

Bachelor of Arts [BA] - Course Overview

- STREAM

ARTS

- DURATION

3 YEARS

- COURSE

GENERAL

- COURSE TYPE

GRADUATION

Bachelor of Arts Course, Subjects, Distance Education, Admission, Colleges, Jobs

Bachelor of Arts (BA) is an undergraduate program of 3 years and considered one of the most pursued courses in India, accounting to more than 9 million students. You can choose from many BA subjects like Philosophy, Economics, Political Science, Geography, Sociology, Literature and other Humanities, Social Science and Liberal Arts subjects.

Following list shows **Best College for BA** in India according to IndiaToday 2019:

India Today Ranking	College	Location	Admission Process	Average Annual Fees	Average Salary
1	St. Stephen's College	Delhi	Merit	INR 34,000- 35,000	INR 7.5-8 LPA
2	Hindu College	Delhi	Merit	INR 180	INR 6-8 LPA

3	Miranda College	Delhi	Merit	INR 12,000- 13,000	INR 3-7 LPA
4	Kirori Mal College	Delhi	Merit	INR 12,000- 13,000	INR 4-5 LPA
5	Madras Christian College	Chennai	Merit	INR 8000- 9000	INR 3-4 LPA

Bachelor of Arts Admission Process

Admission takes place through one of the following:

- **Merit:** Colleges generate their cut off list, and if you have scored within that criteria then you are eligible to take admission in that program. Cut off List in elite colleges like Hindu College, Miranda House, Gargi College, etc. goes upto 98% for BA course.
- **Entrance:** Admission also takes place through entrances like JNU EE, BHU UET, DUET, etc. Scores in these entrance exams and/or Class XII scores are considered during BA admission.

Bachelor of Arts Eligibility

Basic BA eligibility is 40% in Class XII. But this is not enough to get admission in a good college. You need to score atleast 90% if you are aiming for Delhi University, Mumbai University or other prestigious universities.

Bachelor of Arts Entrance Exams

In some BA colleges like BHU, Sharda University, etc. admission takes place through the following entrance exams. Following are few of them:

- **NPAT 2020:** This exam is for admission in BA Liberal Arts, apart from other undergraduate courses in [NMIMS](#).
- **BHU UET 2020:** This exam is for admission in Banaras Hindu University which offers BA (Hons.) and BA in Social Science course.
- **CUCET 2020:** This exam is for admission in central universities across India, like Haryana, Rajasthan, Kerala, etc. in BA B.Ed. and BA LLB courses.

- **?TISS BAT 2020:** This exam is conducted by [Tata Institute of Social Science](#) for admission into BA in Social Science.
- **?SUAT 2020:** This exam is conducted by [Sharda University](#) for admission into BA in English, Pol Science, Sociology, History, etc.
- **?DUET 2020:** This exam is for admission in BA course along with other programs in [Delhi University](#). ?

Points to keep in mind for BA Entrance Exams:

- **?Time Table:** Make a time table so that you can cover all the syllabus before time, and have time for revision as well.
- **?Syllabus and Exam Pattern:** Before preparing for the entrance, check the syllabus thoroughly on the official website and start preparing accordingly. Focus more on the subjects in which you are weak.?
- **Time Management:** Apart from studying for entrances, you need to score well in Class XII as well, therefore you should find a balance between them both and not compromise on any of them, as both are compulsory for BA admission.
- **?Revision:** Notes should be made while studying so that you can revise the important or difficult parts of the syllabus.
- **?Health:** You should pay attention to your health and sleep so that you can function properly the next day. Take time for leisure activities to pleasure your brain and rest.

How to get admission in a top BA college?

- You should try to score higher marks in Class XII because admission is mostly done through merit, and the cut off for elite colleges like Miranda, Gargi, Hindu, Hansraj, etc. goes upto 98-99%.
- Performance in entrance exams also matters, hence study well in advance for that by making notes and revision.
- Keep a track of colleges in which you want to apply, and fulfill the eligibility criteria.
- Applications should be submitted well before time for a hassle-free process. ?

Bachelor of Arts: What is it about?

- Bachelor of Arts is a 3 year academic undergraduate degree, often called BA General or BA Pass course.
- It is not a subject-specific course and major Humanities, Social Science and Liberal Arts subjects are taught in this, like History, Political Science, Geography, etc. The combination of subjects depends upon the colleges and the electives, which can be Sociology, Religious studies, Philosophy etc.
- This course is so popular that it is considered one of the top 5 most pursued courses. Currently, there are more than 9 million students who are pursuing BA programmes in India.
- The main reason why most of the students prefer this course is that it is a flexible course, most suitable to develop general research, communication and analyzing skills.
- Mostly, BA graduates prepare for civil services, UPSC and other government exams, or they go for higher education and study MA (Master of Arts), LLB (Bachelor of Laws), and other relevant courses.
- If you want to make a career in Humanities and Liberal Arts, then you should pursue this course.?

BA Course Highlights

Course Level	Undergraduate
Full Form	Bachelor of Arts
Duration	3 years
Examination Type	Semester based
Eligibility	Class XII with any stream (but mainly humanities) from a recognized board
Admission Process	Entrance and Merit-Based

Course Fee	Around INR 30,000- 50,000 annually
Average Salary	INR 4.6 LPA
Top Recruiters	Deloitte, ITC Hotels, NIIT, Byju's, Toppr, BCG, ICICI Bank, HDFC Bank, KPMG, Accenture, etc.
Major Job Positions	Executive Assistant, Associate, Executive, Consultant, Counselor, Content Writer, Foreign Language Expert, Teacher, Subject Matter Expert, Historian, Political Consultant, etc.

Why pursue Bachelor of Arts?

- There is so much competition in India right now that Class XII qualification is not enough. Therefore, students go for BA degree as it provides a base to students who want to make their career in Liberal Arts, Social Science and Humanities.
- BA programme is vast and can also be done in subjects like Psychology, Economics and other fields, which proves that it is not just limited to Humanities.
- Many students believe that there is no scope in non-science and non-technical courses, but that is not the case. You can become a Political Analyst, Intelligence Specialist, Archivist, Museologist, Lobbyist, Historian, Public Relations, Content Writer and Editor, Event Management, Financial Consultant, Risk Advisory Associate, Policy Maker, etc. after BA.
- If you dream of entering the public service sector, then BA is a perfect course for you. Many students clear IAS, UPSC, SSC and other exams to fulfill their dream and work in state and central government sectors.
- Courses after BA programme include various professional and academic courses like [MA](#), [LLB](#), [B.Ed](#), [MBA](#) and many diploma courses which can be pursued for better employment opportunities.
- There are many interesting and not much explored disciplines also like Gender studies, Habitat Policy and Practice, Museology, Cartography, Gerontology, Rural studies and development, Social Services etc. which can be pursued after BA course.

Parameters	BA	BSc
Qualification	Bachelor of Arts	Bachelor of Science
Stream	Humanities	Science
Discipline	BA course specializes in Liberal Arts, Social Science and Humanities subjects like philosophy, history, geography, literature, etc.	BSc course offers specializations in biology, botany, chemistry, physics, economics, mathematics, statistics, etc.
Average Annual Fees	INR 30,000- 50,000	INR 50,000
Career Options	Major career options are Content Writer and Editor, Political Analyst, Political Consultant, Foreign Language Expert, Executive Assistant, Historian, Public Relations, Event Manager, Risk Advisor, Associate, Executive, Lobbyist, Consultant, Counselor, etc.	Major career options are JRF, Research Assistant, Junior Scientist, QA/QC Analyst, Lecturers, Teachers, Clinical Research Associate, Drug Safety Associate, Statistician, Subject Matter Expert, etc.
Further studies	MA in a vast variety of specializations like Journalism, Gender studies, Social work, etc. MBA in any specialization. LLB to enter the law field. Professional Diploma courses like Photography, Graphic Designing, Publishing, etc.	MSc in various specializations like Biotechnology, Physics, Applied Economics, etc. MBA in any specialization. Certificate and Diploma courses in Science fields like Genetic Engineering, Computer Language, Agriculture, etc.

Parameters	BA	BBA
Qualification	Bachelor of Arts	Bachelor of Business Administration
Discipline	Liberal Arts, Social Science and Humanities	Business studies
Degree Type	Academic	Professional
Average Annual Fees	INR 30,000- 50,000	INR 1-2 Lakhs
Career Options	Major career options are Content Writer and Editor, Political Analyst, Political Consultant, Foreign Language Expert, Executive Assistant, Historian, Public Relations, Event Manager, Risk Advisor, Associate, Executive, Lobbyist, Consultant, Counselor, etc.	Major career options are Business Development Executive, Marketing Executive, Marketing Trainee, Financial Analyst, HR Generalist, Business Analyst, etc.

- **BA vs BA Hons:** Both these degrees lead to the same qualification, i.e Bachelor of Arts, but there is one major difference between them. In [BA Hons](#), you specialize in one subject which could be History, English, Political Science, Psychology, Anthropology, Economics, etc. But in BA course, you study compulsory 5 subjects which include History, Political Science, Sociology, English, etc. apart from electives which have to be chosen by the students like Fine Arts, Environmental Science, Journalism, Philosophy etc.

Bachelor of Arts Specializations

Top Bachelor of Arts courses are:

- **BA English:** BA in English is one of the most pursued BA course in India. Students study subjects like British Literature, American Literature, Indian Literature, etc. If you want to become a professional English content writer and language expert, then this course is perfect for you.

Average Annual Fees	INR 20,000- 50,000
---------------------	--------------------

Average Starting Salary	INR 3-5 LPA
-------------------------	-------------

[BA English Colleges](#)

- **[BA Psychology](#)**: Psychology is the study of human mind and behaviour. Students study subjects like General Psychology, Experimental Psychology, Cognitive Psychology, Abnormal Psychology etc.

Average Annual Fees	INR 30,000- 80,000
---------------------	--------------------

Average Starting Salary	INR 3-5 LPA
-------------------------	-------------

[BA Psychology Colleges](#)

- **[BA Economics](#)**: BA in Economics can be called a professional course as it is designed to train individuals in analyzing concepts and processes of the economy by educating them in areas such as definition, nature, scope, concepts, utility, production, market, etc.

Average Annual Fees	INR 30,000- 60,000
---------------------	--------------------

Average Starting Salary	INR 3-6 LPA
-------------------------	-------------

[BA Economics Colleges](#)

- **[BA History](#)**: BA in History is a very popular course and students study the subject of history and allied areas. Students study subjects like History of Medieval India, History of Modern India, History of Europe, American History, etc.
-

Average Annual Fees	INR 30,000- 40,000
---------------------	--------------------

Average Annual Salary	INR 4-6 LPA
-----------------------	-------------

[BA History Colleges](#)

- [BA Sociology](#): BA in Sociology is also another popular option by Arts students. They study subjects like Applied Sociology, Comparative Sociology, Cultural Sociology, Collective Behavior, etc.

Average Annual Fees	INR 20,000- 50,000
---------------------	--------------------

Average Annual Salary	INR 3-6 LPA
-----------------------	-------------

[BA Sociology Colleges](#)

- [BA Journalism](#): BA in Journalism is perfect for students who want to make a career in journalism and mass communication, both print and electronic. Editor, Screenwriter, Journalist, etc. are some of the major jobs after doing BA Journalism.

Average Annual Fees	INR 50,000- 1 Lakhs
---------------------	---------------------

Average Annual Salary	INR 3-5 LPA
-----------------------	-------------

[BA Journalism Colleges](#)

More Bachelor of Arts Specializations

[BA Political Science](#)[BA Education](#)[BA Mass Communication](#)[BA Philosophy](#)[BA Geography](#)[BA Criminology](#)[BA Hindi](#)[BA Public Administration](#)

Bachelor of Arts Colleges

The following table shows topmost and best colleges for BA programme across India:

India Today Ranking	College	Location	Admission Process	Average Fees	Average Salary
1	St. Stephen's College	Delhi	Merit	INR 34,000-35,000	INR 7.5-8 LPA
2	Hindu College	Delhi	Merit	INR 180	INR 6-8 LPA
3	Miranda College	Delhi	Merit	INR 12,000-13,000	INR 3-7 LPA
4	Kirori Mal College	Delhi	Merit	INR 12,000-13,000	INR 4-5 LPA
5	Madras Christian College	Chennai	Merit	INR 8000- 9000	INR 3-4 LPA
6	Hansraj College	Delhi	Merit	INR 18,000-19,000	INR 5.5 LPA
7	Loyola College	Chennai	Merit	INR 13,000-14,000	INR 2-4 LPA
8	Dept. of Humanities and Social Sciences, Christ (Deemed to be University)	Bangalore	Entrance	INR 45,000-65,000	INR 2-5 LPA
9	Indraprastha College for Women	Delhi	Merit	INR 20,000-25,000	INR 2-5 LPA
10	Gargi College	Delhi	Merit	INR 12,000-13,000	INR 3-6 LPA

Many students aspire to pursue their BA degree from DU because of its reputation and prestige. Apart from the above mentioned, best DU Colleges for BA are Ramjas College, Jesus and Mary College, Delhi College of Arts and Commerce (DCAC), etc.

A lot of you want to pursue BA programme through **distance education**. Popular options are from IGNOU, Manipal and below mentioned colleges.

Bachelor of Arts College Comparison

Parameters	St. Stephen's, New Delhi	Loyola College, Chennai	Sharda University, Greater Noida
Overview	It is one of the top BA colleges in India which offers BA course, apart from BA (Hons) as well.	Loyola College is a prestigious and one of the oldest colleges in India. It is considered one of the top colleges to pursue BA.	It is a private university established in 2009, and offers various BA courses.
Average Fees	INR 34,000- 35,000	INR 13,000- 14,000	INR 80,000- 90,000
Average Salary	INR 7.5-8 LPA	INR 2-4 LPA	INR 2-5 LPA
Placement companies	McKinsey, AT Kearney, Monitor Deloitte and Takshashila Consulting, Goldman Sachs, Deutsche Bank, Swiss Reinsurance Group, Pernod-Ricard etc.	E&Y, Zoho Corp, Wells Fargo, Deloitte, Amazon, Genmedic, etc.	Cognizant, Mu Sigma, Videocon, naukri.com, InterGlobe, ICICI Bank, Johnson Controls, Alstom ,etc.

Bachelor of Arts Syllabus

BA syllabus depend upon the course taken, but following is the **BA English syllabus**, along with electives:

Semester I	Semester II
Indian Classical Literature	Indian Writing in English
European Classical Literature	British Poetry and Drama: 14th to 17th centuries
American Literature	British Literature: 18th century
Popular Literature	British Romantic Literature
British Poetry and Drama: 17th and 18th Centuries	British Literature: 19th century
Women's Writing	Modern European Drama
British Literature: The Early 20th century	Postcolonial Literatures

BA Elective Courses:

Modern Indian Writing in English Translation	Literature of the Indian Diaspora	British Literature: Post World War II
Nineteenth-Century European Realism	Literary Criticism	Scientific Fiction and Detective Literature

Literature and Cinema	Travel Writing	Autobiography
Academic Writing and Composition	Media and Communication Skills	Language and Linguistics
Contemporary India: Women and Empowerment	Language, Literature and Culture	Readings on Indian Diversities and Literary Movements

Recommended Books for Bachelor of Arts:

Name of book	Author
A Background to study of English Literature	B. Prasad
A Short History of English Literature	Pramod K Nayar
The Short Oxford History of English Literature	Andrew Sanders
The Wonder that was India, London 1954	Basham, A
Public Administration Theory and Practice	M.P. Sharma

Bachelor of Arts Jobs and Career Options

There is a vast variety of jobs available after doing BA course. From Content Writer to a Historian, numerous options are there. You can get hired by private companies for relevant positions as Associate, Executive Assistant, Counsellor, Consultant, Political Analyst, Historian, Content Writer and Editor, Feature Writer, Copywriter, Psychologist, Social Worker, Social Activist, etc. basis the course specialization.

Many students clear various public sector **government exams** and **bank exams** and find appropriate employment.

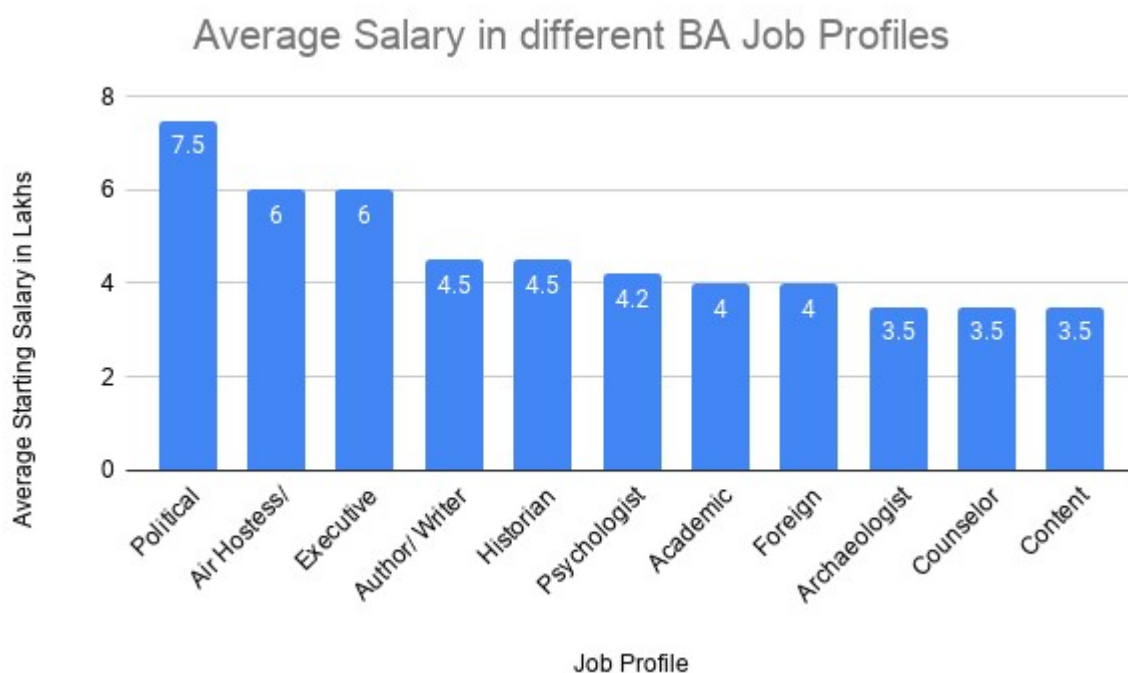
Below are the major job profiles after doing BA programme with job description:

Job Profile	Description	Average Salary
Content Creator	Content creators can be employed in any field ranging from copywriting to travel writing, blogging, etc. They are also required in big MNCs to develop content for brands and advertising.	INR 3.5 LPA
Academic Writing and Editing	Academic writers usually write content for research articles or papers and edit the already written articles for further modifications.	INR 4 LPA
Air Hostess/ Flight Attendant	They are responsible for the safety of passengers inside the flight, taking care of them and serving them onboard.	INR 6 LPA
Political Consultant	A political consultant studies the origin, development, and operation of political systems, which may include public opinion, ideology, political decision-making,	INR 7.5 LPA
Author/ Writer	An Author writes fictional, academic, non fictional or any genre of books or short stories, apart from different sorts of literature mediums.	INR 4.5 LPA
Historian	A historian usually writes or outlines the chronological account or record of past or current events in history, dealing with some phase of human activity, either in terms of individuals, or social, ethnic, political, or geographic groupings.	INR 4.5 LPA
Psychologist	A psychologist employs their education and practical knowledge to provide diagnostic	INR 4.2 LPA

interviews, psychological testing, and individual, group psychotherapy, etc. They can work individually or may work as part of a multidisciplinary team or professionals.

Executive Assistant	An Executive Assistant performs the role similar to a secretary or administrative assistant. They usually perform tasks from accepting and making phone calls, setting business meeting agendas to reviewing incoming reports, etc.	INR 6 LPA
Counsellor	A counselor guides students or professionals about their career and studies as per the client's interest. They work either individually or under some counselling company.	INR 3.5 LPA
Foreign Language Expert	Foreign language experts are the professionals who help to translate conversations and written files to overcome language barriers in business and communication.	INR 4 LPA
Social Worker	Social work can be done in any field like child labour, women's rights, unemployment, anima services, etc. There are so many government institutions and organizations which require social workers. They are also employed by national and international NGOs.	INR 2.9 LPA
Archaeologist	An Archaeologist investigates historic and prehistoric sites and examines the physical remains to understand human links to the past and to preserve past cultures.	INR 3.5 LPA

Salary Trend Graph of major Bachelor of Arts Jobs:



Bachelor of Arts Scope and Future Prospects

After doing BA course, you have a wide array of options of industry jobs, higher education and government sector jobs.

- **Government sector jobs:** If you are interested in getting employment in the public and service sector in central and state government, then pursuing BA is the right option for you. Many BA students give exams like [UPSC](#), [IAS](#), [SSC](#), etc. to get a job with a higher pay scale in the government sector. You can also clear the [bank exams](#) and get employment as a manager or senior executive in a bank.
- **Courses after BA:** You can pursue [MA](#) in various specializations like:

[MA Development Studies](#)

[MA Gender Studies](#)

[MA Journalism](#)

[MA History](#)

[MA Education](#)

[MA International Relations](#)

[MA Economics](#)

[MA Psychology](#)

[MA Political Science](#)

- You are also eligible to pursue **MBA** in any specialization.
- There are several professional diploma courses also like photography, language studies (French, Spanish, etc.), graphic designing, digital marketing, etc. which will help you get better jobs in the market.
- Students also pursue **LLB** and **B.Ed** to become a lawyer and teacher respectively.

