



**ASHOKA**  
UNIVERSITY

Exploring Passions. Discovering Purpose.





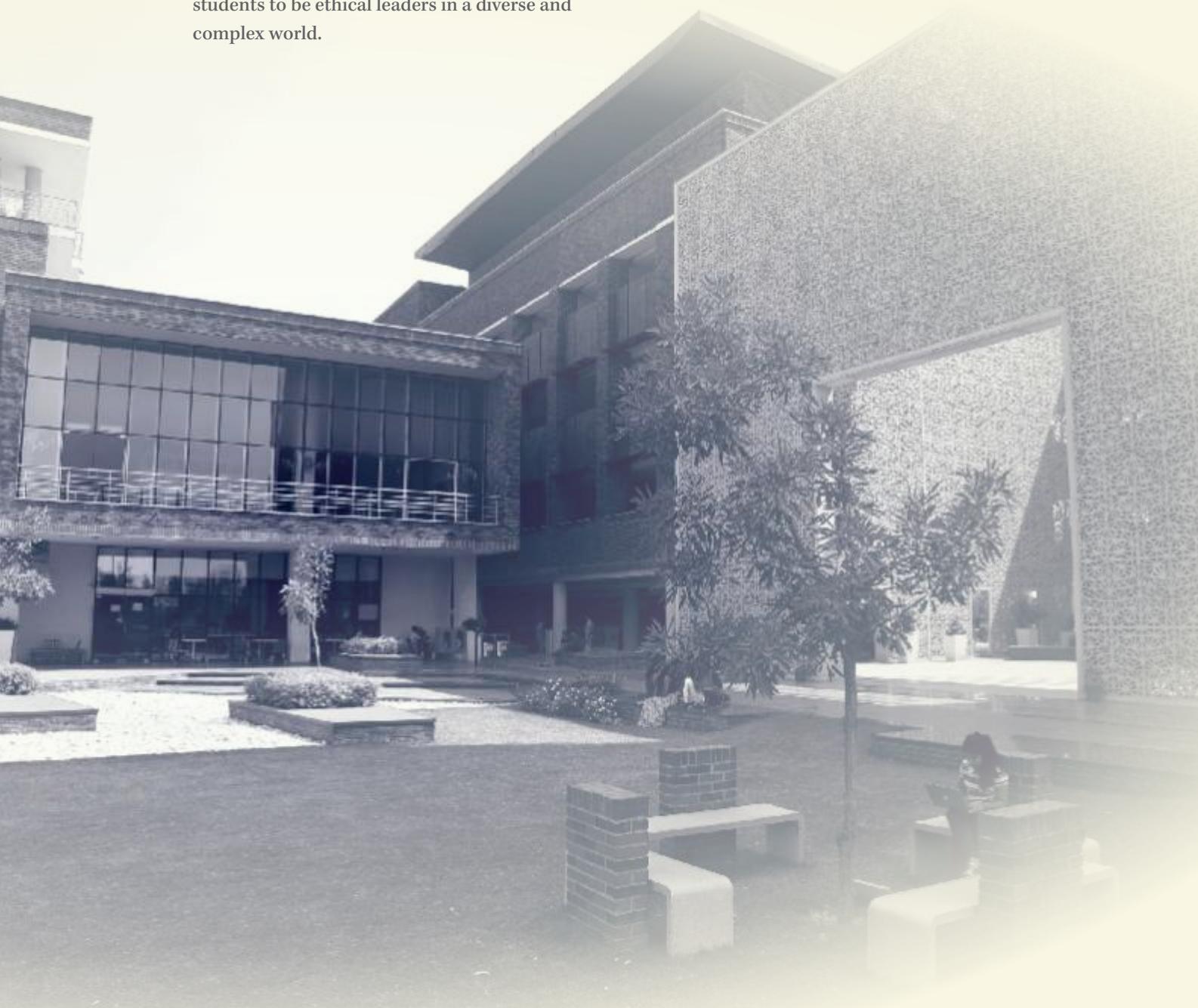
*This symbol manifests the idea that Ashoka University offers an education which creates coherence and integrity in one's intellectual experience, one that is dynamic, yet holistic and cogent. Our multi-disciplinary offering is depicted by myriad intersecting facets, that through form and counter-form create a multi-dimensional experience.*



# Education for the mind and the heart

Ashoka University is a pioneer in its focus on providing a liberal education at par with the best in the world. Our aim is to help students become well-rounded individuals who can think critically about issues from multiple perspectives, communicate effectively and become leaders with a commitment to public service.

An Ashoka education carries a strong emphasis on foundational knowledge, thorough academic research based on rigorous pedagogy, and hands-on experience with real-world challenges. It prepares students to be ethical leaders in a diverse and complex world.





# Liberal Education

Liberal education is rapidly gaining recognition in India and the time has come to restore the balance in higher education by bringing a liberal education to the forefront. The future of a liberal education depends on how best we create and explore new forms of education that can enhance social justice, public service, and environmental sustainability, while also developing students to lead a new era of growth and change.

## Undergraduate education

Ashoka University offers a multidisciplinary undergraduate programme, in the interest of exposing students to many different perspectives in and out of the classroom. Our liberal education philosophy gives students the freedom to design their own undergraduate programme to explore and discover their life's passion.



### The Young India Fellowship

The Young India Fellowship (YIF) is a one year multidisciplinary postgraduate diploma programme in Liberal Studies. The YIF exposes students to a diverse set of subjects and perspectives, delivered by some of the finest teachers and practitioners from India and around the world. Students from all disciplines and areas of study are welcome to the YIF; engineers, designers, commerce graduates or literature enthusiasts are all mentored into reaching their full potential.

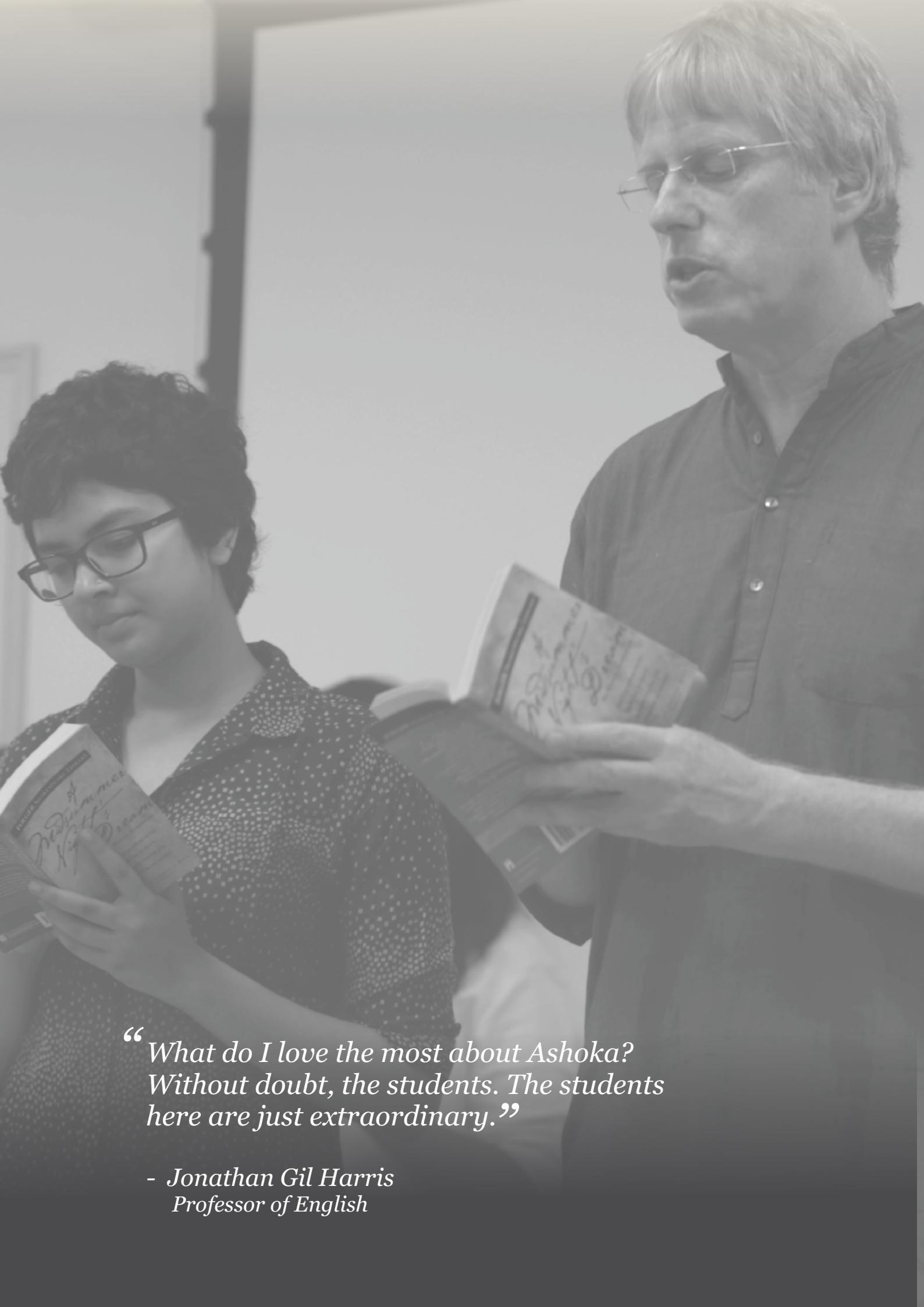
### The MA programme

**MA in Liberal Studies**  
The MA in Liberal Studies is a one-year programme taken by students who have graduated with a diploma in Liberal Studies from the Young India Fellowship, and have been accepted by an Ashoka faculty mentor to work on a specific research project as a graduate assistant.

**MA in Economics**  
The programme has been developed to provide students the opportunity to be trained in modern Economics by highly qualified economists. The academic approach is about bringing together cutting-edge economic theory and rigorous data analysis to address questions at the frontiers of research.

## PhD Programmes

Ashoka now offers PhD programmes in Biology, Economics, English and Computer Science. The programme will cater to all disciplines in the Humanities, Social Sciences, Mathematical Sciences and Physical Sciences.



**“What do I love the most about Ashoka?  
Without doubt, the students. The students  
here are just extraordinary.”**

- *Jonathan Gil Harris*  
*Professor of English*

# Leadership Team

Ashoka was created through an act of collective public philanthropy by the most diverse group of entrepreneurs and professionals in India.

With a sound understanding of challenges and needs of the higher education sector, Ashoka was envisioned as an innovative model of higher education; one that inspires the thinkers, leaders, entrepreneurs and institution builders of tomorrow.

# The Chancellor



## Rudrangshu Mukherjee

Chancellor

Ashoka University

Historian; Editor, *The Telegraph*

D. Phil. Oxford University

Rudrangshu Mukherjee is a Professor of History at Ashoka University. He is a renowned historian and author, and was most recently Editor of the Editorial Pages at The Telegraph, Kolkata.

Prof. Mukherjee has taught history at the University of Calcutta and held visiting appointments at Princeton University, the University of Manchester and the University of California, Santa Cruz.

Prof. Mukherjee studied at Calcutta Boys' School, Presidency College, Kolkata; Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi; and St. Edmund Hall, Oxford. He was awarded a D.Phil in Modern History by the University of Oxford in 1981.

# The Vice Chancellor



## **Malabika Sarkar**

Vice Chancellor  
Professor of English,  
Dean of Faculty and Research,  
Ashoka University

Malabika Sarkar is a former Vice-Chancellor of Presidency University, Kolkata, and a Professor of English Literature. She was earlier Professor of English at Jadavpur University, Kolkata, Head of the Department of English, a member of the Jadavpur University Council and member of various academic bodies of the University.

Prof. Sarkar was also a member of the University Grants Commission Panel of Experts in English and Foreign Languages and a panel member of NAAC.

An alumna of Cambridge University, she was later Visiting Fellow and now elected Life Member of Clare Hall College, Cambridge. She is an invited Fellow of the English Association (FEA), UK.

# Academic Leadership

The leadership team comprises of accomplished leaders, thinkers and academicians from all walks of life. From Founders to the Academic Advisory Committee, these institution-builders are changing the face of higher education in India.

The Founders and Academic leaders started this university with a vision of establishing an academic institution that provides intellectually curious students with a well-rounded liberal education comparable to any educational institution globally.



## Rajesh Garodia

Pro-Vice Chancellor

Rajesh Garodia brings with him over 28 years of broad-based leadership experience across three leading organizations - Unilever, American Express and EXL. He has served as SVP & Business Head at EXL leading their Travel, Transportation & Logistics business. Prior to that he was VP & GM at American Express. Rajesh is a commerce graduate from St Xaviers College, Kolkata, and a rank holder Chartered Accountant and Cost Accountant.



## Deepak Mehta

Dean, Academic Affairs

Deepak Mehta is Professor of Sociology at Ashoka University. He is a Ph.D from Delhi University. He has taught at the Delhi School of Economics, Department of Sociology at Delhi University and at Shiv Nadar University. He is the author of Work, Ritual, Biography: A Muslim Community in North India (OUP, 1997) and co-author of Living With Violence: An Anthropology of Events and Everyday Life (Routledge, 2007).



## Anirban Chakraborty

Director, Research and Development

Before moving to Ashoka, Anirban was the Assistant Registrar of Presidency University (formerly Presidency College), Kolkata. Anirban has published 14 research papers in various international peer reviewed journals based on his research interests in the areas of Nanoscience during his PhD. He is also interested in research in higher education administration and policy making.



## Vanita Shastri

Dean of Global Education and Strategic Programmes

Vanita Shastri has a Ph.D. from Cornell University and has taught at Boston University, University of Massachusetts and Wellesley College. She has also been a Policy Consultant at Harvard University.

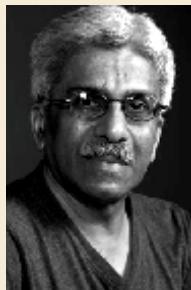
# Inspiring Faculty

Some of the best academics and scholars from India and across the world have joined Ashoka University over the years.

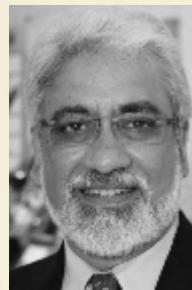
Our faculty members are renowned for the impact they have made in their respective

fields and the ability to inspire students with original ideas.

They strive to create an extraordinary learning environment both inside and outside the classroom.



**Pulapre Balakrishnan**  
Professor of Economics  
Ph.D. University of Cambridge



**Sabyasachi Bhattacharya**  
C.V. Raman University  
Professor of Physics  
Ashoka University  
Post-Doctoral Research, MIT,  
Ph.D. Northwestern University



**Gopalakrishna Gandhi**  
Professor of History and Politics  
St. Stephen's College



**Sudheendra Hangal**  
Professor of Computer Science  
Ph.D. Stanford University



**Nayanjot Lahiri**  
Professor of History  
Ph.D. Delhi University



**Jonathan Gil Harris**  
Professor of English  
Ph.D. University of Sussex



**Vaiju Naravane**  
Professor of Journalism and  
Media Studies  
Fellow of the World Press Institute,  
Saint Paul, Minnesota



**Justin McCarthy**  
Director, Performing Arts



**200+**

Subject  
combinations in  
Major-Minor  
format

**215**

Students placed in  
internships across  
India\*

**80+**

Ongoing research  
projects conducted  
by students and  
faculty

# Undergraduate Academics

Ashoka offers a **multidisciplinary undergraduate programme** in the interest of exposing students to many different perspectives in and out of the classroom. Students get plenty of time to pursue extra-curricular and co-curricular interests, discover new passions, and perhaps, change the trajectory of their lives.

# An overview of the course structure

To graduate with a Bachelor's degree, students have to secure requisite credits for courses that are broadly divided into three categories –

- Foundation Courses
- Major Courses (including Interdisciplinary Majors)
- Co-Curricular Courses

Each course carries credit points, and in order to earn their degree at the end of three years, students need to have accumulated 100 credit points. Students can also take additional courses during the three years and those working towards an Interdisciplinary Major must take a few courses more than what is required for a normal Major – in an approved interdisciplinary field.

A number of Minors are also offered at Ashoka. To qualify for a Minor, students must take certain number of courses in a subject outside their field of specialisation of the Major. In order to ease students into the programme, in their first semester, they can take only 4 courses and up to 5 courses per semester then on. Added to this are the Co-Curricular Courses, which can be taken in any semester across the three years.

## Foundation Courses

Ashoka University requires students to take 7 Foundation Courses. Of these, Critical Thinking, Quantitative Reasoning and Introduction to Environmental Studies are mandatory. These courses are not formal gateways into the Major programmes. However, it is advisable to take as many of these courses as you can before you declare your Major.

- Introduction to Critical Thinking
- Critical Thinking Seminar
- Environmental Studies
- Indian Civilizations

Mandatory

- Humanities**
- Great Books
  - Trends in History
  - Literature and the World
  - Mind and Behavior

- Natural and Mathematical Sciences**
- Introduction to Mathematical Thinking
  - Principles of Science
  - Quantitative Reasoning and Mathematical Thinking
  - Calculus

- Social and Economic Sciences**
- Foundations of Economic Reasoning
  - Social and Political Formations

1 course each  
from the following areas

# The undergraduate degree

A Major is the subject in which a student will earn a Bachelor's degree – either a B.A. (Hon.) or a B.Sc. (Hon.). This can be achieved by taking either a Pure Major or an Interdisciplinary Major. The Interdisciplinary Major goes beyond the traditional boundaries of disciplines and departments to give students an opportunity to combine multiple academic interests into a single degree programme.

The following Majors are offered at Ashoka University :

Pure Majors	Interdisciplinary Majors
English	Computer Science & Entrepreneurial Leadership*
Economics*	Computer Science & Mathematics*
Psychology	Economics & Finance*
History	Economics & History*
Philosophy	English and Journalism
Sociology & Anthropology	History & International Relations
Political Science	Politics, Philosophy & Economics*
Mathematics*	Politics & Society
Computer Science*	English & Creative Writing
Physics*	
Biology	

## Minor Courses

In addition to their undergraduate degree or Major, Ashoka encourages all its students to pursue their academic interests by way of a Minor. Opting to study courses in a subject outside their field of specialization qualifies for a Minor in that subject. We offer Minors in all the Major subjects as well.

Minors	Pure Majors
Entrepreneurial Leadership	English
Environmental Science	Political Science
International Relations	Economics*
Media Studies	Mathematics*
Visual Arts	Psychology
Performing Arts	Computer
Creative Writing	History
	Science*
	Philosophy
	Physics*
	Sociology &
	Biology
	Anthropology

\* Students of Ashoka University who wish to Major or Minor in the following disciplines should have studied Mathematics in their senior school years (Class XI and XII).

# Co-curricular Courses

Every semester, Ashoka University offers several 2-credit Co-Curricular Courses in Performing Arts, Visual Arts, and Language. The classes are conducted in the evenings once a week for two hours. Co-Curricular Courses are a mixture of practical training in

an art form (e.g. dance, theatre, music, painting, ceramics) or language (e.g. French, Latin, Urdu) and critical analysis of the aesthetic, social, political, economic, and historical dimensions of the same.

Students have to take 2 Co-Curricular Courses as part of their graduation requirements; in any semester, a student can take a maximum of 1 Co-Curricular Course.

Co-Curricular Courses	
Art	Performing Arts
Film	Photography
Language	Theatre



# Guest Lectures

Ashoka invites renowned personalities from various walks of life to share their knowledge and expertise with its students. Scholars and thinkers such as the Dalai Lama, Madeleine Albright, Shashi Tharoor and other such eminent personalities have engaged with our students in the past. Ashoka continues to host workshops and talks that expose students to a range of ideas and perspectives.



# Industry Connect

Ashoka graduates have been offered admission to and are studying at some of the world's leading universities such as Oxford University, LSE, Sciences Po, Central European University, Columbia University and the University of Chicago. Many have also been placed in corporate houses such as McKinsey, BCG, American Express, Citibank, Genpact, Godrej, and TCS. Some of them are working in the non-profit sector and are employed at the World Bank, WWF, Amnesty International, National Rural Livelihoods Mission and the UN.



*The programme offers students a defining liberal education experience that blends academic rigour with a wide range of electives across disciplines.*

# Postgraduate Diploma in Advanced Studies and Research

Ashoka University, in compliance with UGC guidelines, offers a 3-year Bachelor's Degree programme. It also offers a year-long Postgraduate Diploma in Advanced Studies and Research (DipASR).

All undergraduates graduating with Bachelor's Degrees at the end of their third year, or who have completed by that time at least 92 credits of their degree programme, are eligible for admission into the Postgraduate Diploma in Advanced Studies and Research programme, also known as the Ashoka Scholars Programme (ASP). Students must formally apply for admission to the ASP by the end of the Monsoon semester of their third year.

The ASP offers students a defining liberal education that blends academic rigour with a wide range of elective options across a variety of subjects. These options include:

- Completing an Advanced Major: three more courses and a capstone thesis in one's Major field
- Completing a Minor
- Completing a Concentration
- Converting a Minor or previously taken elective courses into a Second Major Equivalent
- Undertaking the Ashoka Quest, a year-long social internship programme
- Taking any courses they wish, without completing any of the above options

## Ashoka Quest

DipASR students can complete a year-long social internship programme called the Ashoka Quest. The Ashoka Quest partners students with organizations outside of Ashoka University and exposes them to real-life problems faced by Indian communities, ranging from sanitation challenges and gender inequality to lack of digital access and literacy.

## Young Scholars Programme

Young Scholars Programme is a unique summer residential programme which introduces high school students to the idea of a liberal education. It is a certified, week-long, residential programme where students are exposed to different disciplines through experiential and hands-on learning.

The programme consists of a range of activities including lectures, workshops,

discussion groups, project-work, presentations and performances.

This programme is for high-calibre high school students who are studying in Class 11 and 12. With its unique interdisciplinary coursework taught by world-class faculty, the programme is an excellent introduction to the academic and cultural environment of college life at Ashoka University.



# Academic and Research Centres

Ashoka currently has 7 Academic Centres. These have been established to encourage research-oriented collaborations in order to create an exciting interdisciplinary environment on campus.

From entrepreneurship to writing and communication, you can acquire and hone a diverse range of skills with the aid of these departments. At present, there are more than 80 research projects being conducted at the university.

Centre for Entrepreneurship
Trivedi Centre for Political Data
Centre for Social Impact and Philanthropy
Centre for Studies in Gender and Sexuality
Centre for Writing and Communication
Ashoka Centre for Well Being
Centre for Social Behaviour Change Communications

# Mentors: Academic and Career Support

When students come to Ashoka, they will work closely with a faculty member who will help them design their academic pathway. Under the guidance of their **Faculty Mentor**, they are better prepared to handle the rigorous coursework, plan their schedule wisely and make informed choices.

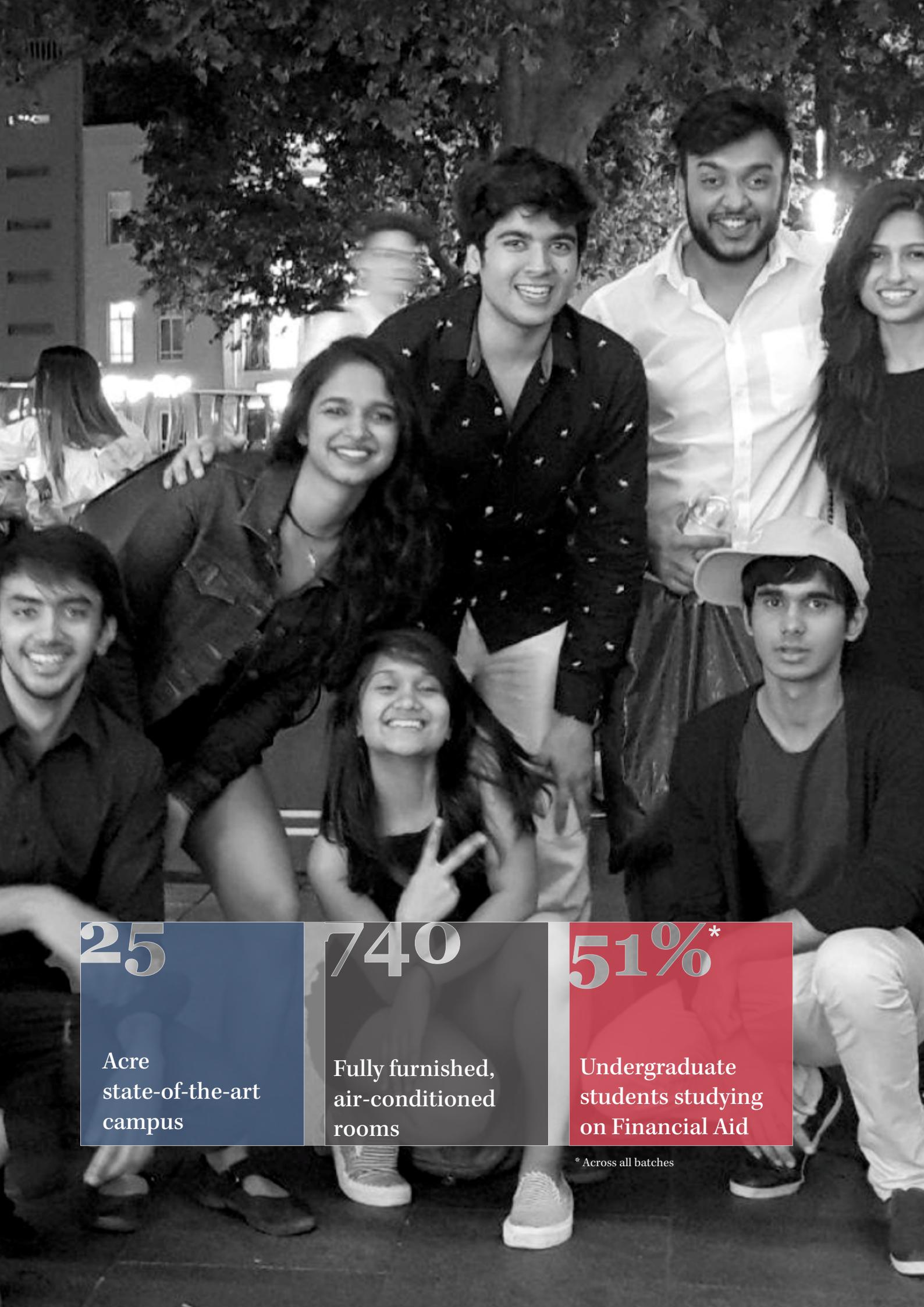
In the second year, students are assigned **Academic Advisors (AA)**. An Academic Advisor helps them devise the most

favorable and productive trajectory for their academic life at Ashoka. Based on their educational interests, their AA can help them decide between a Pure Major or an Interdisciplinary Major, choose courses that suit their schedule and work towards an academic experience that is not just lucrative but creatively fulfilling. Academic Advisors also play a significant role in helping them decide the best opportunities after graduation.

# Student Support

The **Ashoka Centre for Well Being (ACWB)** is our one-of-a-kind on-campus counselling centre dedicated to the care and well-being of the Ashoka fraternity. It comprises of trained psychotherapists and mental health counselors who offer a range of services from individual counselling sessions to group workshops.

Ashoka University offers an inclusive education framework that welcomes, nurtures and supports students with learning difficulties. The **Office of Learning Support (OLS)** has been established at the University to design various activities and coordinate the entire process for students seeking help related to learning disabilities.



**25**

Acre  
state-of-the-art  
campus

**740**

Fully furnished,  
air-conditioned  
rooms

**51%\***

Undergraduate  
students studying  
on Financial Aid

\* Across all batches

## Life@Ashoka

The campus is a vibrant hub of cultural and intellectual activities. The Office of Student Life works toward building opportunities that help students nurture their creative endeavours while striving for excellence.

A vibrant photograph of a student crowd. Many students are wearing bright red scarves or shawls. Some are wearing black graduation gowns. They are cheering, clapping, and looking upwards with excitement. The background is dark, making the red scarves stand out.

**25+**

Clubs and  
Societies

**17**

Countries  
and 25 Indian States

**55%**

Women in  
the student body

# Clubs and Societies

At Ashoka, when not occupied with academics, students find themselves immersed in pursuing creative hobbies and interests through clubs and societies. These prove to be an ocean of opportunities to contribute to and enrich the campus experience culturally and intellectually.

Clubs and Societies are autonomous bodies which design their own leadership structure and modes of functioning. Student-run Clubs and Societies create an array of rich and diverse opportunities making Ashoka an interactive space for a wide variety of artists and performers to express themselves.

## A few Clubs and Societies

- The Edict, Ashoka's Student Newspaper
- ABC, Ashoka's Broadway Club
- SLAM Poetry Club
- *Abhinaya*, Dance Club
- *Meri Dastan*, The Storytelling Society
- *Kirdaar*, The Theatre Society
- The Big Bake Theory, Entrepreneurial Venture
- Film Society

# Residence Life

The fully furnished, air-conditioned hostels are equipped with multiple lounge spaces and facilities for laundry and fitness. The university houses its students in separate men's and women's residence halls.

The common lounge has a television, reading areas, board games and a pantry. The reading room allows students to interact and bond together in the shared community space. Students also have round-the-clock access to first aid and medical assistance.

The Residence Life Programme is managed through the efforts of a team that includes the following:

### **Wardens**

Each residential building is staffed by at least one warden who manages the undergraduate check-in-and-out registers, respond to emergencies and disciplinary infractions, manage building infrastructure, coordinate in-hall housekeeping and maintenance staff and conduct business necessary for the well-being of the student community.

coordinate the efforts of Residence Life staff.

The RLC also serves as a mentor to students, and is available to discuss concerns related to Residence Life.

### **Resident Assistants**

Each floor in a residential hall is staffed with one Resident Assistant (RA). RAs work together to create an engaging and educational in-hall experience for students.

The RAs are committed to the student community and are trained in mentorship, crisis management, conflict mediation and community building.

### **Residence Life Coordinator**

The Residence Life Coordinator (RLC) works in tandem with the Director of Student Life and Dean of Undergraduate Programmes to develop the Residence Life Programme as a whole and



## Campus and Infrastructure

Ashoka's purely residential campus is spread over 25 acres in Rajiv Gandhi Education City, Sonepat, Haryana.

**Classrooms:** The WiFi-enabled classrooms are equipped with a state-of-the-art audio-visual system including projectors, smartboards, recording facilities, etc. These classrooms range from 25-seater rooms for seminars and tutorials to 240-seater lecture hall for guest speakers, performances and town-hall sessions.

**Library:** The library is open 24-7 so that students have a quiet space to work at all hours of the day. Here, students also have access to online resources in the form of books, journals, articles, and other databases that are essential to conducting research.

**WiFi-enabled campus:** Students also have access to online resources and state-of-the-art IT infrastructure to support their educational endeavors.

**On-Campus Dining:** The centrally-located dining hall has a multi-cuisine menu and offers three nutritious meals and evening snacks each day. A tuck shop and a cooperative store are open for students to purchase both fresh and packaged food as well as general provisions. Various other cafes and eateries, some of which remain open through the night, offer further variety in food.





## Sports and Fitness

Ashoka University is dedicated to providing students with plenty of activity outside the classroom. The past year saw students represent the University in football, basketball, volleyball, cricket, table tennis, tennis, chess, badminton and Ultimate Frisbee.

Many Ashokans have picked up running and have participated in half marathons and other races. It is not uncommon to see staff members and faculty engage with students on the sports field on campus.

### **Students have access to the following facilities:**

- Football Field
- Cricket Pitch
- Volleyball Court
- Running Track
- Table Tennis
- Ultimate Frisbee
- Long Jump Pit

### **A state-of-the-art indoor sports complex houses:**

- A 25-metre Swimming Pool
- Multi-purpose courts for Basketball and Badminton
- Squash Courts
- Snooker and Billiards
- Comprehensive Gymnasium (sessions on Yoga, Aerobics and Zumba)
- A 10-metre Shooting Range



50

Global  
citizens on  
campus

10

International  
Partner  
Universities

77

Students  
studying  
abroad

# Study Abroad

Ashoka offers exciting international opportunities that serve to further enhance the learning experience of students and allow them to take on new academic challenges.

During their time abroad, students have a unique chance to immerse themselves in a different culture as well as build lasting connections with people from all over the globe.

An international experience is not only academically challenging but also gives students a new perspective.

# Summer Abroad Programmes

Students may choose to extend their semester learning experience through Ashoka's Summer Abroad programme by registering for courses taught at top international institutions. To explore mentored research, immersive foreign language education or other academic endeavours students have the option to enrol in programmes that offer a range of opportunities in various fields of study.

These programmes offer an interdisciplinary approach to learning subjects such as Political Science, Economics, Environmental Studies and a host of others that allows a deep engagement with a discipline from multiple angles.

# Semester Abroad Programmes

Ashoka is committed to offering its students the opportunity to spend a full semester abroad at one of its partner institutions. Students may take courses with the provision to transfer credits toward the major they undertake. The Office of International Programmes provides extensive information, advise and mentorship towards this effort.

HEC  
PARIS

Summer School



# Ashoka Summer Internship Programme (ASIP)

ASIP provides unique opportunities for undergraduate students to intern at corporations, research organisations, social impact groups (NGOs) or local schools, in the summer each year. This adds a valuable professional qualification to student's portfolios helping them gain first-hand industry experience and on-ground practical training and instill leadership skills. In the past, students have interned at organisations such as Microsoft, The Indian Economist, Oxford University Press, Naukri.com, The Gandhi Fellowship, CRY, and more.

## Summer Sessions

Ashoka offers an intensive six-week study programme during the summer wherein a range of courses are offered across disciplines. Enrolling for the summer session provides students the opportunity to take courses and gain additional credits, accelerate their academic pathway or explore other areas of interest.



# Sunny Summers: Studying at UC Berkeley



I always considered a summer abroad distant dream. Last summer, however, a dream became a reality when I spent my summer at University of California, Berkeley. For two months, I lived in the same awe and amazement that I had always felt when I heard about other students' experiences studying abroad.

I took two courses - Industrial Organisation (Economics) and Person in Big Data (Psychology). Taught by brilliant professors whose methods of teaching were simply inspiring. The courses were brilliant and mind gripping to say the least. Each class was exciting and though course load was relatively high due to the time constraint, it was an exhilarating experience, never feeling like a burden.

On campus, there was a vast international community where students from almost all over the world were represented. Unique communities were formed that we all got to be part of. This is where I got to learn the most: from people living different realities, harbouring different perspectives, with experiences of different cultures/countries, from professors and their expertise, from neighbors, friends, locals and more.

Traveling in the sunny state, making friends with people whose mother tongue I did not speak, attending parties, cooking my food—or in other words, being an adult—made the summer abroad experience so special.

*Rehan is a current third year student who spent the summer of 2016 at University of California, Berkeley.*

# 'Shakespeare in London' at King's College



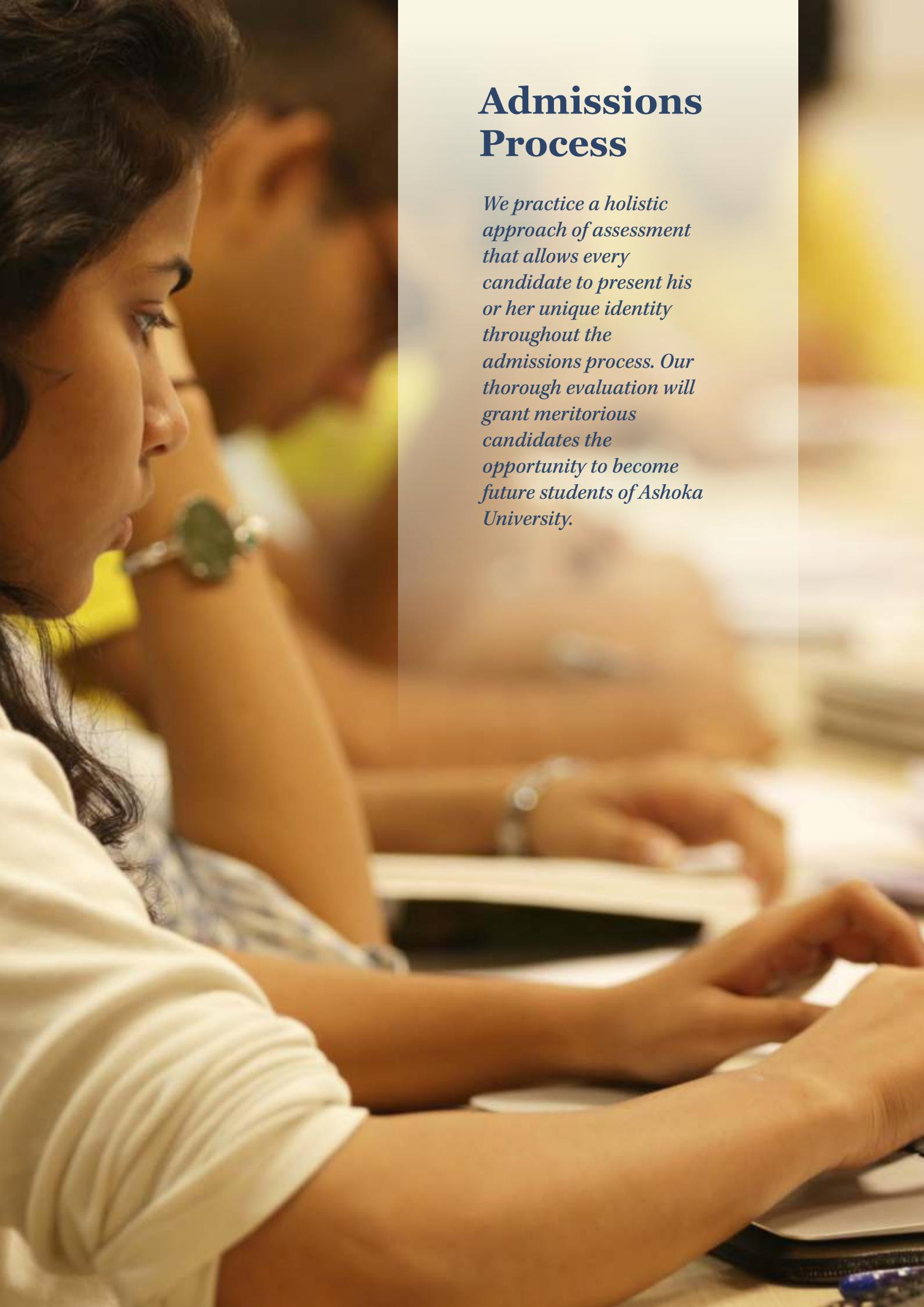
After having studied William Shakespeare's plays for four semesters at Ashoka University, I decided to do a course called 'Shakespeare in London' at King's College, London in the summer of 2016. At Ashoka, not only were we taught to tease out major themes in Shakespeare's original work(s), but also made aware of their Indian adaptations. This served as an insight into how Shakespeare had been globalised.

However, in a class of many American students in London, it was difficult to put forth the importance of adapting Shakespeare. This was because they believed that adaptations dumbed down the originals.

We studied three plays through the course and watched an adaptation of each in the theatres at South Bank. Standing for three hours to watch Macbeth at the Globe Theatre, and having the actors walk by your side to make an entrance on stage was an experience that taught me about the performative aspects of Shakespeare. When asked to wrap up our class with presentations by all students on "Anything to do with Shakespeare," I chose to drive home my point about the importance and sophistication of adaptations of Shakespeare's works that helped me understand him better. I presented on "Shakespeare and Bollywood."

Studying in London was not just a chance to explore the city, but an experience that I cherish. I got the chance to develop a new perspective both, inside and outside the classroom.

*Darshana Devarajan is a third year student at Ashoka who spent the summer of 2016 at King's College, London.*



## Admissions Process

*We practice a holistic approach of assessment that allows every candidate to present his or her unique identity throughout the admissions process. Our thorough evaluation will grant meritorious candidates the opportunity to become future students of Ashoka University.*

# Apply to us

Ashoka follows a two-stage holistic assessment system to gauge every candidate's true potential. All candidates are evaluated based on the following:

1. Academic consistency and rigour
2. Extracurricular and co-curricular involvement
3. Critical thinking and aptitude
4. Personal Interview

## Stage 1 - Submitting the Application Form

You can register yourself and fill the Application Form online through our website. There is no application fee. Key components of the Application Form include:

- Personal details
- Academic performance from Grade IX to XII, or equivalent (your application can be submitted before Grade XII results are declared)
- Details of your extracurricular and co-curricular involvement
- A 500-word personal essay to share your story for us to get to know you
- Letter of Recommendation (highly recommended)
- SAT/ ACT score\*\* (optional)

## Stage 2 - The Interview Round

Shortlisted candidates will be sent an invitation for the Interview Round. Key components of the Interview Round include:

- On-the-spot Essay (30 minutes; Mandatory)
- Interview with a panel (In person / Skype; Mandatory)
- Ashoka Aptitude Test (90 minutes; Mandatory except for SAT/ACT takers)

\*To get a firm offer of admission, an applicant needs to have scores for at least one of the following: SAT / ACT / Ashoka Aptitude Test (AAT) / final Grade XII Board Examination

\*\*Candidates are required to submit Predicted Grades / Scores in the Application Form in the absence of the final Grade XII scores. Once the Grade XII results are declared, candidates will be required to submit them and attach the mark-sheet

## Mandatory documents to be attached on the Application Form:

- Latest Passport Size Photograph
- Government Identification with Photograph (Aadhar Card, Passport, Driver's License, etc)
- Grade IX and XI - Transcript/Marksheet/Grade sheet provided by school
- Grade X - Marksheets issued by the relevant Board of Examination
- Predicted scores for Grade XII - To be submitted by the school (if available) and/or self-predicted by the candidate
- Grade XII Final Scores\* - Marksheets issued by the relevant Board of Examination
- Co-curriculars (certificates) - Up to 5 attachments as supporting proof
- Extracurriculars (certificates) - Up to 5 attachments as supporting proof



# Financial Aid

*Admission to Ashoka University is based purely on the merit and potential of the candidates, whereas the financial aid offered to students is dependent on their need and affordability. No student has ever been turned down due to his or her personal financial constraints.*

More than 50% of our students benefit from our financial aid. **Fee waivers range from 25% on tuition to 100% on all expenses.** The University also has tie-ups with financial institutions that provide education loans at affordable rates without any collateral.

Ashoka is committed to making high-quality education accessible to deserving students, irrespective of their backgrounds. **In the past 4 years, we have provided need-based scholarships to over 1600 students.** This makes us India's largest scholarship programme in higher education. We actively reach out to low income schools and NGOs in remote areas of India to admit students.

## Our Financial Aid Donors



**IndusInd Bank**



Supported by  
Deutsche Bank



Russell Mehta



**Hemendra Kothari  
Foundation**

**Sameer Mehta  
Foundation**

**NKK Pillai Trust  
(Arun Kumar, Strides  
Shashun)**



**THE GREAT EASTERN  
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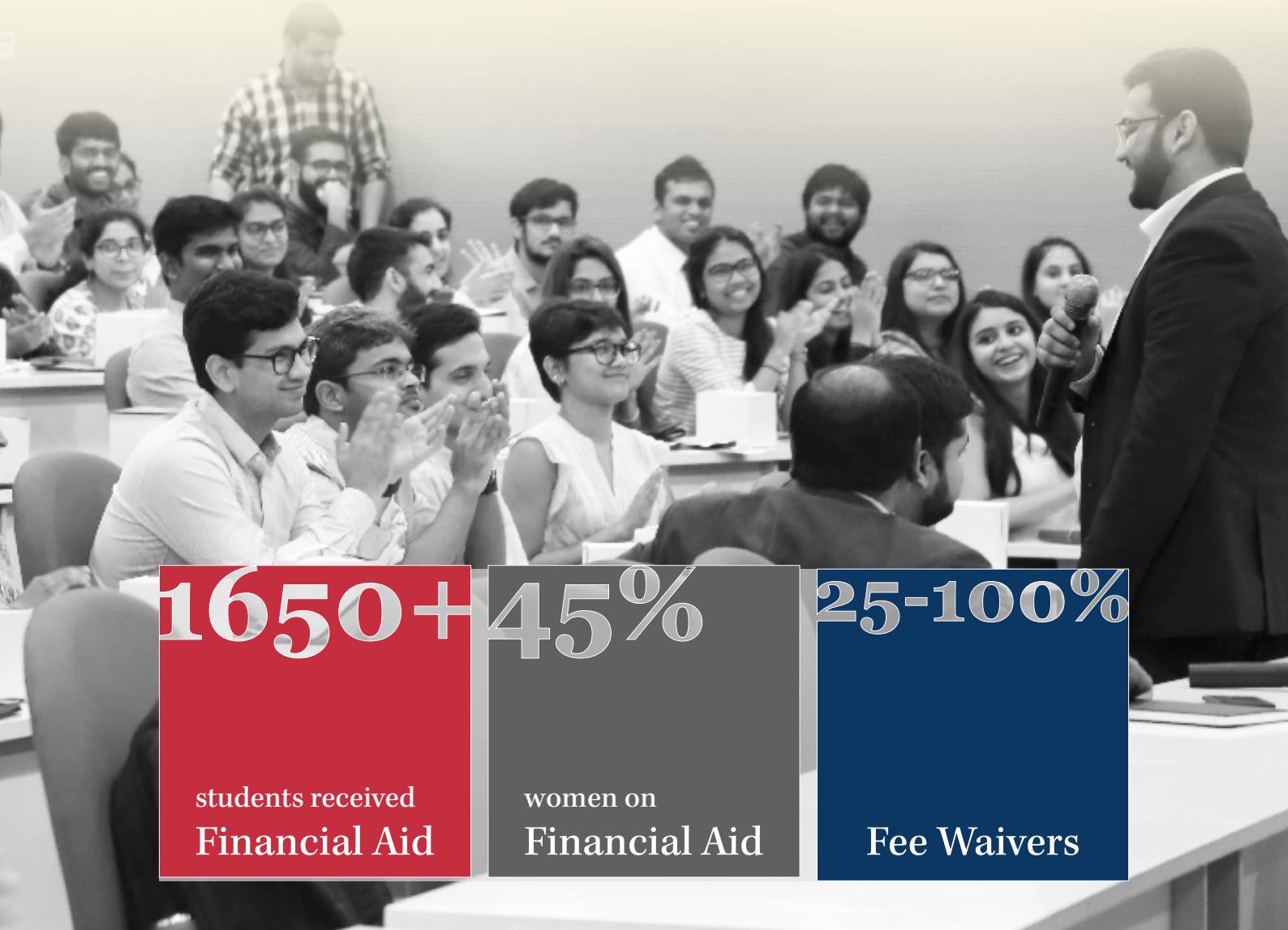
# Learning without constraints



*"Due to an unexpected loss in my family, I had to apply for Financial Aid very suddenly. Ashoka has been phenomenal in the support that it has been providing me ever since I received 100% Exceptional Aid."*

*"There is absolutely no stereotyping on campus just because a student is on aid. Through this opportunity, I am continuing to learn so much, making friends, and most importantly, having a lot of fun!"*

— Gokul Prabhu, II Year, Undergraduate Student



# Diversity at Ashoka

## Gender Neutrality

Apart from a vibrant student body, Ashoka strives to improve representation of women in senior academic roles and achieving gender balance at the workplace.

Women are at the forefront, whether in academics, sports, extracurricular or student government. Moreover, two centres, the **Genpact Centre For Women's Leadership and Centre for studies in Gender and Sexuality**, focus on and seek to address critical gender issues.

At Ashoka, over 55% of the undergraduate student body comprises of women of which about 45% are on some kind of financial aid.

The **Genpact Centre for Women's Leadership (GCWL)** is a first-of-its-kind industry academia partnership between Genpact and Ashoka. GCWL aims to combine the power of academic research with best practices from industry, to empower women through research and advocacy, training programmes and supportive infrastructure to become leaders who drive gender inclusive growth.

## International Students

Ashoka University has a growing and vibrant community of international students currently enrolled in the undergraduate programme. They represent **over 15 countries** across four cohorts of the undergraduate programme. Countries represented in our international community are **Bangladesh, Kenya, Ethiopia, Bhutan, Nepal, UAE, Afghanistan, Kuwait**, and more.

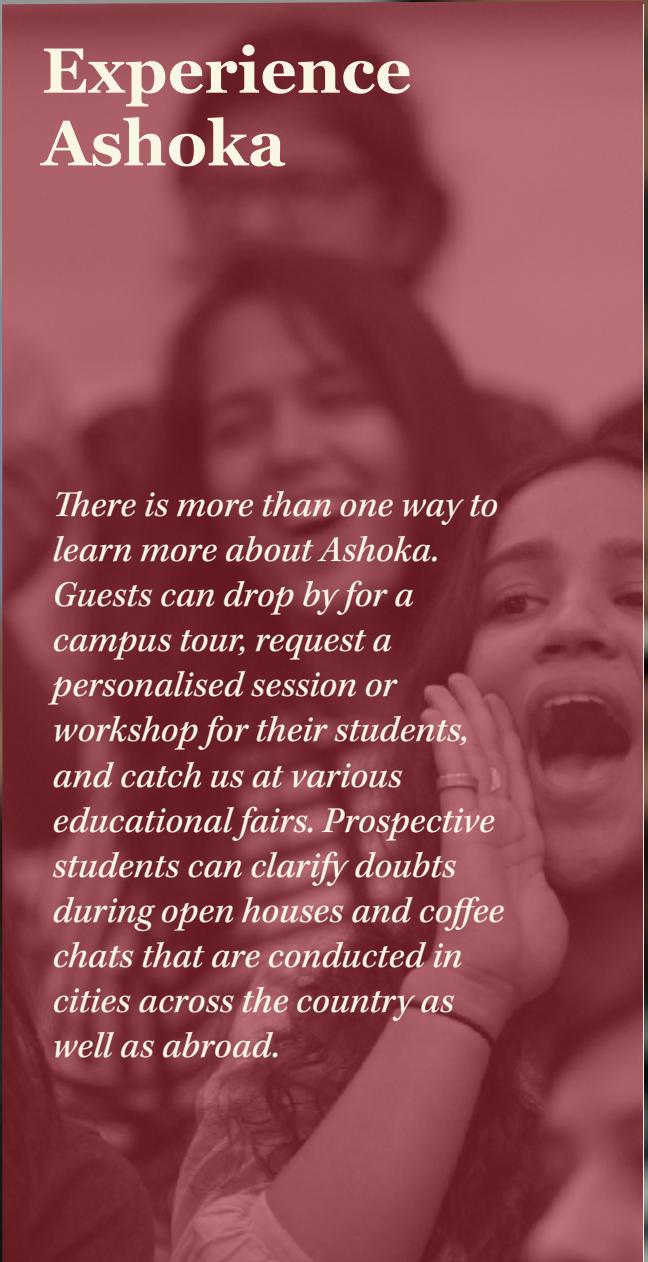
Ashoka University strives to give its international students the best of opportunities, immersing them in an inclusive environment that makes them feel at home. The academic rigour, extracurriculars and residential life allow students to learn, engage, connect, and build friendships for life.

The admissions process, evaluation criteria, fee structure and financial aid for international candidates are the same as they are for Indian candidates.



# Experience Ashoka

*There is more than one way to learn more about Ashoka. Guests can drop by for a campus tour, request a personalised session or workshop for their students, and catch us at various educational fairs. Prospective students can clarify doubts during open houses and coffee chats that are conducted in cities across the country as well as abroad.*



## Campus Tour

Guided campus tours are conducted every week on Monday and Friday. It provides the opportunity to meet the undergraduate students, see the state-of-the-art sports complex, library, classrooms, hostels and maybe grab a bite to eat at the multi-cuisine dining hall.

**Register online** - <http://pages.ashoka.edu.in/Campus-visits>

## Virtual Tour

Unable to visit the campus in person? That's okay. You can take a virtual tour and get a similar experience of the Ashoka campus. This digital interface takes you through all the important aspects of the campus including the academic block, amphitheatre, sports complex, cafes, etc.

**Visit here** - <http://www.iviewd.com/ashokauniv/>

## One-on-One School Visit

The Ashoka team visits over 300 schools every year to enlighten young minds about liberal education and guide them as they step into the future of undergraduate education. If we haven't visited your school yet, do not hesitate to invite us for an interactive session.

## Education Fair

The university participates in numerous education fairs across cities. This is an excellent opportunity for students and parents to interact with Ashoka counselors on a personal level and get knowledge of the university.

## Faculty Workshop

Ashoka University takes pride in its faculty and believes that the knowledge and wisdom imparted by them should be shared with as many students as possible. Workshops on various topics ranging from Psychology, English, Mathematics, Critical Thinking, Economics and many more are conducted for students of Grades XI and XII at different occasions, in the city as well as school levels.

## Open House

An open forum where parents can come with their children to discuss specific queries and ask their doubts regarding the university and admissions. Open houses are conducted in all major cities where guests have the opportunity to engage with the senior leadership of Ashoka.

## Coffee Chat

An informal gathering of interested students, parents or teachers interacting with an Ashoka counselor to guide them through the various stages of the admissions process, all over a cup of coffee.

## *Adding a feather in our cap!*

Ashoka University was awarded '**University of the Year**' (in existence for less than 10 years) and recognized for '**Excellence in Internationalization,'** at the 4th Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) Higher Education Excellence Awards 2017.

Dr. Pratap Bhanu Mehta, Vice Chancellor, Ashoka University, was also recognized as the '**Personality of the Year 2017.**'

The Awards were instituted in the year 2014 to recognize and felicitate the achievements and excellent work done by institutions and individuals in improving the quality of Higher Education in India, and driving themselves & the sector towards continuously increasing levels of excellence.





**ASHOKA**  
UNIVERSITY

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