



SRM
UNIVERSITY AP
— Andhra Pradesh



B A DEGREE IN **LIBERAL ARTS**

IN ACCORDANCE WITH NATIONAL EDUCATION POLICY (NEP) - 2020
AN OPTIONAL 4TH YEAR WITH RESEARCH

MERIT-BASED FEE STRUCTURE

What does Liberal Arts mean?

The study of Liberal Arts is based on rational thinking. It focuses more on the development of critical thinking, problem-solving ability, and working ethically in various fields of study. This field of study is a composition of diverse topics, ranging from Media to Journalism, Philosophy, Anthropology, and even Sociology. Liberal Arts education is as broad as it is in-depth.

Students will learn about culture, literature, language, history, and more. It helps to encourage individual curiosity and expand worldview. Therefore, if you have a passion for deep thinking, critical analysis, and developing moral autonomy, Liberal Arts is your answer.

Benefits of Liberal Arts Education in general

Liberal Arts Education enhances employable skills by instilling various skills and proficiencies. Students are acquainted with the knowledge of contemporary issues. They will get prepared to engage in independent and lifelong learning.

Key Features of BA in Liberal Arts at SRM University-AP

Unique curriculum

Liberal arts is comprised of a wide range of subjects and the foundational courses at SRM University-AP are composed of various disciplinary vantage points. These courses are designed in such a way that they impart students with both intellectual and practical skills.

Courses are focused on the practice of writing through regular classroom exercises. The ability enhancement courses like foreign language studies, prepare them for international exposure. The curriculum of the BA degree programme is designed as per the UGC guidelines. The department focuses on interactive learning through critical thinking instead of rote learning and performance in examinations. The course content prepares students for pursuing a higher degree in social sciences.

A Choice-based credit system

Under the CBCS, students have the flexibility to choose courses from other Disciplines or Schools in the University.

Optional 4th year and training for higher education:

Skill enhancement courses such as the intensive course in qualitative research give the students a head start for engagement in social research if they aspire to gain work experience after graduation. Students have the option of extending their degree by one year to conduct social research.

Strength of interdisciplinarity

The department of Liberal Arts merges perspectives from Sociology, Anthropology, Media Studies, History, Philosophy, and Political Science to help students develop a deeper understanding and a critical outlook towards the events in everyday life, going beyond commonsensical notions.

Internships

Internships with NGOs, Research Institutes like CDS, CESS, ICRISAT, International Justice Mission, Nandi Foundation, Save the Children, Centre for Pastoralism to name a few, further give diverse and intensive experiences to students. The department regularly invites resource people to interact with the students. These resource people are usually development professionals, academicians in globally eminent institutes, and journalists with years of experience.

The pedagogical methods

The department uses modern educational technologies like smart boards (smart screens) for classroom lectures and presentations. The major focus is on active learning to engage students with the course material through discussions, problem-solving, case studies, and soon. Students are encouraged to actively participate in lectures. Project-based learning allows the students to work on their area of interest while being guided by experts from the department.

The Department also provides opportunities for the students to collaborate with the teachers to carry out research and other research-based activities.

Infrastructure

SRM University-AP offers a wide range of facilities and resources to support students. The library on the campus provides an extensive collection of books and journals on History. Students have 24x7 access to online journals and other valuable online resources required to hone their writing and research skills. They also have access to the dining area, hostels, grocery store, health centre, Pharmacy, Bank with ATM, Post Office, and other amenities. The University is built on the idea of a Green Campus and is designed by Perkins+Will, the American architecture firm that specialises in educational institutions.

Faculty and Research Areas of Interest

Faculty members have training in diverse subjects, from national and international institutes like the University of Delhi, University of Hyderabad, Sikkim University, Jawaharlal Nehru University, Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati, and University College London (UCL).

Dr Ugen Bhutia has a PhD in History from Sikkim University. His doctoral work examines the role of mass media in the rise of Hindu Nationalism in India. The thesis goes beyond the binary of conservative vs liberal media discourse and critically examines other factors like economy and culture that have influenced the press in the country since its beginning in the late 18th century. His current research interests include mass media and nationalism, surveillance studies, peace, and conflict resolution.

Dr Bikku has a PhD in Anthropology from the University of Hyderabad. His doctoral research examines the relationship between Humans (the Bishnois) and wildlife in the deserts of Rajasthan with emphasis on their religious beliefs and local knowledge system in coping with the changing environmental conditions. After completing his PhD, he joined as a Postdoctoral Research Fellow of Human Ecology at the UCL Anthropology, University

College London (UCL). His Postdoctoral Research focuses on Nomadic Pastoralists of Rajasthan, emphasizing their mobility, mitigation, and sustainability in the changing landscape. The current research interests include Environmental Anthropology, Religion and Environment, Climate Change, Sustainability, Conservation, Tribes, Nomads and Mobile Pastoralists, Multispecies Ethnography, and Global South.

Dr Ipsita Pradhan has a PhD in Sociology from the University of Hyderabad. Her doctoral work studies the relationship between gender and labour and its manifestations in the service sector, particularly on the retail shop floor. Her work looks at the shopping mall as a place of work, rather than as a space of leisure and consumption. She has taught at institutes like Stella Maris College in Chennai and Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development in Sriperumbudur and worked on a project on global sibling relationships, affiliated with Boston University, USA. Her research interests lie in the intersection of the sociology of gender, labour, and urban spaces.

Dr Chandana Deka has a PhD in Philosophy from Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati. Her doctoral work critically evaluates the concept of fideism (faithism). The issue of faith has many layers and her thesis tries to delineate the distinction between faith and blind faith. It also encloses the consequences of holding onto such faith. Her research interests include Philosophy of Religion, Ethics, Socio-Cultural Philosophy, Political Philosophy, and Pragmatism.

Dr Idris Hassan Bhat has PhD in Political Philosophy from Jawaharlal Nehru University. His thesis is concerned with political ontology, particularly in relation to the political philosophies of Agamben and Schmitt. It critiques liberal democratic order and Marxist understanding of history and offers an alternative conceptual framework by analysing the language of ordering itself. He has taught political science at Central University Kashmir, Delhi University, and Ashoka University. At Ashoka, he taught courses like Experience and Ideas, Western and Indian Political Thought, Political Islam, and Great Books. His current research interests are in the fields of political Islam, Western political thought, Indian political thought, nationalism, philosophy of law, and democracy.

Dr Vineeth Thomas has completed his PhD in Political Science from Pondicherry University. His thesis explored the theoretical and practical dimensions of affirmative action. Prior to joining SRM University, Dr Vineeth was associated with Christ University Bangalore, where he taught Political Thought, Political Theory, Indian Government and Politics, Public Policy and Public Administration. His research interests include political theory, political philosophy, Indian politics, Public administration and public policy,

Dr Anasuya Agarwala has an MPhil and PhD in Philosophy from Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. Working in Existential and Phenomenological Philosophy, her PhD dissertation maps the concepts of authenticity and inauthenticity in the history of existential thought in order to conceptualize and phenomenologically describe Indifference as a third mode. Conceptualized as essentially nihilistic, her thesis describes the structures of indifference as a form of normativity. The work analyses the implications of this kind of normativity on questions of morality. Her research interests include the problem of ethics in existential and phenomenological philosophy, the philosophy of Nietzschean/Heidegger, metaethics, social phenomenology and social ontology. She is currently working on the relationship between morality and imaginative thinking.

CAREER PROSPECTS IN LIBERAL ARTS DEGREES

UPSC and State Services

The Department of Liberal Arts, SRMAP, offers interdisciplinary education ranging from Political Science to Sociology, Anthropology to Philosophy, and Literature to Journalism. These disciplines provide foundational knowledge to students which will help them in competitive examinations like UPSC. The departmental courses on Ethics, Indian Polity, and Logical Reasoning are particularly important for most of the competitive exams.

News Media and Journalism

One of the major foci of the Department of Liberal Arts is news reporting and analysis. Courses are designed to acquaint students with the latest trends in the media industry.

NGOs/Social Sectors

The courses in Sociology, Anthropology, and Political Science enable students to comprehend social realities in a holistic manner. They are able to look at society from critical and multiple perspectives. The axes of gender, caste, class, religion, ethnicity, etc. become their working concepts. All of this helps them to be efficient employees in non-governmental organisations and other avenues in the social sector. The internships also prepare them for this role.

Think-Tanks and Policy Making

The Department of Liberal Arts offers courses that deal with Government and policies, Law and Constitution, International Organisation, and International Relations which prepares students to work in international organisations like United Nation, election strategy organisations, think-tanks, human rights organisations, and others.

Content Writing/Copy Writing

Foundational courses on Communicative English and Critical Thinking familiarises students to navigate through the demands of communication, professionally.

Eligibility

- A minimum aggregate score of 60% or equivalent grade point in Class X
- A minimum aggregate score of 60% or equivalent grade point in 12th Standard / Higher Secondary Examination (10+2)/ Intermediate (First and Second year)

MERIT-BASED FEE STRUCTURE*

Category	Total Fees	Eligibility			
		SAT	Scholarship Exam (score in %age)	12th average- CBSE/ICSE (score in %age)	12th average- Other boards (score in %age)
Category A Fees	₹0	1300+	95+	95+	98+
Category B Fees	₹42500	1250-1299	90-94.99	90-94.99	95-97.99
Category C Fees	₹80000	1100-1249	70-89.99	70-89.99	75-94.99
Category D Fees	₹155000	<1100	<70	60-69.99	60-74.99

*There are limited seats available for each category. Basic eligibility criteria needs to be adhered for all categories

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SCAN TO
APPLY ONLINE

