinatorial Number Theory, Number Theory - Modular Forms, Automorphic Forms, and Automorphic Representations, Mathematical Physics and String Theory, Noncommutative Topology and Geometry, Quantum Computing, Data Science and Statistical research in Health and Climate Extreme Value Statistics, Combinatorial Algorithms, Population Genetics, Statistical Computing, Bioinformatics, Mathematical Biology, High-Performance Scientific Computing Edge and Fog Computing, Population-Based Bio-Inspired Algorithms



▼ HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

- More than 20 PhD students are working currently and 6 students have graduated so far
- About 20 plus ongoing/completed externally funded research projects. Funding agencies include Science and Engineering Research Board , Department of Biotechnology , Indian Council of Medical Research , Board of Research in Nuclear Sciences , Department of Atomic Energy, Indo-German Bilateral Grant, Gujarat State Biotechnology Mission, International Union for Conservation of Nature , Spencer Foundation, United States of America, US National Academy of Education, and DST Indo-Russian Grant
- Many of the faculty members have received prestigious national and international level fellowships like Ramalingaswamy Fellowship, Ramanujan Fellowship, Welcome DBT India Alliance Fellowship, European Molecular Biology Organization EMBO, Yamagiwa-Yoshida (YY) Memorial International Cancer Study Grant-Japan, Social Science Research Council (USA), Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR)-IMPRESS Grant, and Endeavor Research Fellowship-Australia
- More than 25 publications in peer-reviewed international journals in 2019-2020
- Nine laboratories and advanced research facilities that maintain state-of-the-art equipment and instrumentation supporting a full range of biological and life sciences research activities
- Talks and presentations from experts around the globe are a key part of the vibrant research environment at the school

For further information about research, please visit www.ahduni.edu.in/academics/schools-centres/school-of-arts-and-sciences/research/

▼ FACULTY AND RESEARCH

We have more than 45 faculty members at School of Arts and Sciences who pursue research at the prominent edge of their fields. Our students cultivate close working relationships with faculty devoted to the production of new knowledge. As they train the next generation of researchers and teachers, our faculty takes the role of mentor seriously. Overall goals of the faculty are to help students acquire the research skills necessary to develop original research studies that have direct applications.

For further information about School and faculty profile, please visit

www.ahduni.edu.in/sas/faculty



▼ ELIGIBILITY

- **Humanities and Social Sciences:** All potential candidates must apply through the Graduate Application Portal. The admission requirement for the PhD programme includes a Master's degree (minimum 55%) or equivalent training in any of the social sciences, humanities or related disciplines, a brief statement of research interest, and a writing sample. Based on the information submitted through the application portal, candidates will be shortlisted for a written exam. Those successful in the written exam will be selected for an interview. Applicants with a score of 60% or more in the UGC-NET exam are exempted from the written exam but must go through an interview process if shortlisted. In exceptional cases, a candidate with a Bachelor's degree in any discipline who displays remarkable interest and potential for research in the humanities and social sciences may be admitted to the programme, albeit with the requirement of completing additional credits as per the overall PhD policy of Ahmedabad University.
- **Life Sciences:** Candidates having a first class (55% and above) Masters degree or an equivalent grade in a point scale where the grading system is followed, in any of the areas given below, are eligible to apply for the PhD programme in Biological and Life Sciences. These areas include any area of Biological or Biomedical Sciences broadly defined. They include but are not confined to Biochemistry, Microbiology, Biotenchnology, Botany, Zoology, Chemistry, Life Sciences, Nanotechnology, Physiology, Biophysics, Toxicology, Bioinformatics, Environmental Science, Environmental Engineering, Biomedical Engineering, and Forensic Sciences (Biology/Chemistry). An equivalent degree in subjects related to biological sciences, or other areas of science and engineering may be considered if the candidate can demonstrate strong scholastic ability, and an interest in biological sciences.
- **Physics:** Candidates with a score of minimum 55% in M. Sc. (Physics) are eligible to apply. The School of Arts and Sciences will conduct a written test and interview; however, applicants with high enough rank/scores on CSIR-UGC NET /DBT /ICMR /DST /JEST /GATE / GRE Subject Test or any other well recognised test, as decided by each discipline, will be exempted from the written test
- **Mathematical and Computational Sciences:** Candidates having a first class (55% and above) master's degree or an equivalent grade in a point scale where the grading system is followed, in any of areas given below, are eligible to apply for the PhD programme in Mathematical and Computational Sciences. These areas include Mathematics, Statistics, Computer Science, Engineering, and Physics.

Candidates having a four-year bachelor's degree in the above subjects may also be admitted to the Programme provided they have secured (60 percent and above) or an equivalent grade in a point scale where the grading system is followed. Such students will be admitted to the PhD programme first as pre-doctoral candidates and will be treated as doctoral candidates only upon completion of the requirements.





▼ ADMISSION PROCESS


- Students are admitted twice every year. The online application process for the monsoon semester starts in February and the online application process for the winter semester starts in September.
- Submit the completed application form online along with the required fees and all supporting documents through the portal www.auris.ahduni.edu.in/adm-ahduni-doctoral.php
- Eligible and qualifying candidates will be short-listed based on merit, the submitted documents, statement of purpose, and any essay (if required). They will be required to appear for a written test and/or panel interview
- The dates for written test/interview will be notified in advance
- Shortlisted candidates will be called for an interview. The final selection of candidates to the PhD programme in Mathematical and Computational Sciences will be based on their performance in the national level/standardised tests (CSIR/UGC/ICMR/DBT/DST INSPIRE/GATE/GRE Subject Test etc) and the interview

▼ FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Ahmedabad University awards full tuition fee waiver and financial support to full-time doctoral students. The financial support could be either University Assistantship, or University Fellowship, or from sponsored projects. We offer University Assistantship at INR 40,000 per month plus tuition fee waiver and University Fellowship at INR 50,000 per month plus tuition fee waiver.



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