

Ambedkar University Delhi (AUD)

(Established by the Government of the National Capital Territory of Delhi)

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School of Human Ecology (SHE)

MA Environment and Development

2019-21

School of Human Ecology (SHE)

Human Ecology is the interdisciplinary study of complex socio-ecological issues at multiple spatial scales. Research and teaching at the School of Human Ecology (SHE) brings together ideas, methodologies and toolkits from various disciplines in the natural sciences and social sciences to understand interactions between the environment and human society. The School's thematic focus areas include environmental change, biodiversity conservation, rural and urban transformations, environmental and social impact assessment and health. The methodological frameworks deployed by scholars and faculty include quantitative, qualitative and geospatial, with the aim of understanding complexity and causality in the intertwined lives of humans and other species. Teaching and research at SHE deploys careful field-based enquiry to study the 'big questions' of justice, well-being and sustainability in local, empirical contexts. Human and nonhuman agencies are explored in ecological and social transformations in South Asia, in the present as well as in the past.

MA Environment and Development (MAED)

The MAED is a rigorous, full-time, interdisciplinary programme with strong emphasis on reading, writing and field-based research. It is unique in India given its orientation and scope, which is guided by the idea that ecological challenges such as atmospheric pollution, resource depletion, and the attendant threats to ecosystems and biodiversity, result from a complex interaction of socio-political and biophysical factors. Students are exposed to core ideas and approaches from the ecological and social sciences to understand issues at the intersection of human society and the biophysical environment. The programme aims to create change-makers who can contribute to sustainability and social justice at the national and global scale through research, advocacy and practice.

Structure

- MAED comprises 64 credits spread over two years (4 semesters).
- Each semester is of 16 credits carried out over 16 weeks of academic work including assessments and field projects.
- The 64 credits required for completion of the Programme are distributed between Core courses (32 credits), specialised Elective courses (22 credits), summer internship (2 credits) and MA dissertation (8 credits).
- For their dissertation, students are required to take up an independent research project under a designated faculty supervisor. It commences at the end of Semester III and is

completed in Semester IV. It is assessed on the basis of a written dissertation thesis and a viva voce.

- Students can choose to specialize in three broad areas through selection of elective courses and dissertation topic: (a) Environmental Policy and Management; (b) Ecosystems, Conservation and Society; (c) Environmental Politics and Justice
- Students have the option to exit the MA programme with a postgraduate diploma in Human Ecology after completing two semesters and the summer internship, subject to the assessment rules of the School.

Teaching Methodology

Classroom lectures are combined with workshops, seminars and field projects, all with an emphasis on analytical skills, oral and written communication and empirical research. Students are required to read extensively, write regularly and be available for rigorous field-based learning. The School of Human Ecology uses the Ecology Lab and the GIS Lab at the Kashmere Gate campus as well as its long-term field sites in Delhi, Ladakh, Madhya Pradesh and the Northeast to expose students to rigorous, hands-on research.

Faculty

The faculty at the School of Human Ecology, with their core training in various natural and social disciplines, are well-equipped to lead interdisciplinary teaching and research. They use their long-term field sites and areas of expertise to expose students to core ideas of human ecology. The School also has a distinguished list of Adjunct and Visiting Faculty from the academic and practitioner communities, who are regularly invited to share their expertise with students.

Assessment and Evaluation

The purpose of assessment and evaluation at the School is to facilitate academic learning and supplement it with practical understanding and hands-on exposure. The MAED programme follows a system of **continuous assessment**, and therefore students are expected to be regular in attending classes, workshops and other educational exercises. Students are evaluated and graded on the basis of a variety of assessment situations including written tests/examinations, take-home assignments, term papers, class participation and discussion, presentations, field-based projects and independent study. The mode and pattern of assessment differs from course to course. Absence from classes is allowed only on valid medical grounds, and exceptions to this rule require special permission.

Courses

Core Courses:

- Development and Social Change
- Ecology, Ecosystems and Biodiversity
- Environmental and Ecological Economics
- Environmental History
- Environmental Law, Policy and Governance
- Social and Political Ecology
- Research Methodology I&II

Select list of Elective Courses:

	Environmental Policy and Management	Ecosystems, Biodiversity and Conservation	Environmental Politics and Justice
Area-specific electives	GIS and Remote Sensing; Environment and Health; Restoration Ecology; Environmental Impact Assessment; Social Impact Assessment; Project Management	Advanced Ecology; Biodiversity Conservation; Applied Population Ecology; Ecological Statistics	Agrarian Environments; Conservation and Livelihoods; Gender and Environment; Geopolitics, Resources and Political Ecology
Cross-cutting electives	Adaptation to Climate Change; Development and Public Health; Displacement, Resettlement and Rehabilitation; Urban Development and Environment		

Students can also opt for selected elective courses from other Schools and programmes at AUD, subject to the rules and regulations of the MAED programme.

Careers

The MAED programme has an excellent rate of placement. Alumni of the MAED programme are working in government agencies, NGOs, academia, research organizations, think tanks, consultancy firms, civil society initiatives and the media. Several alumni are pursuing higher studies in Masters and research programmes in India and abroad. Independent research during internship and dissertation and emphasis on field-based learning has contributed strongly to our alumni's success in the workplace and academia.

ADMISSIONS 2019

SEATS: 42

DURATION: 2 years (4 semesters) Full Time

ELIGIBILITY

Applicants need to have a Bachelors degree in any discipline with minimum 45% marks (or equivalent grade) from a recognised university (relaxation of 5% for candidates belonging to SC/ ST/ PD categories). Candidates appearing for the final year examination of a degree can also apply.

Selection Procedure

The final selection for admission will be based on the performance of the candidates in the entrance test and personal interview conducted by the School. The entrance examination tests the applicants for reading, writing and comprehension skills, quantitative ability, logic and reasoning and general awareness. Question papers of past entrance examinations are not made available to applicants as a matter of School policy.

Hostel

AUD has 45 seats for women students in its hostel in Kashmere Gate.

Fees: Tuition fee of Rs. 1,07,520/- (@ Rs. 1680/- per credit i.e. Rs. 26,880/- per semester) + Rs.5000/- (one-time, refundable caution deposit) + Rs.500/- per semester for student welfare fund. If a student opts for extra credits, an additional fee of Rs.1680/- per credit will be charged.

Partial/Full fee waiver and scholarships are available. Full fee waiver of tuition fee will be extended to students belonging to SC/ST/PwD categories.

Application fees: Rs. 510/- for general candidates and Rs. 200/- for SC/ST/PwD candidates

OPEN ONLINE (ERP-BASED) APPLICATION

02 May 2019 - 24 June 2019

ADMISSION TEST

6 July 2019 – 10:00 am

INTERVIEWS FOR ADMISSION

11 July 2019 - 12 July 2019

For further details and announcements, please visit: www.aud.ac.in

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