



INTERDISCIPLINARITY • IMPACT • SCALE
FOR URBAN TRANSFORMATION

UNIQUE & DISTINCT
INTERDISCIPLINARY
UNIVERSITY

PROSPECTUS

ACADEMIC YEAR 2026-27

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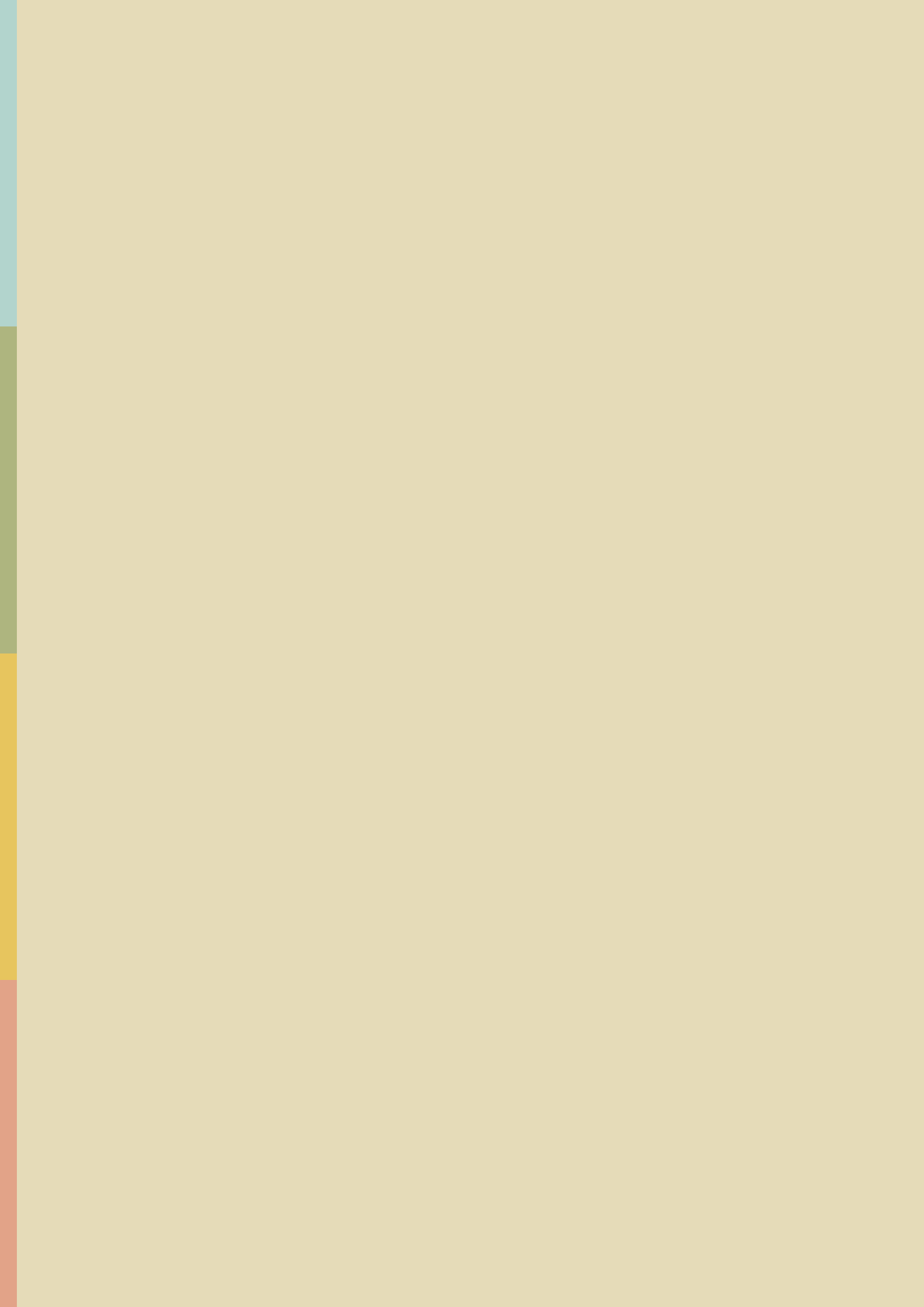
PROSPECTUS

ACADEMIC YEAR 2026-27

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I.	CHANCELLOR’S MESSAGE	6
II.	VICE CHANCELLOR’S MESSAGE.....	8
III.	ACADEMIC DEGREE PROGRAMMES: ACADEMIC YEAR 2026-27	10
IV.	MASTER OF SCIENCE (SUSTAINABILITY SCIENCE AND PRACTICE).....	13
IV.1	Description.....	14
IV.2	Themes.....	14
IV.3	Career Prospects.....	14
IV.4	Programme Structure	15
V.	MASTER OF SCIENCE (CLIMATE CHANGE SCIENCE AND PRACTICE).....	19
V.1	Description.....	20
V.2	Themes.....	20
V.3	Career Prospects.....	20
V.4	Programme Structure	21
VI.	MASTER OF SCIENCE (URBAN ECONOMIC AND INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT)	25
VI.1	Description.....	26
VI.2	Themes.....	26
VI.3	Career Prospects.....	26
VI.4	Programme Structure	27
VII.	MASTER OF ARTS (HUMAN DEVELOPMENT POLICY AND PRACTICE).....	31
VII.1	Description.....	32
VII.2	Themes.....	32
VII.3	Career Prospects.....	32
VII.4	Programme Structure	33

VIII.	MASTER OF ARTS (URBAN STUDIES AND PRACTICE)	37
VIII.1	Description.....	38
VIII.2	Career Prospects.....	38
VIII.3	Programme Structure	39
IX.	ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA, INTAKE, ADMISSION PROCESS, AND FEES FOR THE MASTER’S PROGRAMMES	42
IX.1	Eligibility Criteria for All Master’s Programmes.....	43
IX.2	Intake for Master’s Programmes: Academic Year 2026-27	43
IX.3	Admission Process for Master’s Programmes.....	43
	IX.3.A Documents Required for Admission to Master’s Programmes.....	46
	IX.3.B Key Dates for Master’s Programmes.....	47
IX.4	Fees for Master’s Programmes	48
	IX.4.A Fee Details for Master’s Programmes	48
	IX.4.B Payment Schedule for Master’s Programmes.....	49
	IX.4.C Financial Assistance for Master’s Programmes.....	49





PROSPECTUS

ACADEMIC YEAR 2026 - 27

The IIHS (Institution Deemed to be) University is recognised by UGC under Section 3 of the UGC Act 1956 and notified under the Distinct category of the UGC (Institutions Deemed to be Universities) Regulations 2023. The University offers a set of transformative interdisciplinary academic degree programmes, i.e. five Master's programmes and a Doctoral Programme, centred around urban research and practice. This is in consonance with the specified nomenclature of degrees as per Section 22 of the UGC Act.

As India undergoes the largest rural-to-urban transition in human history, urbanisation is fundamentally reshaping its economy, society, culture, and environment. Recognising this defining moment, the University is premised on the need to **transform the current nature of urban education** as one of the most important drivers for India's national development and sustainable global futures. It addresses this transition by:

- Undertaking **interdisciplinary teaching and applied research** to help build new national and global knowledge; and
- Training a new generation of urban practitioners through the delivery of a set of **transformative interdisciplinary academic degree programmes**.

Aligned with the vision and approach of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, the University takes the process of urbanisation as the core of a new **interdisciplinary knowledge paradigm**, by incorporating teaching and applied research into a continuous learning ecosystem.

This **unique, inclusive, and interdisciplinary** University is rooted in the plurality of cultures, languages, and scholarship of India and the Global South, while drawing from comparative lessons across the world. It stands out for its **interdisciplinary** approach to teaching and research, **globally benchmarked curricula**, and **innovative pedagogical methods**.

The University builds on the strong foundation laid by IIHS in creating India-centric knowledge and applied research on various aspects of India's urbanisation, aimed at the **equitable, sustainable, and efficient transformation of Indian settlements**.



CHANCELLOR'S MESSAGE



It gives me great pleasure to invite applications to the Master's degree programmes of the IIHS (Institution Deemed to be) University for the academic year 2026-27. These are cutting-edge interdisciplinary degrees which are designed to educate the next generation of India's thought leaders, practitioners, and scholars on the challenges and opportunities of India's urbanisation.

India's urban transition requires a fundamental reassessment of our development trajectory along multiple fronts: governance, policy, finance, infrastructure, environment, and institutional capacity. Traditional approaches have proved insufficient to understand and address the complexity of these interconnected challenges.

The IIHS University's unique academic curriculum is designed to serve as a model for interdisciplinary and India-centric knowledge focused on sustainable urbanisation. This is a world-class programme designed to equip students with the necessary knowledge, perspectives, and skills to deal with the complexity of India's development challenges.

The University fills a crucial gap in demonstrating how new knowledge institutions can fulfil the mandate of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. As a distinct university focused on a strategic area of national importance, the IIHS University invites prospective students to explore and apply for these programmes.

May the sky be your limit!

Dr. Vijay L. Kelkar, FNAE
Chancellor
Padma Vibhushan



VICE CHANCELLOR'S MESSAGE



The IIHS (Institution Deemed to be) University represents a new innovation in the Indian higher education system building on the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. The University invites applications to five globally benchmarked, future oriented, and interdisciplinary Master's programmes and one PhD programme.

Key highlights include:

- **Integration of STEM and Science-based knowledge with Multi/Inter-disciplinary perspectives in Social sciences and Humanities:** The curriculum combines broad-based, inter-disciplinary education with specialised sectoral knowledge. This includes the social sciences, arts and humanities, natural and environmental sciences, as well as emerging interdisciplinary fields such as urban science, sustainability science, and climate science.
- **Innovative Curriculum, Course Structures, and Pedagogical Methods:** The University's curriculum is designed to overcome the separation of 'theory' and 'practice', and is built from ground-up knowledge in India.
- **Comprehensive Learner Development Emphasising Life Skills and Ethical Values:** The University emphasises a conducive peer-learning environment under the supervision of faculty mentors, development of critical life skills (such as problem-solving, the ability to take initiative with courage, effective inter-personal communication, teamwork, dignity of labour, and resilience), and a grounding in India's rich and diverse cultures.

Students at the University will benefit from an excellent research and knowledge ecosystem, developed over 16 years, by some of the world's leading scholars in areas such as sustainable development, climate adaptation, disaster risk reduction, biodiversity conservation, urbanisation, and international development.

The University is an engaging, inclusive and intellectually stimulating environment where students participate in their own learning journeys, build a strong sense of community, and learn from the best international examples to shape the cities, towns, and villages of tomorrow.

Aromar Revi
Vice Chancellor



**ACADEMIC DEGREE
PROGRAMMES**
2026-27

The IIHS (Institution Deemed to be) University is offering a total of six degree programmes, i.e. five Master's programmes and one PhD Programme this year.

The Master's programmes are in Sustainability Science and Practice; Climate Change Science and Practice; Urban Economic and Infrastructure Development; Human Development Policy and Practice; and the more general Urban Studies and Practice.

These Master's programmes are two-year, full-time, interdisciplinary degree programmes, **open to learners from any undergraduate discipline**. Each Master's programme is structured around a specific learning trajectory, in line with the curriculum principles of the University. Learners move from building an interdisciplinary foundation across diverse urban and urbanising systems, to gaining sectoral and applied knowledge in a specific theme, and then to applying their learnings through an internship and/or dissertation.

This two-year structure employs a unique pedagogical method that enables the integration of knowledge from traditional disciplines such as the humanities and arts with science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM), as recommended by the NEP.

See Table 1 below:

Level	Type of Programme	Nomenclature	Duration
Post-Graduate Degree	Master of Science (Sustainability Science and Practice)	MSc (Sustainability Science and Practice)	2 years
Post-Graduate Degree	Master of Science (Climate Change Science and Practice)	MSc (Climate Change Science and Practice)	2 years
Post-Graduate Degree	Master of Science (Urban Economic and Infrastructure Development)	MSc (Urban Economic and Infrastructure Development)	2 years
Post-Graduate Degree	Master of Arts (Human Development Policy and Practice)	MA (Human Development Policy and Practice)	2 years
Post-Graduate Degree	Master of Arts (Urban Studies and Practice)	MA (Urban Studies and Practice)	2 years

Details for the Doctoral degree programme are provided separately.

All academic degree programmes offered by the University are duly recognised by the UGC as valid degrees conferred by a University, in accordance with Section 22 of the UGC Act 1956. These programmes adhere to the approved nomenclature for degrees, as specified by the UGC.



IV ● MASTER OF SCIENCE (SUSTAINABILITY SCIENCE AND PRACTICE)

IV.1 DESCRIPTION

The Master of Science in Sustainability Science and Practice is a two-year, full-time academic programme focused on achieving sustainable development, human wellbeing, and planetary health across the rural-urban continuum, within the constraints of environmental degradation, loss of biodiversity and ecosystems, and climate change.

This MSc Programme will enable scholars and practitioners to gain a thorough grounding in all dimensions of Sustainability Science and Practice from the semi-wild through villages, towns, and cities, and the social-ecological-technological systems they are part of.

This Master's Programme welcomes applicants from diverse academic and professional backgrounds who are passionate about sustainability and environmental science. The Programme will equip them with the tools to study and create impactful, just, and scalable solutions for a more sustainable future.

IV.2 THEMES

- Sustainability science and practice
- Sustainable development and SDGs
- Ecology and ecosystem science
- Agriculture and food systems
- Built environment
- Economy, green transition, and green enterprises
- Circular economy
- Financing sustainable transitions and climate action

IV.3 CAREER PROSPECTS

- **Private Sector**, including firms in a range of sectors across green buildings and sustainable campuses, blue-green infrastructure, finance for sustainability initiatives; environmental consulting and professional service firms; in line with functions in key areas like sustainability, climate, CSR, ESG, and others.
- **Entrepreneurship**, as commercial entrepreneurs, including start-ups, addressing market needs through innovative solutions; as social entrepreneurs working for the common good; or as public entrepreneurs, working within and on public agencies of various types.
- **Government and Public Sector**, at the Centre, State and Local levels, including relevant Civil Services; Public Sector Organisations; parastatal agencies and Government SPVs.
- **Development Sector**, including domestic, UN, multilateral, bilateral and international organisations; think-tanks; development consulting firms; not-for-profit organisations; and philanthropies.
- **Academia**, in pursuit of higher education; or as educators, researchers and trainers across India and internationally, particularly in environmental and sustainability science and policy.

IV.4 PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

Each academic year consists of three terms of around 11-13 weeks.

Core Courses are undertaken in the first year, where an interdisciplinary foundation situates sustainable development within the broader context of economy, society, infrastructure, and governance, and the constraints of environmental and planetary boundaries, and the Sustainable Development Goals. In the first two terms, students share classes with those in other Master's programmes at the University, ensuring interdisciplinary engagement and peer learning.

The second year comprises **Elective Courses** that allow learners to specialise in different sectors within sustainability science and the environment, ranging from biodiversity, ecosystem services, water, food and agriculture, to the circular economy. The second year ends with an internship, independent project and/or dissertation. Here, too, students can choose from a mix of elective courses specific to their Master's programme, and take open electives across other Master's programmes at the University. A list of illustrative general and open electives is presented in the table below.

Foundation Courses, focused on holistic and integral personal development, run through both years. It is this framing of Foundation, Core, and Elective Courses that allows the University to pedagogically achieve interdisciplinary knowledge in a transformative manner.

Practica is a field-based applied learning course, where theoretical concepts learnt in the classrooms are applied on field through learning-by-doing. **Methods courses** allow students to pursue skill enhancement rooted in sustainability and environmental science, and inter-sectoral skills, methods and practices.

Curriculum element	Course names	No. of courses
Core (Theory)	Public Institutions and Governance	6 courses; Terms 1-2
	Infrastructure Systems and Services	
	Ecology and Environment	
	Social and Human Development	
	Perspectives around Planning and the Economy	
	Built Environment	
Core (Methods)	Ethnographic Methods	5 courses; Terms 1-2
	Data Analytics	
	Geo-Spatial Analysis	
	Writing Skills	
	Media and Visual Methods	
Core (Practica)	Practica: Understanding the Urban: Observations	2 courses; Terms 2-3
	Practica: Understanding the Urban: Analysis and Propositions	
General Electives	Fundamentals of Sustainability Science and Practice	3 courses; Term 3
	Fundamentals of Sustainable Development	
	Fundamentals of Ecology and Ecosystems Science	
Interdisciplinary Electives	Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems	Any 3 courses; Terms 4-5
	Financing Sustainable Transitions	
	Sustainable Solutions for Blue-Green-Grey Infrastructure	
	Global Innovation in Sustainability and Climate Action	
	Water and Aquatic Ecosystems	
Interdisciplinary Electives (Practica)	Sustainable Futures across Rural and Semi-Natural Landscapes	Any 1 course; Terms 4-5
	Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Lab	
Interdisciplinary Electives (Methods)	Circular Economy Lab	Any 2 courses; Terms 4-5
	Quantitative Methods in Environment and Sustainability Science	
	ESG: Monitoring and Investments	
	Material Flow Analysis, Life Cycle Assessment and Impacts	
	Advanced Ethnographic Methods	
	Advanced Data Analytics	
	Advanced Geo-Spatial Analysis	
	Advanced Communication Skills	
	Advanced Writing Skills	
	Advanced Media and Visual Methods	
	Development Project Management	
Developing an Entrepreneurial Mindset		
Advanced Statistical Modelling and Data Science		
Open Electives	The Digital Economy	Any 2 courses; Terms 4-5
	Climate Change and Health	
	Managing India's Urban Transition: Plans, Policies, and Institutions	
	Climate Change and Rural Areas: Adapting to an Uncertain Future	

Curriculum element	Course names	No. of courses
Foundation (Basic)	Grow, Cook and Eat - I	4 courses; Terms 1-3
	Build - I	
	Play and Yoga - I	
	Self-Development	
Foundation (Advanced)	Grow, Cook and Eat - II	Any 3 courses; Terms 4-5
	Build - II	
	Play and Yoga - II	
	Perform	
Exposure Visits	Exposure Visits	Terms 1, 4
Professional and Research Development	Professional and Research Development (Internship/Dissertation)	Terms 3-5
Internship/ Dissertation	Internship/Dissertation	Term 6

Please note that elective course offerings may be subject to change.



V ● MASTER OF SCIENCE (CLIMATE CHANGE SCIENCE AND PRACTICE)

V.1 DESCRIPTION

The Master of Science in Climate Change Science and Practice is a two-year, full-time academic programme focused on understanding, assessing and acting on the challenge of climate change and its manifestation within India's landscape, across the rural-urban continuum. The first part of the MSc Programme roots the study of climate change in a broader set of its science, subsequent impacts and response pathways. It uses the analytical framework of systems transitions as the basis of inquiry, including a focus on assessing multiple enabling conditions such as multi-level governance, institutional capacity, finance, policy instruments, behaviour change, and technology and innovation. It then equips graduates in the theoretical foundations in thinking about climate change as a transition and transformation process towards more inclusive societies, cities and connected rural areas. Learners will be able to understand core approaches to act on climate-linked challenges, with emphasis on vulnerability, risk reduction, and climate-resilient development.

This Master's Programme welcomes applicants from diverse academic and professional backgrounds who are passionate about addressing the urgent challenges of climate change. The Programme will equip them with the expertise to drive change in policy, practice, and research to create impactful, just, and scalable solutions for a more climate-resilient future.

V.2 THEMES

- Climate science
- Climate impacts, vulnerability and adaptation
- Climate mitigation
- Climate change and systems transitions
- Financing climate action
- Climate policy and governance
- Climate action planning
- Climate risk assessment

V.3 CAREER PROSPECTS

- **Private Sector**, including firms in a range of sectors across carbon markets, ESG markets and sustainable finance; consulting and professional service firms; in line with functions in key areas like financial market participants, commercial banks, and market regulators.
- **Entrepreneurship**, as commercial entrepreneurs, including start-ups, addressing market needs through innovative solutions; as social entrepreneurs working for the common good; or as public entrepreneurs, working within and on public agencies of various types.
- **Government and Public Sector**, at the Centre, State and Local levels, including relevant Civil Services; Public Sector Organisations; parastatal agencies and Government SPVs
- **Development Sector**, including domestic, UN, multilateral, bilateral and international organisations; think-tanks; development consulting firms; not-for-profit organisations; and philanthropies, in particular, those that are engaged with climate change questions.
- **Academia**, in pursuit of higher education; or as educators, researchers, and trainers across India, and internationally.

V.4 PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

Each academic year consists of three terms of around 11-13 weeks.

Core Courses are undertaken in the first year, where an interdisciplinary foundation situates sustainable development within broader context of economy, society, infrastructure, and governance, and the constraints of environmental and planetary boundaries, and the Sustainable Development Goals. In the first two terms, students share classes with those in other Master's programmes at the University, ensuring interdisciplinary engagement and peer learning.

The second year comprises **Elective Courses** that allow learners to specialise in different themes within climate change, such as climate change and systems transitions, including finance, economics, governance, and policy. The second year ends with an internship, independent project and/or dissertation. Here, students can choose from a mix of elective courses specific to their Master's programme and take open electives across other Master's programmes at the University. A list of illustrative general and open electives is presented in the table below.

Foundation Courses, focused on holistic and integral personal development, run through both years. It is this framing of Foundation, Core, and Elective Courses that allows the University to pedagogically achieve interdisciplinary knowledge in a transformative manner.

Practica is a field-based applied learning course, where theoretical concepts learnt in the classrooms are applied on field through learning-by-doing. **Methods courses** allow students to pursue skill enhancement rooted in climate and environmental studies, as well as inter-sectoral skills, methods, and practices.

Curriculum element	Course names	No. of courses
Core (Theory)	Public Institutions and Governance	6 courses; Terms 1-2
	Infrastructure Systems and Services	
	Ecology and Environment	
	Social and Human Development	
	Perspectives around Planning and the Economy	
	Built Environment	
Core (Methods)	Ethnographic Methods	5 courses; Terms 1-2
	Data Analytics	
	Geo-Spatial Analysis	
	Writing Skills	
	Media and Visual Methods	
Core (Practica)	Practica: Understanding the Urban: Observations	2 courses; Terms 2-3
	Practica: Understanding the Urban: Analysis and Propositions	
General Electives	Climate Science	3 courses; Term 3
	Climate Impacts, Vulnerability and Adaptation	
	Climate Change Mitigation	
Interdisciplinary Electives	Climate Change and Energy System Transitions	Any 3 courses; Terms 4-5
	Climate Change and Land and Ecosystems Transitions	
	Climate Change and the Built Environment	
	Climate Policy and Governance	
	Financing Climate Action	
	Societal Transitions and Climate-Resilient Development	
	Climate Change and Rural Areas: Adapting to an Uncertain Future	
Interdisciplinary Electives (Practica)	Energy, Buildings and Decarbonisation	Any 1 course; Terms 4-5
	Climate Action Planning at City Scale	
Interdisciplinary Electives (Methods)	Climate Risk Assessment	Any 2 courses; Terms 4-5
	Quantitative Methods in Environment and Sustainability Science	
	Advanced Ethnographic Methods	
	Advanced Data Analytics	
	Advanced Geo-Spatial Analysis	
	Advanced Communication Skills	
	Advanced Writing Skills	
	Advanced Media and Visual Methods	
	Development Project Management	
	Developing an Entrepreneurial Mindset	
	Advanced Statistical Modelling and Data Science	
Open Electives	Sustainable Solutions for Blue-Green-Grey Infrastructure	Any 2 courses; Terms 4-5
	Climate Change and Health	
	Managing India's Urban Transition: Plans, Policies, and Institutions	
	Land Management and Planning for Services and Infrastructure	
Foundation (Basic)	Grow, Cook and Eat - I	4 courses; Terms 1-3
	Build - I	
	Play and Yoga - I	
	Self-Development	

Curriculum element	Course names	No. of courses
Foundation (Advanced)	Grow, Cook and Eat - II	Any 3 courses; Terms 4-5
	Build - II	
	Play and Yoga - II	
	Perform	
Exposure Visits	Exposure Visits	Terms 1, 4
Professional and Research Development	Professional and Research Development (Internship/ Dissertation)	Terms 3-5
Internship/ Dissertation	Internship/ Dissertation	Term 6

Please note that elective course offerings may be subject to change.



VI. MASTER OF SCIENCE (URBAN ECONOMIC AND INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT)

VI.1 DESCRIPTION

The Master of Science in Urban Economic and Infrastructure Development is a two-year, full-time academic programme. It takes a heterodox approach towards India's economic and infrastructure transitions, with a focus on sustainability and equity, across different sizes of human settlements along the rural-urban continuum.

The first two terms of this Programme root the study of economic and infrastructure development in a broader set of urban and peri-urban systems, including those of governance, finance, knowledge systems, and institutions, as well as social and environmental systems, with an emphasis on India. It does so to ensure that learners have a foundational and interdisciplinary understanding of economic and infrastructure development within a broader set of systems across the rural-urban continuum.

It then equips learners in the theoretical foundations of economic and infrastructure development as dimensions of growth, and the basis of broader urban transitions towards more equitable and sustainable cities. Learners will be able to understand heterodox approaches towards fostering the inclusive, long-term economic and infrastructure transformation of our urban regions.

This Master's programme welcomes applicants from diverse academic and professional backgrounds who are passionate about fostering the inclusive, long-term economic and infrastructure transformation of India's urban regions. The Programme will equip them with the skills to study, design, and implement urban infrastructure and economic development strategies to drive inclusive growth and development.

VI.2 THEMES

- Economic and infrastructural development
- Employment, decent work, and social protection
- Land-based economies
- Economic enterprises and entrepreneurship
- Infrastructural systems and services
- Digitalisation
- Governance and finance
- Equity, informality, and inclusion
- Sustainability principles of urban transitions

VI.3 CAREER PROSPECTS

- **Private Sector**, including firms in a range of sectors across urban and economic development, infrastructure, finance, and services, including work and livelihood promotion, skill development, enterprise and entrepreneurship promotion, digital economy transitions; consulting and professional service firms, in line with functions in key areas like feasibility, market demand analyses, project structuring, risk management, M&E, CSR, ESG, and others.
- **Entrepreneurship**, as commercial entrepreneurs, including start-ups, addressing market needs through innovative solutions; as social entrepreneurs working for the common good; or as public entrepreneurs, working within and on public agencies of various types.

- **Government and Public Sector**, at the Centre, State and Local levels, including relevant Civil Services; Public Sector Organisations; parastatal agencies and Government SPVs.
- **Development Sector**, including domestic, UN, multilateral, bilateral and international organisations; think-tanks; development consulting firms; not-for-profit organisations; and philanthropies.
- **Academia**, in pursuit of higher education; or as educators, researchers, and trainers across India, and internationally.

VI.4 PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

Each academic year consists of three terms of around 11-13 weeks.

Core Courses are undertaken in the first year, where an interdisciplinary foundation situates sustainable development within broader context of economy, society, infrastructure, and governance, and the constraints of environmental and planetary boundaries, and the Sustainable Development Goals. In the first two terms, students share classes with those in other Master's programmes at the University, ensuring interdisciplinary engagement and peer learning.

The second year comprises **Elective Courses** that allow learners to specialise in different sectors within economic and infrastructure development, ranging from employment to enterprise development, entrepreneurship, infrastructure systems, finance, digitalisation, green businesses and infrastructure, and circular economies. The second year ends with an internship, independent project and/or dissertation. Here, students can choose from a mix of elective courses specific to their Master's programme and take open electives across other Master's programmes at the University. A list of illustrative general and open electives is in the table below.

Foundation Courses, focused on holistic and integral personal development, run through both years. It is this framing of Foundation, Core, and Elective Courses that allows the University to pedagogically achieve interdisciplinary knowledge in a transformative manner.

Practica is a field-based applied learning course, where theoretical concepts learnt in the classrooms are applied on field through learning-by-doing. **Methods courses** allow students to pursue skill enhancement rooted in economic and infrastructure development, as well as inter-sectoral skills, methods, and practices.

Curriculum element	Course names	No. of courses
Core (Theory)	Public Institutions and Governance	6 courses; Terms 1-2
	Infrastructure Systems and Services	
	Ecology and Environment	
	Social and Human Development	
	Perspectives around Planning and the Economy	
	Built Environment	
Core (Methods)	Ethnographic Methods	5 courses; Terms 1-2
	Data Analytics	
	Geo-Spatial Analysis	
	Writing Skills	
	Media and Visual Methods	
Core (Practica)	Practica: Understanding the Urban: Observations	2 courses; Terms 2-3
	Practica: Understanding the Urban: Analysis and Propositions	
General Electives	Urban and Regional Economic Development in the Global South	3 courses; Term 3
	Infrastructure Systems and Services: Theory and Practice	
	Poverty and Inequality in Urban Development	
Interdisciplinary Electives	Managing India's Urban Transition: Plans, Policies, and Institutions	Any 3 courses; Terms 4-5
	Land Management and Planning for Services and Infrastructure	
	Modes of Urban Practice: Actors and Agency	
	Economics and Financing of Infrastructure and Services	
	The Digital Economy	
	Enterprise Development in Urban India	
	Safe, Sustainable and Equitable Service Delivery	
Interdisciplinary Electives (Practica)	Policy Studio I: Land Economy and Finance in Urban Development	Any 1 course; Terms 4-5
	Policy Studio II: Infrastructure Finance, Project Structuring and Risk Management	
Interdisciplinary Electives (Methods)	Economic Methods for Urban Practitioners	Any 2 courses; Terms 4-5
	ESG: Monitoring and Investments	
	Advanced Ethnographic Methods	
	Advanced Data Analytics	
	Advanced Geo-Spatial Analysis	
	Advanced Communication Skills	
	Advanced Writing Skills	
	Advanced Media and Visual Methods	
	Development Project Management	
	Developing an Entrepreneurial Mindset	
	Advanced Statistical Modelling and Data Science	
Open Electives	Work and Livelihood in Urban India	Any 2 courses; Terms 4-5
	Circular Economy and Green Businesses	
	Sustainable Solutions for Blue-Green-Grey Infrastructure	
	National Urban Missions	
	Financing Climate Action	
	Social Entrepreneurship	
	Urban Regulation	

Curriculum element	Course names	No. of courses
Foundation (Basic)	Grow, Cook and Eat - I	4 courses; Terms 1-3
	Build - I	
	Play and Yoga - I	
	Self-Development	
Foundation (Advanced)	Grow, Cook and Eat - II	Any 3 courses; Terms 4-5
	Build - II	
	Play and Yoga - II	
	Perform	
Exposure Visits	Exposure Visits	Terms 1, 4
Professional and Research Development	Professional and Research Development (Internship/ Dissertation)	Terms 3-5
Internship/ Dissertation	Internship/ Dissertation	Term 6

Please note that elective course offerings may be subject to change.



VII. ● MASTER OF ARTS (HUMAN DEVELOPMENT POLICY AND PRACTICE)

VII.1 DESCRIPTION

The Master of Arts in Human Development (Policy and Practice) is a two-year, full-time academic programme. It is focused on understanding, assessing, and acting on the challenges of social and economic transformation for India's people, workers and society.

The Master's Programme has two distinct parts. The first roots the study of human development in a broader set of systems including governance, financing, infrastructure development and planning, as well as economic and environmental systems, with an emphasis on India. It does so to ensure that human development is understood as part of a broader set of urban and settlement systems and that graduates have a foundational and interdisciplinary understanding of the urban.

It then equips graduates in the theoretical foundations in thinking about human development not just as poverty alleviation but as social transformation towards more inclusive societies. Graduates will be able to understand core approaches to reducing urban inequalities across sectors and disciplines, with a focus on housing, work, infrastructure and services, health and education. The final component of the Master's Programme is rigorous training in interdisciplinary methods of urban research and practice, as well as specific training in advanced methods in the study of human development.

The Master's Programme focuses equally on theory as well as policy, programmes and practice. Graduates will be equipped with a core understanding of policies and programmatic interventions within human development and trained to design and implement interventions and programmes in the complex reality of Indian cities and settlements. This is done through multiple modes of applied, case-based and experiential learning built on a foundation of taught theory courses.

VII.2 THEMES

- Livelihoods and decent work
- Social protection
- Affordable Housing
- Urban Health
- Education
- Community Development
- Inclusive Urban Cultures
- Equity, informality, and inclusion
- Care Infrastructures
- Climate Change, Inequality and Vulnerability

VII.3 CAREER PROSPECTS

- **Private Sector**, including firms in a range of sectors across urban development, manufacturing and services; consulting and professional service firms, in line functions in key areas like housing, health, livelihoods, social protection, welfare, and others.
- **Entrepreneurship**, as commercial entrepreneurs, including start-ups, addressing market needs through innovative solutions; as social entrepreneurs working for the common good; or as public entrepreneurs, working within and on public agencies of various types.

- **Government and Public Sector**, at the Centre, State and Local levels, including relevant Civil Services; Public Sector Organisations; parastatal agencies and Government SPVs.
- **Development Sector**, including domestic, UN, multilateral, bilateral and international organisations; think-tanks; development consulting firms; not-for-profit organisations; and philanthropies.
- **Academia**, in pursuit of higher education; or as educators, researchers, and trainers across India, and internationally.

VII.4 PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

Each academic year consists of three terms of around 11-13 weeks.

Core Courses are undertaken in the first year, where an interdisciplinary foundation locates human development within larger social, economic, spatial, ecological and political urban and settlement systems. In the first two terms, students share classes with those in other Master's programmes at the University, ensuring interdisciplinary engagement and peer learning.

The second year comprises **Elective Courses** that allow learners to concentrate in different themes within human development from affordable housing, social protection, health, education, livelihoods, or community development. Here, students can choose from a mix of elective courses specific to their Master's programme and take open electives across other Master's programmes at the University. The second year ends with an internship, independent project and/or dissertation. A list of illustrative general and open electives is presented in the table below.

Foundation Courses, focused on holistic and integral personal development, run through both years. It is this framing of Foundation, Core, and Elective Courses that allows the University to pedagogically achieve interdisciplinary knowledge in a transformative manner.

Practica is a field-based applied learning course, where theoretical concepts learnt in the classrooms are applied on field through learning-by-doing. **Methods courses** allow students to pursue skill enhancement rooted in economic and infrastructure development, as well as inter-sectoral skills, methods, and practices.

Curriculum element	Course names	No. of courses
Core (Theory)	Public Institutions and Governance	6 courses; Terms 1-2
	Infrastructure Systems and Services	
	Ecology and Environment	
	Social and Human Development	
	Perspectives around Planning and the Economy	
	Built Environment	
Core (Methods)	Ethnographic Methods	5 courses; Terms 1-2
	Data Analytics	
	Geo-Spatial Analysis	
	Writing Skills	
	Media and Visual Methods	
Core (Practica)	Practica: Understanding the Urban: Observations	2 courses; Terms 2-3
	Practica: Understanding the Urban: Analysis and Propositions	
General Electives	Poverty and Inequality in Urban Development	3 courses; Term 3
	Political Economy of Human Development	
	Urban Social Protection: From Theory to Practice	
Interdisciplinary Electives	Affordable Housing Policy and Practice	Any 3 courses; Terms 4-5
	Slum and Neighbourhood Upgrading	
	Urban Health Systems: From Communicable to Non-Communicable Diseases	
	Climate Change and Health	
	Women's work and health	
	Work and Livelihood in Urban India	
	Seminar in Political Thought	
	Community Knowledge and Development	
	Identity and Social Practice	
	Social Entrepreneurship	
Social Protection for Rural Areas in Transition		
Interdisciplinary Electives (Practica)	Practica: Community Development Practice	Any 1 course; Terms 4-5
	Policy Studio: Designing Urban Employment Programmes	
Interdisciplinary Electives (Methods)	Monitoring and Evaluation, including Social Audit	Any 2 courses; Terms 4-5
	Advanced Ethnographic Methods	
	Advanced Data Analytics	
	Advanced Geo-Spatial Analysis	
	Advanced Communication Skills	
	Advanced Writing Skills	
	Advanced Media and Visual Methods	
	Development Project Management	
	Developing an Entrepreneurial Mindset	
	Advanced Statistical Modelling and Data Science	

Curriculum element	Course names	No. of courses
Open Electives	The Digital Economy	Any 2 courses; Terms 4-5
	Societal Transitions and Climate Resilient Development	
	Sustainable Futures across Rural and Semi-natural Landscapes	
	Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems	
	Enterprise development in Urban India	
	Managing India's Urban Transition: Plans, Policies, and Institutions	
	National Urban Missions	
Foundation (Basic)	Development Communications	4 courses; Terms 1-3
	Grow, Cook and Eat - I	
	Build - I	
	Play and Yoga - I	
Foundation (Advanced)	Self-Development	Any 3 courses; Terms 4-5
	Grow, Cook and Eat - II	
	Build - II	
	Play and Yoga - II	
Exposure Visits	Perform	Terms 1, 4
	Exposure Visits	
Professional and Research Development	Professional and Research Development (Internship/ Dissertation)	Terms 3-5
Internship/ Dissertation	Internship/ Dissertation	Term 6

Please note that elective course offerings may be subject to change.



VIII. ● MASTER OF ARTS (URBAN STUDIES AND PRACTICE)

VIII.1 DESCRIPTION

The Master of Arts in Urban Studies and Practice is a two-year, full-time academic programme. It is an interdisciplinary research and practice programme that prepares students to take part in the equitable and sustainable transformation of India's settlements across the rural-urban continuum. It is designed to create system integrators, who work across the silos of disciplines and professional sectors within the urban, as well as a generation of interdisciplinary urban researchers who work across disciplinary boundaries.

The MA Programme has two distinct parts. Taking a systems approach, the first roots urban studies and practice into key systems: governance, financing, infrastructure development and planning, as well as economic and environmental systems, with an emphasis on India. It trains urban practitioners to see how these systems are interconnected, and builds a foundational and interdisciplinary understanding of the urban and the rural-urban transition. The second part then equips students to delve deeper into particular kinds of urban systems through a wide range of electives that form the majority of the course offerings that help students gain depth either in applied and interdisciplinary urban research, or intersectoral urban practice.

This Master's programme welcomes applicants from diverse academic and professional backgrounds seeking an interdisciplinary approach to understanding and shaping cities. The Programme will equip them to go beyond disciplinary silos and professional sectors, to be system integrators and researchers who can shape urban futures.

VIII.2 CAREER PROSPECTS

- **Private Sector**, including firms in a range of sectors across buildings, infrastructure, finance, manufacturing and services; consulting and professional service firms, in line functions as also in key areas like urban development, sustainability, and others.
- **Entrepreneurship**, as commercial entrepreneurs, including start-ups, addressing market needs through innovative solutions; as social entrepreneurs working for the common good; or as public entrepreneurs, working within and on public agencies of various types.
- **Government and Public Sector**, at the Centre, State and Local levels, including relevant Civil Services; Public Sector Organisations; parastatal agencies and Government SPVs.
- **Development Sector**, including domestic, UN, multilateral, bilateral and international organisations; think-tanks; development consulting firms; not-for-profit organisations; and philanthropies.
- **Academia**, in pursuit of higher education; or as educators, researchers, and trainers across India and internationally.

VIII.3 PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

Each academic year consists of three terms of around 11-13 weeks.

The Master's in Urban Studies and Practice is structured around **Core Courses** in the first year, where an interdisciplinary foundation across urban systems is built. In the first two terms, students share classes with those in other Master's programmes at the University, ensuring interdisciplinary engagement and peer learning.

From the third term in the first year and through the second year, learners shift to a wide range of **Elective Courses** that allow them to build depth within specific interdisciplinary urban themes. Students in the MA Urban Studies and Practice Programme can curate their own specific interdisciplinary trajectories by choosing from the various interdisciplinary elective courses offered across all Master's programmes at the University, as well as others on history, government missions, regulation, cinema, and development communications, among others, offered specifically in the Urban Studies and Practice Master's Programme. The second year ends with an internship, independent project and/or dissertation. A list of illustrative general and open electives is presented in the table below.

Foundation Courses, focused on holistic and integral personal development, run through both years. It is this framing of Foundation, Core, and Elective Courses that allows the University to pedagogically achieve interdisciplinary knowledge in a transformative manner.

Practica is a field-based applied learning course, where theoretical concepts learnt in the classrooms are applied on field through learning-by-doing. **Methods** are courses where students can pursue skill enhancement across qualitative, quantitative and geospatial skills, as well as inter-sectoral skills, methods, and practices.

Curriculum element	Course names	No. of courses
Core (Theory)	Public Institutions and Governance	6 courses; Terms 1-2
	Infrastructure Systems and Services	
	Ecology and Environment	
	Social and Human Development	
	Perspectives around Planning and the Economy	
	Built Environment	
Core (Methods)	Ethnographic Methods	5 courses; Terms 1-2
	Data Analytics	
	Geo-Spatial Analysis	
	Writing Skills	
	Media and Visual Methods	
Core (Practica)	Practica: Understanding the Urban: Observations	2 courses; Terms 2-3
	Practica: Understanding the Urban: Analysis and Propositions	
General Electives	Urban Theory from the South	3 courses; Term 3
	Urban Practice from the South	
	Any one general elective from any Master's programme	
Interdisciplinary Electives	Cinema and the City	Any 5 courses; Terms 4-5
	Literature and the City	
	Seminar in Urban Histories	
	Urban Regulation	
	National Urban Missions	
	Development Communications	
	Climate Change and the Built Environment	
	Climate Policy and Governance	
	Financing Climate Action	
	Societal Transitions and Climate Resilient Development	
	Sustainable Futures across Rural and Semi-natural Landscapes	
	Sustainable Solutions for Blue-Green-Grey Infrastructure	
	Managing India's Urban Transition: Plans, Policies, and Institutions	
	Modes of Urban Practice: Actors and Agency	
	The Digital Economy	
	Social Entrepreneurship	
	Climate Change and Health	
	Work and Livelihood in Urban India	
	Affordable Housing Policy and Practice	
Urban Health Systems: From Communicable to Non-Communicable Diseases		
Interdisciplinary Electives (Practica)	Climate Action Planning at City Scale	Any 1 course; Terms 4-5
	Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Lab	
	Policy Studio I: Land Economy and Finance in Urban Development	
	Policy Studio: Designing Urban Employment Programmes	

Curriculum element	Course names	No. of courses
Interdisciplinary Electives (Methods)	Monitoring and Evaluation, including Social Audit	
	Climate Risk Assessment	
	Quantitative Methods in Environment and Sustainability Science	
	ESG: Monitoring and Investments	
	Material Flow Analysis, Life Cycle Assessment and Impacts	
	Economic Methods for Urban Practitioners	
	Advanced Ethnographic Methods	
	Advanced Data Analytics	
	Advanced Geo-Spatial Analysis	
	Advanced Communication Skills	
	Advanced Writing Skills	
	Advanced Media and Visual Methods	
	Development Project Management	
	Developing an Entrepreneurial Mindset	
Advanced Statistical Modelling and Data Science		
Foundation (Basic)	Grow, Cook and Eat - I	4 courses; Terms 1-3
	Build - I	
	Play and Yoga - I	
	Self-Development	
Foundation (Advanced)	Grow, Cook and Eat - II	Any 3 courses; Terms 4-5
	Build - II	
	Play and Yoga - II	
	Perform	
Exposure Visits	Exposure Visits	Terms 1, 4
Professional and Research Development	Professional and Research Development (Internship/ Dissertation)	Terms 3-5
Internship/ Dissertation	Internship/ Dissertation	Term 6

Please note that elective course offerings may be subject to change.

IX. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA, INTAKE, ADMISSION PROCESS, AND FEES FOR THE MASTER'S PROGRAMMES

IX.1 ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR ALL MASTER'S PROGRAMMES

- Applicants must have a Bachelor's Degree in any subject or discipline.
- Their age should not exceed 35 years as of 1st August 2026.
- Applicants must have basic proficiency in reading, writing, and comprehending English. The University provides assistance in English writing for applicants with limited ability, so that they are better able to cope with the academic needs of the programme.
- Applicants will be selected on merit on the basis of their scores in the Entrance examination conducted by the University, along with interview.
- Recognising the value of an inclusive and diverse classroom across various socio-economic categories, the University follows a weighted Diversity Points system in the admission process. This process will be fair and transparent.

IX.2 INTAKE FOR MASTER'S PROGRAMMES: ACADEMIC YEAR 2026-27

Master's Programme	Total Intake
Master of Science (Sustainability Science and Practice)	30
Master of Science (Climate Change Science and Practice)	30
Master of Science (Urban Economic and Infrastructure Development)	30
Master of Arts (Human Development Policy and Practice)	30
Master of Arts (Urban Studies and Practice)	35

IX.3 ADMISSION PROCESS FOR MASTER'S PROGRAMMES

Please note the following particulars pertaining to a two-stage admission process for Master's programmes:

- Applicants shall first register on the University admission portal and secure a unique Application ID.
- They will then submit the completed online Application Form on the University admission portal, within the timeline specified. The Application Form requires personal information and particulars, including relevant supporting documentation as applicable.
- Applicants can apply for up to two Master's programmes, clearly indicating their first priority.
- **Application Process, Stage 1 - Entrance Exam:** On submission of the Application Form, all applicants shall undertake an online entrance examination in English on 4th April 2026. The time slot for this entrance exam shall be declared on the University website and communicated via email.

There will be two parts: Part 1 will be multiple choice question-based including (a) a General section, covering reading comprehension, and basic mathematical and logical reasoning; and (b) an Advanced section, with knowledge-based questions across themes of the Master's programmes. Part 2 will be Essay questions.

An applicant must respond to all questions in the General section of Part 1. In the Advanced section of Part 1, applicants can select which questions they would respond to, based on their skills, education, and interest. Applicants must respond to a maximum of 50% of the questions in the Advanced Section of Part 1.

Both sections of Part 1, General and Advanced, shall carry equal weightage in the final selection. Applicants who secure less than 40% marks in Part 1 of the Entrance examination shall not be considered for the next stage.

Part 2 (Essay questions) will only be evaluated during Stage 2 of the admissions process, i.e. only for those applicants who have been shortlisted from Stage 1 (as described below). These submissions will be assessed anonymously and identified only by Application ID.

A sample question paper is available on the University's website for reference purposes only.

Diversity Points: Recognising the value of an inclusive and diverse classroom across various socio-economic categories, the University will follow a weighted Diversity Points system in the admission process. Applicants will be assigned Diversity Points based on recognised aspects of marginalisation and exclusion such as caste, tribe, gender (including transgender), economic vulnerability (measured by limited household income), location of 10+2 schooling in non-metropolitan cities or rural areas; first generation learners, and differential physical ability.

Scores in the Entrance Exam as well as approved Diversity Points shall be aggregated in Stage 1.

Applicants must upload all relevant documents supporting the consideration of diversity points in order for diversity points to be assigned to them.

Please note that applicants who declare themselves as fulfilling eligibility criteria for diversity points as specified in the Application Form but who do not provide supporting documentation by 20th March 2026 shall be disqualified from further consideration for admission to the Master's Programme.

In order to achieve disciplinary diversity in these interdisciplinary Master's programmes, the scores in the Entrance Examination shall also be considered with comparative scores, within their respective disciplinary categories.

Upon the successful completion of Stage 1 above, applicants shortlisted based on their combined score (in the General and Advanced Entrance examination plus Diversity points) will be informed regarding their eligibility to participate in Stage 2 of the entrance process, as detailed below.

- **Application Process, Stage 2**

A. Part 2 Written Essays: The essays submitted by shortlisted applicants in Part 2 of Entrance examination shall be assessed and graded at Stage 2. Essays submitted by other applicants will not be evaluated.

B. Online Interviews: Shortlisted applicants will be required to appear for an online interview. Applicants are expected to make themselves available for a 30-minute interview slot anytime between Monday, 13th April 2026 and Saturday, 25th April 2026. Specific time slots will be provided by the University for applicants to choose from.

Applicants will be evaluated based on a combination of factors including: academic qualifications, research and professional interests, alignment with the Master's programme at the University, aptitude to understand and solve interdisciplinary challenges, communication skills across various media, and previous professional and volunteering engagements (if any), among other factors.

Applicants who score less than 40% in the interviews and essays combined shall not be considered further for final selection.

Shortlisted applicants from Stage 1 of the admission process will also have the opportunity at this stage to apply for financial assistance via the University admission portal.

However, this will only be assessed/examined after admission has been completed and confirmed. Applying for financial assistance has no impact on the admission process. However, applicants are being provided the opportunity to apply early, to ensure that all required documentation is in place in a timely manner.

- **Final Selection and Admission:** The final selection of the applicants shall be based on cumulative scores from Stage 1 and Stage 2. The table below specifies the relative weights:

Stage of Admission Process for Master's Programmes	Weightage
Entrance Examination Part 1 - General section	25%
Entrance Examination Part 1 - Advanced section	25%
Diversity points	15%
Entrance Examination Part 2 - Essays	15%
Interview	20%

Successful and waitlisted applicants shall be informed of an offer of admission, via email and on the application portal, in two lists: a First List and a Waitlist.

Successful applicants will be informed through a **First List**. If seats remain after offers have been made to applicants in the First List, admission may also be offered to waitlisted applicants.

Admission Deposit

Admitted applicants must confirm their acceptance by the timeline specified, and pay a refundable Admission Deposit of INR 5,000/-. If an applicant declines or does not respond within the timeline, the seat offered to them will be offered to another applicant on the waitlist, as per their relative ranks in the list.

Verification of Documents

Admission will be completed upon successful submission and verification of self-attested certified copies of documents, and payment of the Admission deposit.

The University shall not retain any original certificates of the students, in accordance with applicable rules and regulations.

Financial Assistance

Shortlisted applicants who had applied for financial assistance in Stage 1 of the admission process will be informed of the University's decision regarding their financial assistance application only after an offer of admission is made to them. The financial assistance application will be evaluated only for those students who have applied for financial assistance and who have received an offer of admission. After such evaluation, the admitted students will be informed regarding the University's decision to award or deny financial assistance. Key Dates are specified in Section IX.3.B below.

IX. 3.A Documents Required for Admission to Master's Programmes

Applicants are required to upload scans of the following documents in the admission application form . The original documents will be verified later by the University (see table of Key Dates).

1. Class X Certificate
2. Class X Marks-sheet
3. Class XII Certificate
4. Class XII Marks-sheet
5. Statement of Marks and provisional/ passing degree certificate of Undergraduate/ Bachelor's degree issued by recognised University. Where such certificate is not available at the time of uploading, the latest statement of marks shall be provided. Please note that the University will not confirm admission of any applicant unless such applicant provides the provisional/ passing degree certificate of the Undergraduate/ Bachelor's degree for verification.
6. Recent passport size photograph
7. Aadhaar Card, Driving Licence, Passport or any other proof of identity issued by a Government authority

Documents for Diversity Points

The following documents must be uploaded on the University admission portal by applicants to the Master's programme if they wish to be considered for diversity points based on diversity criteria (as described above). Scans of these documents will need to be uploaded, and originals will be verified later by the University (see table of Key Dates).

1. Valid SC/ ST/ OBC certificate issued by competent authority
2. Valid Transgender Certificate, Transgender Identity Card, or any Government-issued identity card (Aadhaar, Voter ID, Passport) as applicable with the appropriate gender assignation
3. UDID (Unique Disability ID card)/ competent medical authority certificate following UDID categories
4. Class XII (or equivalent) Marks-sheet or Certificate with name of school and city
5. Valid State-issued income certificate (from not before FY 2025-26)
6. Other relevant certificates as available/ applicable (EWS certificate, non-creamy layer certificate, BPL card that indicates annual household income)
7. Self-attested statement of highest educational qualification (as applicable) for parents

The University will not retain custody of the original academic and personal certificates submitted by applicants. These certificates will be used solely for physical verification of the self-attested copies during the admission process and will be returned to the applicants.

If at any stage of the admission process, an uploaded document is found to be fake, non-genuine, fabricated or misrepresented, the application will be rejected. If the same is found after the admission into the programme, the applicant's admission will be cancelled, and appropriate legal action will be taken against them.

All supporting documents for diversity points must be submitted along with the application form.

IX.3.B Key Dates for Master's Programmes

Event	Deadline
Online application opens	12 January 2026
Online application closes	20 March 2026
Entrance examination	4 April 2026
Declaration of list of shortlisted applicants	9 April 2026
Submission of necessary documentation and Financial assistance application forms by shortlisted applicants	10 April - 25 April 2026
Online interviews	13 April - 25 April 2026
Declaration of first list of successful applicants and waitlist	4 May 2026
Declaration of financial assistance offers to first list	8 May 2026
Acceptance of offers by successful applicants in first list and payment of admission deposit	4 May - 25 May 2026
Declaration of second list of successful applicants	26 May 2026
Declaration of financial assistance offers to second list	29 May 2026
Acceptance of offers by successful applicants in second list and payment of admission deposit	26 May - 5 June 2026
Verification of documents and admission confirmation	5 July 2026
Orientation of admitted students and verification of original documents	24 August - 29 August 2026
Payment of institutional caution deposit and first instalment of fees	5 July to 10 September 2026
Commencement of academic session	31 August 2026

IX.4 FEES FOR MASTER'S PROGRAMMES

IX.4.A Fee Details for Master's Programmes

Sl. No.	Particulars	Yr 1 (INR)	Yr 2 (INR)	Total (INR)
1	Tuition Fees	4,00,000	5,00,000	9,00,000
2	Hostel	2,01,600	2,17,728	4,19,328
3	Food	39,600	39,600	79,200
4	Exposure Visits	82,000	60,000	1,42,000
5	Practica	15,000	8,000	23,000
6	Library Fee	2,000	-	2,000
	Total	7,40,200	8,25,328	15,65,528
	Institutional Caution Deposit (refundable)	25,000		25,000

Note: INR 5000/- Refundable Admission Deposit is separate from the Fees mentioned in the table above.

- All Master's Programmes are full-time residential programmes. It is mandatory for students, including those based in Bengaluru, to stay in the accommodation provided by the University. The University believes that this is important for effective learning, peer interactions, and community-building.
- Fees collected for food covers only lunch which is provided by the University from Monday to Friday on teaching days. All other meals during the week and on weekends will need to be borne additionally by the students.
- Medical Insurance for hospitalisation will be provided by the University without any cost to students. The University will provide limited coverage for certain out-of-hospital medical expenses, such as doctor consultation fees, prescribed diagnostic tests, and prescribed medicines, subject to applicable terms, conditions, and specified limits. Any out-of-hospital medical expenses beyond such limits shall be borne by the students.
- Fees collected for Exposure visits shall be utilised by the University at cost to organise intercity exposure visits (including travel and stay) for students in line with the curriculum.
- Fees collected for Practica will be used to facilitate field visits by students.
- Damage caused to University property (including accommodation) due to student's negligence or attributable to the student will be recovered from the Institutional Caution Deposit.
- Students are expected to bring their own laptops.
- The above fees are exclusive of any additional charges, including penalties and fines levied under University rules; fees for readmission; fees for revaluation and retaking examinations; stationery, printing and other consumables. Such costs and penalties must be borne by the student separately.

The University does not collect donation or capitation fee in whatever nomenclature or form, either directly or indirectly.

IX.4.B Payment Schedule for Master's Programmes

The above annual fees are to be paid in the following instalments:

S. No.	Particulars	Periodicity of Payment
1	Tuition Fees	Annual or in 3 instalments per year
2	Hostel	Annual or in 3 installments per year
3	Food	Annual or in 3 instalments per year
4	Exposure Visits	Annual or in 3 instalments per year
5	Practica	Annual or in 3 instalments per year
6	Library Fee	One time
7	Institutional Caution Deposit	One time

Note: A separate one-time refundable Admission Deposit of INR 5,000 must be deposited by all successful applicants to confirm their admission.

IX.4.C Financial Assistance for Master's Programmes

The University is committed to supporting students from diverse socio-economic backgrounds by facilitating relevant financial assistance, such as fee concessions and scholarships to deserving students. Financial assistance can take various forms, to cover – in part or full – tuition costs, accommodation, food costs as applicable, exposure and practica visits, depending on the nature of need and the documentation provided to support the request for financial assistance. Depending on need and documentation produced, an additional stipend towards managing living costs may also be provided.

Eligibility

Applicants who have been shortlisted after Stage 1 of the admission process for the Master's programme and who would be seeking financial assistance are required to provide details regarding their need for financial assistance and submit the required supporting documents by 25th April 2026. These details and documents will only be examined by the University after an offer of admission is made. The University shall inform the relevant students regarding the decision to award or deny financial assistance at the earliest.

Please note that the above financial assistance does not cover the one-time refundable Admission Deposit of INR 5,000/- required for confirmation of admission of successful applicants.

Process

The process of financial assistance provision involves the following steps:

1. Shortlisted applicants (i.e. those who have reached Stage 2) will be given an opportunity to apply for financial assistance by filling a Financial Assistance Form sent to them through the University admission portal when they are informed of being shortlisted for Stage 2.
2. Applicants for financial assistance must mandatorily complete the Financial Assistance Form shared with them. This form will ask for a short explanation of their reasons for requesting assistance and the documents they are able to provide in support of their application. Applicants for financial assistance are required to submit a set of supporting documents by the deadline specified in the Financial Assistance Form. The Financial Assistance Form shall ask for a narrative of the nature of financial need, details of parental occupation and earnings, details of any earnings by the applicant in previous employment, including last drawn salary, details of savings or loan arrangements, estimations of household income, etc. This shall be corroborated by relevant valid certification to be provided.
3. The University will, on the basis of the above submissions and supporting documentation, deliberate on the applications and decide on the award of financial assistance and the quantum (if any).

FEE REFUND POLICY

If a student chooses to withdraw from the programme of study in which they are enrolled, the University shall follow the following system for the refund:

1. The Admission Deposit of INR 5,000 paid by successful applicants for confirmation of their admission shall be refunded in full within:
 - a.** Thirty (30) days of receipt of notice of withdrawal of admission and request for refund of the Admission Deposit; OR
 - b.** For admitted students, thirty (30) days of receipt of request for refund of the Admission Deposit.
2. Fee refund shall be as per relevant UGC norms. The last date of admission for the purpose of refund of fees shall be 29th August 2026.
3. Institutional Caution Deposit shall be refunded in full within thirty (30) days of receipt of notice of withdrawal.










The UGC-approved IIHS (Institution Deemed to be) University, is offering a set of transformative new interdisciplinary degree programmes in 2026—five Master’s programmes and a Doctoral Programme—centred around urban practice and research.

As India undergoes the largest rural-to-urban transition in human history, urbanisation is fundamentally reshaping its economy, society, culture, and environment. Recognising this defining moment, the University is premised on the need to transform the current nature of urban education, one of the most important drivers for India’s national development and sustainable global futures.

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