

An INVITATION to participate

in our **experiments** to transform Higher Education in India

Ahmedabad University is a private, non-profit institution of higher learning dedicated to rigorous academic pursuit with a focus on building enquiry as a value through interdisciplinary learning.

We provide liberal education that prepares students to think deeply and creatively across fields and emerge as independent thinkers and compassionate leaders who can innovatively engage with the complex challenges of our society. As a research university, we are committed to the discovery of ideas that enhance our understanding of the issues that face our society.

We are building an environment where students and professors explore by reflecting, challenging views and assumptions of each other through data and rigorous discussions, and collaborating to develop insights. This unique learning process is mediated by projects, field work and a belief that good theory leads to good practice.



Ahmedabad University Located in one of India's most vibrant cities, Ahmedabad University has a unique mindset to develop cultural and entrepreneurial sensitivity in our graduates. It was established in 2009 by the Ahmedabad Education Society (AES) which is an 81 years old society. AES and its founders have been directly and indirectly instrumental in pioneering several institutions of higher learning such as Ahmedabad Textile Industries Research Association (ATIRA), Physical Research Laboratory (PRL), National Institute of Design (NID), Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad (IIMA) and Center for Environmental Planning and Technology (CEPT). The University's DNA comprises eminent founders, a congregation of inspiring teachers, engaging scholars, and a talented pool of highly motivated students.

Our Purpose: "To foster continuous progress of self and society"

- To prepare leaders of outstanding character who will contribute significantly to their fields of study and practice.
- To build an evolving learning environment that is based on crossdisciplinary linkages among the arts, sciences, and professional disciplines, combined with deep reflection.
- To actively advance research and intellectual enterprise at the University and in society.
- To promote independent mindedness and diversity across all dimensions of the University.
- To actively advance the social, economic, and ecological development of local, national, and international communities.
- To educate young people of India and the world to become contextuallyliterate global citizens.
- To catalyze students to mature into critical thinkers who are analytically equipped, practically oriented, and ethically driven.

We recognise that social challenges and job opportunities are occurring 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 and community). Accordingly, Ahmedabad University strives to guide students on how to learn through interdisciplinary academic and real-life experiences that traverse these intersections. Research programmes at the University also embody this integrative perspective.





Ahmedabad University has four schools and five centres. Each school and centre allows interdisciplinary learning, organic exchange, and encourages innovative solutions to present day problems merging a variety of disciplines.

Amrut Mody School of Management (AMSOM)

offers programmes leading from undergraduate to doctoral degrees and short term certificate programmes for practitioners. AMSOM currently offers:

- Bachelor of Commerce
- Bachelor of Business Administration
- Integrated Master of Business Administration (BBA-MBA)
- Master of Business Administration
- Executive Education
- Doctoral Programme

School of Engineering and Applied Science (SEAS)

delivers undergraduate and postgraduate engineering programmes with an extensive project based learning to produce relevant learning outcomes. SEAS currently offers:

- Bachelor of Technology in Information and Communication Technology, Chemical Engineering and Mechanical Engineering
- Master of Technology in Computer Science and Engineering
- Doctoral Programme

School of Computer Studies (SCS)

provides technology expertise and application knowledge for career development in the IT industry. The curriculum is contemporary and industry-oriented with specialisations and emerging trends in IT and computing. SCS currently offers:

Integrated Master in Computer Applications



School of Arts and Sciences (SAS)

will eventually form the core of education at Ahmedabad University. Currently, SAS operates the Division of Biological and Life Sciences and is in the process of establishing divisions in Humanities and Languages, Social Sciences, Mathematical and Physical Sciences, Performing and Visual Arts. SAS currently offers:

- Master of Arts in Economics
- Integrated Master of Science in Life Sciences (BS MS)
- Doctoral Programme

VentureStudio

is a unique centre at Ahmedabad University, to support creation of innovative scalable start-ups. VentureStudio also runs a fellow programme in innovative business design in collaboration with the Center for Design Research, Stanford University.

Centre for Heritage Management

at Ahmedabad University is one of its kind in India which specialises in heritage management. It is established to promote conservation and management of heritage resources. CHM runs a master's programme on Heritage Management, a pioneering effort towards professionalising heritage education in the country. The Centre has a partnership with University of Valladolid, Spain and University of Ferrara, Italy to promote cooperation towards joint academic and entrepreneurial activities related to heritage and arts management. CHM currently offers:

Master of Management Studies in Heritage Management



Centre for Learning Futures

The Centre for Learning Futures focuses on innovation in teaching and learning. The Centre administers the reading and writing programme of the University, supports faculty with new pedagogical experiments, and is exploring technological opportunities to foster multi-lingual communication skills as well as pedagogy.

Global Centre for Environment and Energy

The Global Centre for Environment and Energy addresses research needs at the interfaces of three vital global challenges - environment, energy and sustainability. The Centre aims to be a global leader in research and education to address world challenges through interlinking policy, entrepreneurship, science and technology. It draws on researchers, teachers, experts and students across the University and offers them the landscape to build core competency to explore, innovate, integrate and solve complex social, technical and economic issues. The Centre invites students to pursue research in the areas of energy, environment and sustainability. The Centre offers opportunities for public-private partnership to develop sustainable environment and energy options for future generations. It builds on Ahmedabad University's core areas of research and education and collaborates with global institutions of excellence.

Physiotherapy College for the Visually Impaired

The Physiotherapy College for the Visually Impaired runs a Diploma Programme in Physiotherapy on two campuses: one at the School for Deaf-Mute Society in Navrangpura and another at the Blind People's Association. Our students are provided in-depth education in physiotherapy and are trained to become computer literate. Their education is completely free, which includes tuition fees, and students are provided accommodation and food. The Programme ensures our students become independent and are able to lead successful careers in the field. The Centre also runs a Physiotherapy Clinic that provides treatment to people at nominal costs.



How is Ahmedabad University different?

ORIENTATION TOWARDS STUDENTS' LEARNING

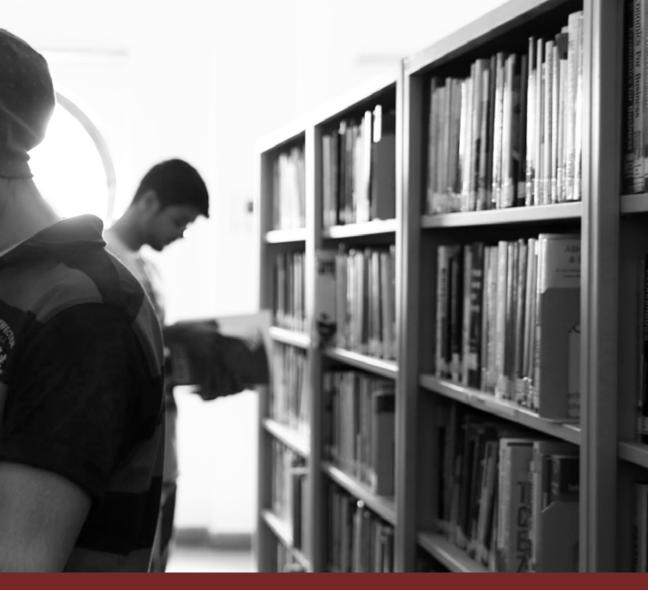
Self Discovery

• Independent Study Period

During the Independent Study Period (ISP), the University offers a range of learning opportunities including block courses, studioinspired experiential courses, courses on perspective and skill building, innovative experiments in learning programmes that cut across disciplines and schools. A variety of University research programmes for undergraduates, independent study and more which are not available during the regular curricular periods of the semesters.

• Discovering India

The course "Discovering India" at AMSOM is a one of its kind interdisciplinary course including an excursion trip as an experimental activity based learning component – which proposes to enhance student learning with focus on vital themes such as history, ethnicity, culture, heritage, history of nationalistic movements, politics and economics.



Independent Mindedness

• The Nalanda

The Nalanda is a multi-disciplinary, multi-programme, student driven, aspirational platform to explore the realm of ideas triggered by live interaction in small groups with invited speakers. The Nalanda is organised monthly to provide students with an opportunity to interact with intellectuals and leaders who are also deep thinkers in various domains.

Learning by Doing

• The PBL Community & ENABLE

The PBL Community: Ahmedabad University implements Project-Based Learning (PBL) as an important methodology for building student capabilities of "how to learn" through practical applications. The PBL Community comprises of faculty who *implement project-based learning in their* courses. Ahmedabad University believes "engagement" with the context and environment, and "application" of concepts are the two most critical aspects of better learning. Hence, Ahmedabad University's pedagogy is named "Engagement and Application Based Learning & Education" (ENABLE).

Applications & Society: Good Theory makes Good Practice

It is our endeavor to link theory to hands on practice through real projects. Some recent examples are:

• Project Bharatpur

Ahmedabad University worked with Team ADE (Affordable Design and Entrepreneurship) from Olin & Babson College of USA in Project Bharatpur. Four of our AMSOM students went for a Project Based Learning experience at the National Park in Bharatpur. They worked on building and testing the prototype cycle-rickshaw and conducting an urban rickshaw pullers survey.

• Project: Kahinee – A voice aided system for rural healthcare

Kahinee is a voice assisted service (VAS) system intended to impart education and awareness in rural areas about maternal and child care, nutrition, anemia and government health policies as well as facilities. Kahinee aims to impart training and healthcare education to ASHA workers. PHC`s doctors (Primary Healthcare Centre), nurses and rural patients. They have worked with Harvard based NGO Barakat Bundle to provide Kahinee's audio services with their baby kits. They also provided a dashboard to Barakat Bundle to analyse the calling trend of users.

• The Practice School and Internships

Internships are generally not required by all programmes. We are working towards developing a Practice School that facilitates internship for all students.





Critical thinking and building analytical, innovative & entrepreneurial mindsets

We have been offering university wide courses that are open to students from all schools on critical thinking, design thinking, negotiations, communications etc. We are working towards developing a Foundation Programme for all university students irrespective of their discipline to build certain mindsets. These would be complemented by courses in data sciences, computation, design processes, civilisation and entrepreneurship abilities.

• Courses & Fellowship at Venture Studio

VentureStudio has designed a fellowship programme for Ahmedabad University students. The programme can be undertaken with the existing university education for which credits can be earned. The programme has been designed to train fellows to find solutions for real life situations. This includes application of principles of design, engineering, finance, business management and collaboration through a unique methodology that would equip them with the ability to create sustainable ventures. The programme provides experiential learning to create a potentially winning venture during their studies. Duration of this programme is six months (January to June) and is open to students in final year.

Ahmedabad Heritage Venture Lab (AHVL) is another unique programme started by CHM and VentureStudio of Ahmedabad University, Casa De La India and University of Valladolid, Spain, and is sponsored by the European Union. It seeks to promote ventures in the field of heritage management.



Broad Exposure and Deep Exploration

• Interdisciplinary Curriculum

The Schools promote interdisciplinary exploration to address complex problems faced by the society while building deep disciplinary skills. This is what sets us apart by building the university into a think lab which provides the students and the faculty a platform to bring their learning into practice by crossing the boundaries. We want to build a culture which will open minds of our students to think independently and beyond limits. Our curriculum requires students to take courses across the University and allows them to discover their own strengths and passions.

• Capstone Projects and Undergraduate Thesis

Some programmes already have Capstone Projects like the Ratnamani Research Project at AMSOM. As we develop our programmes further, the UG Thesis is likely to become a unique opportunity to study issues in depth.

• MOU with CEPT

We have an MOU with CEPT that allows our students to take courses at CEPT and their students at Ahmedabad University.

Academic Advising and Tutoring

Ahmedabad University values the role of academic advising in the success of our students and our faculty members play an active role in mentoring students. We are developing a programme where each student is assigned a faculty advisor who will guide them academically, review their performance, and lead them towards meaningful careers. Student tutors are currently available at most schools.

RESEARCH UNIVERSITY

Ahmedabad University is aspiring to become a research university where it contributes to the society through its deep innovative thinking and agenda based research. Some of the elements of our strategy that set us apart from other institutions in the country are:

- Startup, Seed, Challenge grants
- Faculty Development support
- State-of-art laboratories and workshops
- Research Seminar Series (including joint seminar with CEPT and NASI)
- VentureStudio innovation support for commercialisation of innovation
- Global grant making and publications

The University is developing an Undergraduate Research Programme (UGRP) to encourage undergraduate students to experience the joy of research and what it means to be a researcher. Through the Undergraduate Research Programme, UGRP, the University provides several opportunities to students to deeply explore issues or ideas by either working on it independently under the supervision of a faculty or with a faculty member in their lab work or on their research projects. This programme tenders valuable preparation for graduate school and imparts exposure to a research-oriented career. It also provides an opportunity to work closely with a professor. UGRP provides supervised research support that under certain conditions is eligible for credit.

CENTRE OF CITY LOCATION

Ahmedabad University campus is located in the heart of the city of Ahmedabad, Gujarat, India, in the centre of Ahmedabad's knowledge precinct that comprises of premium educational institutes such as ATIRA, CEPT, IIM, PRL etc. This provides a thriving academic ambience and the city becomes the context of learning. Ahmedabad University is a city university with a central campus and facilities surrounding it. The campus comprises of heritage buildings and new architecture thus creating a unique blend of its historical lineage and a contemporary future.

UNDERSTANDING THE CONTEXT AND SENSE OF THE TIME

Partnerships with various Indian and Global Institutions like SEWA, Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation, OLIN College of Engineering, Stanford University's Centre for Design Research, University of Valladolid, and University of Ferrara etc. Ahmedabad University offers global exposure to its students and faculty through collaborations with leading international educational institutions. Our partners, some of the most innovative in their fields of specialisation, are assisting us in developing distinctive strengths within the local context to meet our challenges. Many global organisations (like ABB, National Park Service USA etc.) are offering internship opportunities to our students.



OUR LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

The learning environment at Ahmedabad University offers a liberal education which emphasises how to learn, cultivates a love for life-long learning and empowers students to become independent-minded. The academic curriculum provides an intellectual rigour, with a focus on learning through an interdisciplinary and experiential/project-based approach.

Few of our outstanding Faculty

Our faculty are exceptional scholars from across the world. Many of the faculty members hold doctoral degrees from universities of national and international repute and publish extensively in peer-reviewed journals. With a student-centric approach, they challenge students' conventional thinking, encourage them to strive for excellence and mentor them to become leaders in their respective fields.



Sunil Kale is the Dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Science at Ahmedabad University. He has over thirty years of experience in teaching and research in mechanical engineering, particularly in heat and mass transfer, fluid mechanics, combustion, and fire dynamics. He completed his PhD and Masters in Mechanical Engineering from Stanford University. He has several publications on topics such as the experimental study of the effects of water mist characteristics on pool fire suppression, burning of vertical cloth panels, air flow through a non-air-conditioned bus with open windows, and flows through micro-channels.





Abrar Ali Saiyed earned his PhD in Management from Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad. His specialisation is in entrepreneurship, strategy and international business. He teaches "Sociology of a Bazaar" which immerses students into experiential learning through field trips into the old city of Ahmedabad. He has a keen interest in social work and promoting local heritage and culture.

Ashutosh Kumar is an Assistant Professor in Biological and Life Sciences at the School of Arts and Sciences at Ahmedabad University. He has completed his PhD in Biotechnology from the CSIR-Indian Institute of Toxicology Research, Lucknow. His current research areas of interest include nanomedicines for cancer and arthritis therapy, nano-emulsion for food industries, DNA biochips for pathogen detection, and environmental nanotechnology. Professor Kumar was conferred the NASI – Young Scientist Platinum Jubilee Award (2015) and INSA Medal for Young Scientist (2014) for his scientific contributions in the area of Health Sciences.





Devanath Tirupati is one of the leading academics known for his expertise in operations management. Professor Tirupati received his PhD from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Professor Tirupati has an exhaustive list of publications in international peer-reviewed journals in India and abroad. He was the Dean and Acting Director of the Indian Institute of Management Bangalore (IIMB). He is currently the Dean of the Amrut Mody School of Management.

Howard Spodek is the Shrenik Lalbhai Chair Professor at Ahmedabad University. He was recently conferred the Lifetime Achievement Award, regarded as the highest honour, by the World History Association. Professor Spodek received his PhD from the University of Chicago in history, with a focus on India and especially the city of Ahmedabad. As a Chair Professor, he has delivered a series of lectures on World History at Ahmedabad University. In addition to publishing numerous books and articles, he has also served as the executive producer of two award-winning documentary films on Ahmedabad.





Mita Suthar teaches Economics at the Amrut Mody School of Management. Professor Suthar received her PhD from Gujarat University and has published extensively in journals of national and international repute. She was a special invitee at the 2nd International Cash Conference organised by Deutsche Bundesbank, Germany. She was also conferred the Chairman's Teaching Award by the University for her excellence in teaching.

Ramadhar Singh is a Distinguished University Professor at Ahmedabad University. He has previously worked with the National University of Singapore, IIM Bangalore, IIM Ahmedabad and IIT Kanpur. He earned his PhD in social psychology from Purdue University. Professor Singh was the only psychologist from India to be included in the Association for Psychological Science website on Faces and Minds of Psychological Science. Professor Singh is a Fellow of the American Psychological Association, the Association for Psychological Science, the British Psychological Society, the Society of Personality and Social Psychology, the Singapore Psychological Society, and the National Academy of Psychology (India).





Ratnik Gandhi is a Computer Scientist working at the School of Engineering and Applied Science. Before joining Ahmedabad University, he was a postdoctoral fellow at Tel Aviv University, Israel and Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai. He obtained his PhD from Dhirubhai Ambani Institute of Information and Communication Technology in 2011.



Chakravarthi Rangarajan is a Distinguished University Professor at Ahmedabad University. He is a leading economist of India who has played a key role both as an academic and a policy-maker. He has held several important positions which include Governor of the Reserve Bank of India, Governor of Andhra Pradesh, Chairman of the Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Council, Chairman of the Twelfth Finance Commission, and President of the Indian Economic Association. He obtained his PhD from the University of Pennsylvania and has authored several books on the Indian

economy. Professor Rangarajan has been a recipient of several prestigious awards. In recognition of his distinguished service to the country, the Government of India honoured him with the Padma Vibhusan in 2002 (second highest civilian award).

Jeemol Unni holds a PhD from the Sardar Patel Institute of Economic and Social Research, Ahmedabad. Before joining Ahmedabad University she was the Director of the Institute of Rural Management Anand (IRMA) and RBI Chair Professor of Economics at IRMA. In the areas of rural and urban labour markets she focuses on the informalisation of labour and production systems, and the gender implications of this process. In addition, her research addresses issues of returns to education and social protection to informal workers including both social and economic securities. She actively collaborates with national and international



NGOs while addressing issues related to workers in the informal sector, particularly women.



Patrick French is the Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences at Ahmedabad University. He is also Professor for the Public Understanding of the Humanities, advocating for their importance in a well-rounded, modern education. Dr French is an awardwinning historian and biographer, and has a PhD in South Asian Studies and an MA in English Literature, both from Edinburgh University. An author of several books, he is presently researching the official biography of the Nobel Laureate Doris Lessing. He is a Visiting Fellow at Cambridge University's Centre for Research in the

Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities, and in 2018 will be the Derek Brewer Visiting Fellow at Emmanuel College, Cambridge.

Priyadarshi Shukla is a Distinguished Professor at Ahmedabad University. He holds a PhD from Stanford University in Management Science and Engineering. He is a leading author of several international reports which includes nine reports of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). He has been awarded a certificate for his 'Contribution to the Award of Nobel Peace Prize' for 2007 to the IPCC. Dr Shukla specialises in energy and environment modelling and policies. At Ahmedabad University, he will build an interdisciplinary academic centre that engages with global issues of energy and environment.





Aditi Deo is an Assistant Professor in Humanities and Languages at the School of Arts and Sciences at Ahmedabad University. She has a PhD from Indiana University, Bloomington (USA) in Ethnomusicology, with minors in Folklore, and Communication and Culture. Her research interest is primarily in the music of the Indian subcontinent, especially Hindustani Khyal music, Hindi film music, and the vernacular folk traditions in Rajasthan and Gujarat.

Bibek Banerjee is the Senior Dean of Strategic Initiatives and Planning and Professor at the Amrut Mody School of Management, Ahmedabad University. Dr Banerjee has done his PhD in Industrial Organization and Marketing Science and his MS in Economics from Purdue University, USA. Dr Banerjee has taught executives all around the world, and his current teaching interests are in sustainable and integrated business orientation, strategic marketing, and leadership across hierarchies.

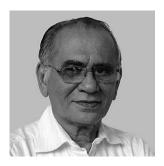




Raghavan Rangarajan is the Dean of the Undergraduate College at Ahmedabad University and a Professor in the School of Arts and Sciences. He was earlier on the faculty of the Theoretical Physics Division at the Physical Research Laboratory (PRL), Ahmedabad for over twenty years. His areas of research are cosmology and particle physics, and he works primarily on processes that occurred soon after the Big Bang in the very early Universe. He obtained his PhD from the University of California, Santa Barbara and his undergraduate degree from Princeton University.

Aparajith Ramnath is responsible for research and teaching in the history of science, technology and business at Ahmedabad University. He holds a PhD from Imperial College London and has been recognised as an International Scholar by the Society for History of Technology. He has also received a Liverpool India Fellowship and a Charles Wallace India Trust research grant. His most recent publication is a book titled The Birth of an Indian Profession: Engineers, Industry, and the State, 1900-47 (Oxford University Press, 2017).





Deepak Kunzru is a Distinguished Professor at Ahmedabad University. He recently retired as Professor of Chemical Engineering from IIT Kanpur. He was earlier the Chevron Chair Professor at IIT Kanpur. He received his PhD from the University of Pittsburgh, USA. He was also a Visiting Professor in the Department of Chemical Engineering, MIT, USA. Professor Kunzru's main research interests are in the area of micro-structured reactors, chemical reaction engineering, pyrolysis of hydrocarbons, and petroleum processing. He has published

more than 100 papers in reputed international journals and has edited one book. His current research focuses on the use of monolithic reactors for gas-liquid reactions and steam reforming of methane, production of hydrogen from ethanol in microchannel reactors, and the development of catalysts for hydro-desulfurization.



Subhash Rajpurohit is an Assistant Professor in Biological and Life Sciences at the School of Arts and Sciences at Ahmedabad University. He is a broadly trained ecological and evolutionary physiologist who studies spatiotemporal variations (cline, seasonality, and rapid adaptation), climate and metabolic rate, and urban evolution. His approach goes from 'macro-physiology to molecules'. Currently, his laboratory is focusing on 'organismal responses to climate change' and projecting Indian drosophilids as a natural laboratory for evolutionary biology.

Manomohini Dutta is an Assistant Professor in Humanities and Languages at the School of Arts and Sciences at Ahmedabad University. She has a PhD in Asian Cultures and Languages from the University of Texas at Austin, USA. She will develop a broad agenda for teaching and research in her current research areas of Law and Religion, Hindu Legal Traditions, Pre-Modern Indian History, and Sanskrit.





Mohan AVK is the Director, Executive Education and Professor of Practice of Management, Amrut Mody School of Management at Ahmedabad University. Mohan has a vast experience in leading business-driven human resources at global, regional and national levels across industry verticals and types of organisations. He is a postgraduate from the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai. He has worked extensively in organisation capability development functions and enabling the creation of a learning culture through top talent development initiatives.

Neha Jain is an Assistant Professor in Biological and Life Sciences at the School of Arts and Sciences at Ahmedabad University. She has completed a PhD in Molecular Biophysics from the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Mohali. She has done her postdoctoral training at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, USA. Her research focuses on the role of microbes in neurodegenerative diseases.





AP Ashwin Kumar is a Senior Fellow at the Centre for Learning Futures at Ahmedabad University. He holds a PhD in Cultural Studies from the Centre for the Study of Culture and Society, Bengaluru. He has also worked in higher education grant design and policy review, along with being a literary and academic translator. Professor Kumar is responsible for coordinating the activities of the Centre. His role includes developing courses and seminars that aim at building stronger comprehension and writing abilities in students across all streams.

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