

Course Descriptions & Selection Guides, Monsoon 2016

In the Monsoon semester, all **first-year students** must take four courses (not counting a co-curricular course): CT-001 (Introduction to Critical Thinking) and three other Foundation Courses. It is recommended that students take a Foundation Course linked to their likely Major: Literature and the World (English), Trends in History (History), Mind and Behaviour (Philosophy or Psychology), Principles of Science (Psychology), Social and Political Formations (Political Science or Sociology/Anthropology). Likely Economics Majors **MUST** take Foundations of Economic Reasoning; likely Mathematics and Computer Science Majors **MUST** take Introduction to Mathematical Thinking.

In the Monsoon semester, all **second-year students** must take at least four and no more than five courses (not counting a co-curricular course). Of these, one must be a Critical Thinking Seminar. Normally two more will be courses in the student's anticipated Major, and one will be a Foundation Course; in the case of one subject – Economics – students will have to take three Major courses and no Foundation Course; in the case of a second subject – Computer Science – student will have to take the CTS in Computer Science and the two Major courses; in the cases of two others – Mathematics and Psychology – students have three Major courses to take, but can take just two with the permission of Professor Maya Saran if you are majoring in Mathematics, and just two if you are majoring in Psychology. The fifth optional course will be either in the student's anticipated Minor or an Elective. If you are still uncertain about your Major, and you are **NOT** going to Major in Economics or Mathematics, make sure you at least take the one gateway (100-level) course in the subject/s you are still considering.

In the Monsoon semester, all **third-year students** must take at least four and no more than five courses (not counting a co-curricular course). Normally three of these will be courses in the student's declared Major, and one will be a Foundation Course. The fifth optional course will be either in the student's anticipated Minor or an Elective.

Foundation Courses

CT-001, Sections 01 to 18: Introduction to Critical Thinking , 18-20 per section

Faculty: Subhasree Chakravarty (1 section), Durba Chattaraj (1 section), Mandakini Dubey (1 section), Aruni Kashyap (2 sections), Raju Khanna (2 sections), Hannah Morris (1 section), Aditi Sriram (2 sections), Andrew Fosberg (2 sections), Tara Menon (2 sections), Kavita Bhanot (2 sections), staff (2 sections)

Course Description: This is the gateway course for all entering Ashoka University students. It focuses on critical thinking and the cogent writing that comes with the ability to think critically. Particular emphasis will be placed on how to make a persuasive argument by entering into conversation with other writers, including one's fellow students. During the semester, each student will receive close mentorship from his/her professor and an assigned tutor in the Centre for Writing and Communication. A carefully sequenced set of writing assignments will be accompanied by multiple rounds of feedback that will help the student develop his/her skills of writing and, by implication, his/her skills of thinking. In the process, students will learn how to respond appropriately to different kinds of writing situations, apply critical reading skills to support their writing, and integrate sources to make more effective arguments.

FC-001-01, 02: Foundations of Economic Reasoning , 100 per section

Faculty: N. Raghunathan (2 sections)

Course Description: This course is intended to introduce students to the basic principles of economic thinking: the functioning of markets, their implications for the welfare of consumers and producers, the role of the government in regulating markets, problems such as inflation and unemployment, and the nature of value.

FC-002-01, 02: Great Books, 100 per section

Faculty: Madhavi Menon (1 section), Rudrangshu Mukherjee (1 section)

Course Description: The books in the Great Books course will come from different cultures, different time periods, different languages, and different subjects. But they all have something significant to offer us as we think about the world today. The curriculum and themes will vary between sections, but readings will include influential books such as the Kama Sutra, the Mahabharata, Smith's Wealth of Nations, and Darwin's The Origin of Species, among others. This semester, Professor Menon's course will focus on Great Books in the history of sexuality; Professor Mukherjee's course will focus on Great Books in the history of thinking about the state.

FC-003-01, 02: Indian Civilizations , 3 sections (100 per section)

Faculty: Nayanjot Lahiri (1 section); Rudrangshu Mukherjee & Gopal Gandhi (1 section), Alex Watson (1 section)

Course Description: This course will introduce students to the multiple elements that make up Indian Civilizations. It will draw out civilizational elements from prehistory till the present - through monuments and archaeology, through ideas and art forms, history and literature. The course will emphasize the mosaic character of Indian tradition. In the process, the course will draw out aspects of dialogue, dissent, syncretism and tolerance. Indian civilization, as the course will emphasize, is not to be seen merely as part of the dead past but as an element that continues to figure in the present.

FC-004-01, 02: Introduction to Mathematical Thinking, 100 per section

Faculty: Rajendran Narayanan (1 section), Dario Darji (1 section)

Course Description: This course aims to give students an experience of contemporary Mathematics. You will see that Mathematics is driven by ideas, not by calculations, it is both beautiful and powerful, and it combines precision with the greatest creativity. En route you will develop a set of broadly useful problem solving skills, gain experience in precise thinking and writing, and encounter some of history's landmark ideas.

FC-005-01: Literature and the World, 100 per section

Faculty: Jonathan Gil Harris (1 section)

Course Description: This course poses questions about how literature has diversely imagined the world, and how the world has diversely imagined literature. What does it mean to tell a story about a specific place? How does one's own place affect the stories one tells? How are we all story-tellers who reimagine other stories? And how is the act of reading always itself an act of story-telling (or re-telling)? This semester, we will look at how Shakespeare reimagined stories from Ovid's *Metamorphoses* and *Alf Layla wa Layla (A Thousand and One Nights)* and how, in turn, his stories have been reimagined by novelists from Sudan, playwrights from Martinique, graphic novelists from England, and film-makers from India.

FC-006-01, 02: Mind and Behaviour, 100 per section

Faculty: Scott Dixon (1 section), Kranti Saran (1 section)

Course Description: What kind of creature are you? A human being, no doubt. But what kind of creature is that? How ought such a creature live? We will critically explore influential models of human nature in the Indic and Western philosophical traditions and their implications both for how

we ought to live and our place in the social world. We will also survey key psychological results that directly bear on those philosophical models.

FC-007-01, 02: Principles of Science, 100 per section

Faculty: Staff (2 sections)

Course Description: This course equips students to function productively in a world that is increasingly driven by science and technology. Rather than looking at any particular scientific discipline, the course focuses on understanding the nature of scientific inquiry and the relevance of science and scientific thinking in our lives. By studying the history of the development of our current understanding of the world, this course aims at gaining an appreciation for the importance and wonder of the scientific worldview.

FC-008-01: Social and Political Formations, 100 per section

Faculty: Ali Khan (1 section)

Course Description: This course will introduce students to non-European aspects of political thought with particular recourse to various parts of the colonised world. The course shall largely focus on the colonial and post-colonial periods in order to highlight to students, not only the reception of concepts like liberalism in the non-European world, but also explore how these concepts underwent changes and reinterpretations in new environments.

FC-009-01, 02: Trends in History, 100 per section

Faculty: Gwen Kelly (1 section), Pratyay Nath (1 section)

Course Description: This course is an invitation to a journey into the human past of several millennia. At the heart of this journey lies the question – what is history? This course challenges the notion that history is simply a collection of dates, facts, and events, or a story of emperors, kings and great men or a linear tale of human evolution. It introduces the students to ways of thinking about history. This course seeks to initiate the students to the art of historical thinking where they acquire and cultivate – empathy and imagination – the core values and skills that empower us to imagine different lives and different worlds.

Critical Thinking Seminars

All second-year students are required to enrol for *one* of the following fourteen seminars:

CT 210-01: Sufi Poetry

Faculty: Abir Bazaz

Course Description: Sufism, or Islamic mysticism, has had a deep and enduring impact on history and culture in Africa, Middle East, South Asia and South East Asia. The course will situate Sufi poetry in a wider social, historical and intellectual context of the Islamic and Indo-Islamic worlds, and includes selections from the love poetry of Jalaluddin Rumi, the Hindavi Sufi kavya of Manjhan and Jayasi, the dohas of Kabir, the Punjabi and Sindhi kafis of Bulleh Shah and Shah Abdul Latif Bhittai, the ghazals of Khwaja Mir Dard and Mirza Ghalib, songs of Sahir Ludhianvi, the nazms of Iqbal and Faiz, etc

CT 211-01: Critical Thinking Seminar in Psychology

Faculty: Kaveri Rajaraman

Course Description: This course introduces what it means to think like a psychologist. We will focus on the nature of evidence from which we construct psychological theories, and the inferential errors we make when faced with these evidence. This course will be taught by different instructors in different semesters, with each instructor bringing in his or her own specializations into the course. This course is not required for a major/minor, but can count towards a major/minor.

CT 212-01: Critical Concepts in Islam

Faculty: Ali Khan

Course Description: This course will offer students the chance to tackle individual concepts within Islam and then go into an in-depth analysis of their origins, changes in meaning and their relevance to the everyday lives of Muslims by using a *longue durée* approach. Furthermore, there will be a constant effort to underscore how these issues remain deeply relevant today and thereby introduce students to current debates as well.

CT 213-01: Studying Indian Culture and Society

Faculty: Ravindran Sriramachandran

Course Description: South Asia provides us with an archive that is exceptionally useful for tracking the changes that colonialism ushers in and changes in the field of studying culture because of a combination of many factors. Every major phase in the development of anthropology and every anthropological theory has had its lively encounter and engagement in and through South Asian ethnographies. As a result, in reading a range of representative ethnographies of South Asia, we will also discuss the evolution and range of anthropological theory more generally.

CT 214-01: Political Ecology**Faculty: Mitul Baruah**

Course Description: This course is intended to help students understand the broader politicization of nature through processes of environmental governance, development politics, and struggles over resources and livelihoods. We will pay close attention to the role of political economic processes in shaping environmental transformations and interpretations of ecological change, as well as to the ways in which understandings of nature are materially and discursively bound up with social processes and multiple axes of differentiation (e.g. gender, caste, class, etc.). Overall, the course will help students engage critically with a broad range of theories and themes related to questions of nature, culture, power, and their interactions.

CT 215-01: A History of the Future: Tocqueville's *Democracy in America***Faculty: Simon Green**

Course Description: With the passing of the Communist era, it is becoming ever clearer that Tocqueville's *Democracy in America*, rather than Marx's *Capital*, represents the truly prophetic work of nineteenth-century political sociology. This course invites students to consider why Tocqueville chose the United States, not Europe, as his model for the future, how he was able to predict developments in the advanced societies so accurately and the degree to which his insights remain applicable to the wider world today.

CT 205-01: Media Studies: Globalized News and Beyond**Faculty: Vaiju Naravane**

Course Description: Why is it that almost every news media in our globalised world sounds the same? With a growing crisis in the media industry, newspapers and broadcast media are curtailing their budgets, relying increasingly on national and international agencies to provide news coverage. As a result, in-depth reporting, once the mainstay of many publications, has been reduced to a trickle. This seminar will examine the changing concepts of news and attempt to go beyond the common news story to build deeper, more meaningful reports from multiple sources.

CT 216-01: Film Studies**Faculty: K. Hariharan**

Course Description: What is the basic language of film and film-making? This course will teach students how to study cinema as text and context through the four major forms of filmic narration: the Analytic Dramatic, the Lyric, the Epic and the Didactic or Melodramatic. It will enable students to see how a language emerges in the triangular confluence of visual/ audio grammar, technology and spectatorship. Students will study the essentials of film language – shots, scenes, sequence and composition.

CT 217-01: Language of Math**Faculty: M. Krishna**

Course Description: This course aims to make you conversant with the language of mathematics. This means being able to read and write proofs, which are simply careful expressions of reasoning. You will learn how to do so while learning actual mathematics, of course. Topics will be determined by the instructor.

CT 218-01: Animal Histories (cross listed with Environmental Studies ES 201-01)**Faculty: Mahesh Rangarajan**

Course Description: It is impossible to disentangle the way we look at animals from how we look at people. Mainly but not wholly focused on the modern world, the paper examines the way animal-human relations have changed over time. The paper ranges over hunting and museums, animal science and empire, nation making and nature protection, gender and nature. The ethical and political issue of how we define animals is critical to how we define the human condition in our times.

CT 219-01: Probability and Statistics**Faculty: Mahabir Jhanwar**

Course Description: Compulsory for all likely Computer Science Majors

CT 220-01: Philosophy of Film**Faculty: Roy Perrett**

Course Description: Bringing rigorous philosophical thinking to classic movies, this course will examine topics like the nature of cinematic representation, time, space, personal identity and moral value. It will do so not to tease out the “philosophies” of individual movies, but to show how the medium of cinema in general raises questions of philosophy.

CT 221-01: Early Modern Philosophy**Faculty: Aditi Chaturvedi**

Course description: The Scientific Revolution profoundly changed how philosophers in the Early Modern period thought of the nature and task of philosophy. This course will survey some of the central topics in the works of John Locke, George Berkeley, and David Hume, who thought that all ideas and knowledge must be derived from experience. Opposed to them were Rene Descartes, Baruch Spinoza, and G.W. Leibniz who privileged reason over experience.

CT 222-01: Globalization and its Discontents**Faculty: Nayan Chanda**

Course description: This course aims to explain the reasons behind the rising anti-globalization sentiment especially in developed countries. While analyzing the present the course will also dive back into history to explore how the increasing interconnectedness of the world came about. The course will be divided into two broad parts: (1) Origins of globalization and (2) the growing discontent wrought by the process of globalization. Finally, the course will assess the impact of globalization and its future: Is globalization on its last legs or is the news of its demise exaggerated?

Major/Minor Courses

Major/Minor Courses are divided into Gateway (100-level), Intermediate (200-level) and Advanced (300-level) offerings. In the Monsoon semester, any student (other than first years) can take a 100-level course in any subject; they can take a 200-level course in a subject only if they have already taken, or are currently enrolled in a 100-level course in that subject; they can take a 300-level course only if they have already taken and passed a 100 level course in that subject and in addition have taken or are currently enrolled in a 200-level course in that subject.

Different subjects have slightly different expectations of their Majors. These are spelled out below.

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Programme Coordinator: Professor Sudheendra Hangal (hangal@ashoka.edu.in)

The following Computer Science courses are now final. CS students should consult with the Programme Coordinator, Professor Sudheendra Hangal, to find out more about the course descriptions. One other course will be announced soon. All second-year students will have to take the CTS in Computer Science if they have not done so already, as well as two CS Major courses. All third-year students will have to take three CS Major courses.

CS 205-01, Scalable Software Systems

Faculty: Chinmay Narayan

Course Description:

Pre-requisite: CS101: Introduction to Programming

CS 301-01: Data Structures and Algorithms

Faculty: Ragesh Jaiswal (Visiting, IIT Delhi)

Course Description:

Pre-requisite: CS101: Introduction to Programming and CTS-Discrete Mathematics

CS 302-01: Computer Security and Privacy

Faculty: Mahavir Jhavar

Course Description:

Pre-requisite: CTS: Discrete Mathematics

ECONOMICS

Programme Coordinator: Professor Bhaskar Dutta (bhaskar.dutta@ashoka.edu.in)

The three courses below are compulsory for all second-year students.

ECO 102-01, 02, 03, Statistics for Economists: (3 sections)

Faculty: Anuradha Saha (2 sections), Aparajita Dasgupta (1 section)

Course Description: This course covers elementary probability theory, the concept and methods of sampling, basic techniques for making estimates using data, and simple linear regression.

ECO 201-01, 02, 03, Intermediate Macroeconomics (3 sections)

Faculty: Dipankar Dasgupta (2 sections), Pulapre Balakrishnan, (1 section)

Course Description: This course is compulsory for all Economics Majors as well as Economics Minor. This course takes the student to the next level of macroeconomics after the introduction s/he would have obtained in the Principles course of the first year. The lectures will focus on the theory and at the same time, as macroeconomics is central to policy-making, the institutional context will be emphasised.

ECO 202-01, 02, 03 Intermediate Microeconomics (3 sections)

Faculty: Swagata Bhattacharya (2 sections), Bhaskar Dutta (1 section)

Course Description: This course is compulsory for all Economics Majors as well as Economics Minor. Microeconomics studies the decision making mechanism of individual participants in a market economy. This course is designed to impart an understanding of the fundamental principles and rationale underlying such decision making by individuals. Topics include consumer and producer theory, market structure, welfare economics.

The following courses are compulsory for all third-year students majoring in Economics.

All third-year students planning to minor in Economics must take at least one of them. All third-year PPE students taking 6 or more courses in Economics must also take at least one of these courses.

ECO-301-01, 02, Indian Economy (2 sections)

Faculty: Pulapre Balakrishnan (1 section), Bharat Ramaswami (1 section)

Course Description: The course will describe the major structural features of the Indian economy. It will also discuss how it has evolved, as well as the major problems facing it.

ECO-302-01, 02, Development Economics (2 sections)**Faculty: Aparajita Dasgupta (1 section), Anisha Sharma (1 section)**

Course Description: The course studies the characteristics of economic underdevelopment in developing countries like India. It will introduce students to the concept of economic development (growth vs. development debate), The course will also cover the relationship between development and the role of political, community and various economic institutions (land, labour and credit markets) in an economy.

The following elective courses are meant only for third-year Major students (students may take one, two or all 3)

ECO 311-01, Economics of Food Security**Faculty: Bharat Ramaswami**

Course Description: This course will introduce, analyse and debate food security through an economics lens. Famines, chronic food insufficiency, vulnerability and under-nutrition are some of the instances of food insecurity. The objective of the course is to understand the factors that underlie food insecurity and their consequence

ECO 312-01, Behavioral Economics**Faculty: Abinash Borah**

Course Description: In recent years, behavioral economics has challenged orthodox neo-classical assumption of rational behaviour by producing considerable evidence that shows that traditional models of decision making may be an inadequate positive description of human behavior. Behavioral economics has pointed to the fact that individual decisions may involve systematic mistakes and biases; individuals may not have the mental capacity to figure out what the best choice is in certain situations. This course will introduce theories and paradigms that incorporate these phenomena.

ECO 313-01, Public Economics**Faculty: Pulin Nayak**

Course Description: This course will address the issue of the role of the government in the economy. It will study how the government may raise revenues using tax and non-tax measures and how the resources thus collected may be spent for certain stated purposes or to achieve certain goals. While examining tax and expenditure policies of the government the notions of efficiency and equity will be of critical importance

The following courses are compulsory for third-year students majoring in Economics and Finance.

FIN 202-01, Financial Markets and Asset Pricing**Faculty: Abhinash Borah**

Course Description: The course covers the organization and functions of the financial markets; the role and function of various financial institutions, their regulation; the organization of central banks and the role of monetary policy.

FIN 203-01, Managing Financial Institutions**Faculty: Anisha Sharma**

Course Description: This is an introductory course on financial institutions. It starts with a description of the necessity of “financial intermediaries” (FIs) in modern society, and then goes on to describe the different types of key FIs (e.g. banks, insurance companies and asset management companies). □

ENGLISH

Programme Coordinator: Professor Madhavi Menon (menon@ashoka.edu.in)

All second-year students considering a Major in English must take Introduction to Literary Theory and Early British Literature, a Critical Thinking Seminar in a subject of their choice, and a Foundation Course. They can also take an additional Minor or elective course in another subject. Second-year students considering a Major in English and Journalism must take Introduction to Literary Theory, Early British Literature, a course in Media Studies, a Critical Thinking Seminar in a subject of their choice, and a Foundation Course.

All third-year students Majoring in English are expected to take the three 300-level courses. If they are yet to take the required 200-level course in Early British Literature, they should take that too. They should also take a Foundation Course and, if so desired, an additional Minor or elective course in another subject. Third-year students considering a Major in English and Journalism must take two of the three Major courses (they are required to take only two of the three historical survey sequence -- Early British Lit, Lit in the Age of Empire, and Postcolonial Lits), one or two Media Studies courses, and a Foundation Course.

ENG 102-01 and 02, Introduction to Literary Theory (all second-year majors must take one of the two sections): 2 sections

Faculty (section 01): Madhavi Menon

Course Description: Addressing the self-reflexive imperative that lies at the root of “theory,” this class will step back from individual texts of fiction to think through bigger questions about literature. What counts as literature? What is the role of history in the production of literature? Does literature reflect reality or create it?

Faculty (section 02): Saikat Majumdar

Course Description: One of the most significant contributions of modern and contemporary critical theory has been its demonstration of the relationship between the disciplinary development of knowledge-production and the enactment of power. Our subject in this course is this very relationship, and we will move through the defining moments of its history in the 20th century all the way to its current state in the context of a global present that is politically as unsettling as it is skeptical of humanistic critique.

ENG 201-01, Early British Literature (Survey I)

Faculty: Jonathan Gil Harris

Course Description: Early British Literature, the first in a three-part sequence on the history of literature, introduces students to the earliest writing in English. But the course is not just about “the English” or literature from long ago: it is designed to get you thinking about how English literature has always been global, a conversation between diverse cultures that speaks to your own situation as Indian students in a multicultural country within a globalising world. In particular, it considers how the genres of fantasy and magical romance try to represent singular ideals of “Englishness” yet reveal the multiple cultures, and multiple voices, that have been a feature of the British Archipelago since long before the age of Brexit. Texts to be read include *Beowulf*, *Gawain and the Green Knight*, Chaucer’s *Canterbury Tales*, Mandeville’s *Travels*, Spenser’s *The Faerie Queen*, Goodcole’s *Discovery of Elizabeth Sanyer a Witch*, Shakespeare’s *Macbeth*, Dekker, Ford and Rowley’s *The Witch of Edmonton*, and Coryate’s *Letters from the Mughal Court*

ENG 301-01, Postcolonial Literatures (Survey III)

Faculty: Saikat Majumdar

Course Description: In this course, the third in the historical survey sequence, we shall try to get a sense of English as a postcolonial literary language as it has evolved in former colonies in sub-Saharan Africa, the Caribbean, and South Asia, the settler colonies of Australia, New Zealand and Canada, and the complex colonial spaces of Ireland and South Africa. We will focus on the variations in language-use and cultural contexts, the relationships of Anglophone postcolonial literatures with western and indigenous cultural forms, and the layered histories that have formed the contexts of such literary productions.

ENG 302-01, The Idea of America

Faculty: Geetanjali Singh Chanda

Course Description: This course will explore the changing idea of America through a variety of literary texts (autobiographies, fiction, poetry, short stories, essays) and also through an analysis of other media forms such as film, music, and material culture. We will investigate the changing face of America through the people - slaves uprooted from their homes, escapees from famine and oppression and the most recent immigrants - and the ways in which they construct their cultural values and national myths.

ENG 303-01, Violence and South Asian Literatures

Faculty: Abir Bazaz

Course Description: This course will introduce literary texts from South Asia that are marked by violence, not only examining the concept of violence – posing the question "What is violence?" – but also exploring a possible theory of non-violence. The course will situate key South Asian texts in a wider historical context of political violence of caste, gender, and religion, and think through the work of such thinkers as Hannah Arendt, Walter Benjamin, Frantz Fanon, Dr. B. R. Ambedkar, and Mahatma Gandhi, amongst other texts such as Abdullah Hussein's *The Weary Generations*, Qurratulain Hyder's *My Temples*, etc.

HISTORY

Programme Coordinator: Professor Gwen Kelly (gwen.kelly@ashoka.edu.in)

The following Survey courses are compulsory for second-year students majoring in History or in History and International Relations. Second-year students planning to minor in History must take one of the two.

HIS 102-01, Ancient India

Faculty: Nayanjot Lahiri

Course Description: This course aims to provide students with a sense of space, time and culture in ancient India. It looks at the prehistoric hunter-gatherers, the advent of food producing societies, the cultures of interconnected differences (from the Harappan Civilization and its neighbours to the historical world of cities and states), and the landscapes of empire till the end of the Gupta dynasty. Society and religion, art and architecture (and forms of patronage), women and their reintegration into the study of the ancient past, and the environment as a variable form part of the course so as to provide a rounded and balanced perspective of early India.

HIS 103-01, Medieval India

Faculty: Pratyay Nath

Course Description: This survey course is aimed at exposing students to the main areas of research and scholarly debate in the field of medieval Indian history as well as to familiarise them with the works of both established and upcoming scholars. It explores diverse facets of medieval India, including trade and commerce, political economy, art and architecture, state-formation, canonical and popular piety, warfare, social life, literature, and so on. It is geared towards maintaining a balance between offering students a broad overview of the times as well as imparting detailed knowledge of some of the key issues.

The following courses are elective courses for third year students, majoring in History or in History and International Relation or planning to minor in History. Students can choose one, two or three of these courses.

HIS 301-01, Revolt of 1857

Faculty: Rudrangshu Mukherjee

Course Description: In this course students will deal with the events, the sources, the historiography and the events of the uprising.

HIS 302-01, World Hegemon: Britain in Comparative Perspective, c. 1832-1914.

Faculty : Simon Green

Course Description: Victorian Britain was the world's greatest power since Roman times. Its population quadrupled. It became, and long remained, the leading industrial power. It dominated international trade. It acquired an empire covering one-quarter of the world's surface. This course explains how that happened and what its consequences were, both for Britain and the rest of the world, down to the outbreak of the first World War.

HIS 303-01, Politics and Society in India, 1937-77 (History cross-listed with Political Science, POL 304-01)

Faculty: Mahesh Rangarajan

Course Description: The era of Congress dominance, from the victory in most provinces in the 1937 provincial elections to its first defeat in a general election in 1977. The course spans an era through freedom, Partition and constitution making to the emergence of the parliamentary system and the early years of independent India. Socio-political and economic changes in India are viewed in relation to the changing role of the republic in Asia and the world.

HIS 304-01, Indigenous Histories (cross-listed with Sociology-Anthropology, SOA 303-01)

Faculty: Gwen Kelly

Course Description: This course is focused on 'indigenous peoples' — known in India as 'tribals' — communities who are often thought of as outside mainstream society, isolated, 'backward', and perhaps anachronistic remnants of ages past. Recent interdisciplinary work in History and

Anthropology has focused on understanding the specific histories of indigenous and 'tribal' communities, to break out of the timeless mold, and understand how and why they have existed alongside states and empires, and continue to co-exist within and along side nation-states. In order to do this, we explore a variety of case studies in indigenous histories from all over the world including South Asia, North America, Hawaii, Africa and Australia.

HIS 305-01, International History of the Twentieth Century (cross listed with International relations, IR 201-01)

Faculty: Srinath Raghavan

Course Description: This course will chart and analyse the transformation of the international and global politics over the long twentieth century. It will focus on events and processes from the late nineteenth century to the present, covering the two world wars and the cold war, the fall and rise of global capitalism, revolutions and decolonization, international institutions and economic development, ideologies and religion, new discourses of neoliberalism and human rights."

HIS 399-01, War, Empire & the Hapsburgs in Early Modern Europe: 1477-1714 (Independent Studies, Module)

Faculty : Pratyay Nath

Course Description: The course starts at the outbreak of the War of Burgundian Succession (1477-1482). Next, it explores the involvement of the Empire in the Italian Wars (1494-1559), the Eighty Years' War (1568-1648) in the Netherlands, and the Thirty Years' War (1618-1648) in Central Europe. The module will also study the unfolding of Europe's overseas colonisation and the Protestant Reformation as well as their interaction with Habsburg empire-building. It also looks at Habsburg war and diplomacy with the Ottoman Empire in Eastern Europe. It closes with the end of the War of Spanish Succession (1701-1714).

MATHEMATICS

Programme Coordinator: Professor Maya Saran (maya.saran@ashoka.edu.in)

The following courses are compulsory for second-year students majoring or minoring in Mathematics.

MAT 102-01, Algebra 1

Faculty: Tulsi Srinivasan

Course Description: This course will introduce you to all the major structures of abstract algebra. Groups and subgroups, homomorphisms. Polynomials. Rings, subrings, and ideals. Integral domains and fields. Roots of polynomials. Maximal ideals.

MAT 103-01, Real Analysis**Faculty : Maya Saran**

Course Description: The real number system, functions of a real variable; limits, continuity, derivatives. Formal treatment of Riemann integral. Fundamental theorem of calculus. Sequences of functions. Infinite series.

The following course is compulsory for second-year and third-year majoring in Math. The course is recommended course for second-year and third-year students who are majoring in Economics, with a minor in Math. The student must have taken or be taking Real Analysis.

MAT 204-01, Multivariable Calculus**Faculty: M Krishna**

Course Description: This course consists of analyzing maps between real spaces, their derivatives, integrals and various properties these objects satisfy. Gradient, line, surface and volume integrals; level curves, Green and Stokes' Theorems, change of variable formula are included.

The following course is compulsory for third-year students majoring in Math.

MAT 301-01, Elementary Differential Geometry**Faculty: Tulsi Srinivasan**

Course Description: This is an introductory course on the differential geometry of curves and surfaces in three-dimensional space. Topics include space curves, the curvature and orientability of surfaces, the Gauss-Bonnet theorem, and a brief introduction to metric geometry and the Hopf-Rinow theorem.

The following courses are elective courses for third-year students majoring in Math. Students must take one of the below electives, and may take both. Third-year students planning to minor in Math may take one of these courses if they have the prerequisites. For details on prerequisites for the Statistical Inference 1 course, please contact the instructor.

MAT 311-01, Statistical Inference I**Faculty: Rajendran Narayanan**

Course Description: This course will pick up where Probability Theory left off, taking you into statistical inference -- the process of drawing conclusions from data.

MAT 312-01, Chaos in Topological Dynamics**Faculty: Dario Darji**

Course Description: Can a butterfly flapping its wings too fast in jungles of Amazonia cause massive flooding in Chennai? Dynamical Systems models various physical, natural phenomena and attempts to predict its long range asymptotic behavior. Dynamical Systems is a very broad field which enjoys attention from physicists, engineers, biologists and mathematicians. In mathematics, Dynamical Systems involves broad range of topics including differential equations, ergodic theory, measure theory, topology, descriptive set theory etc. In this course, we will focus on topological aspects of dynamical systems. We will begin the course by some topology necessary to study topological dynamics. Our focus will be on chaotic topological dynamics. By the end of the course, we will try to make precise the first sentence of this description. Real Analysis is a prerequisite for this course.

PHILOSOPHY

Programme Coordinator: Professor Alex Watson (alex.watson@ashoka.edu.in)

The following courses are compulsory for second-year students majoring in Philosophy. Second-year students planning to minor in Philosophy should take one of the two courses.

PHI 103-01, Introduction to Logic

Faculty: Scott Dixon

Course Description: This course is an introduction to symbolic deductive logic, which is concerned primarily with the study of valid deductive inference. Natural languages are messy; often the validity of inferences when expressed in a natural language is obscured. In this course, we will develop the formal languages of sentential logic (in which the fundamental units of analysis are sentences) and first-order predicate logic (in which the fundamental units of analysis are terms and predicates). Identifying valid inferences in these languages is much more straightforward. We will spend some time learning how to translate sentences of natural language (English) into each formal language. We will consider a number of important logical concepts, including validity, tautology, contradiction, equivalence, and consistency. Finally, we will make use of several important tools for showing when these concepts do and do not apply, including truth tables, models, and derivations.

PHI 105-01, Introduction to Ancient Philosophy

Faculty: Aditi Chaturvedi

Course Description: This course surveys ancient western philosophy from the pre-Socratics to Socrates, Plato, Aristotle, to the Hellenistic philosophers. The course emphasises the major metaphysical, epistemological and ethical doctrines of each; topics include the nature of reality, wisdom and virtue, justice, the good life for human beings, and pleasure.

The following courses are compulsory for third-year students majoring in Philosophy. Third-year students planning to minor in Philosophy should take at least one of the three courses. They may take more than one also.

PHI 301-01, Vedanta

Faculty: Alex Watson

Course Description: Covering such figures as Gauḍapāda, Śaṅkara and Maṇḍanamiśra, Rāmānuja, Mādhva, the Vedāntins of the late mediaeval period, and ending with Vivekānanda, Nārayaṇa Guru, Sri Aurobindo and Ramana Maharṣi, this course will engage with debates both between different Vedāntins and between Vedānta and other schools such as Buddhism and Mīmāṃsā. Such issues as the relationship between the absolute (brahman), individual souls (jīvas) and the world (jagat), and the question of whether and how the self is aware of itself, will be examined.

PHI 302-01, Ethics

Faculty: Roy Perrett

Course Description: This course surveys some of the major currents of contemporary ethical theory, such as anti-realism and non-cognitivism, subjectivism, consequentialism, and neo-Kantian contractualism. Topics include the nature of ethical value, desires and reasons for actions, and moral luck.

PHI 302-01, Philosophy of Perception

Faculty: Kranti Saran

Course Description: In this course, we will frame the problem of perception and critically assess influential responses to it, drawing on material from Strawson, Moore, Ducasse, Anscombe, Harman, Peacocke, Martin and Travis among others. We will canvass a range of views of the metaphysics of perceptual experience, such as idealism, the sense datum theory, adverbialism, intentionalism, and naive realism and assess their consequences for the epistemology of perception.

POLITICAL SCIENCE

Programme Coordinator: Professor Malvika Maheshwari

(malvika.maheshwari@ashoka.edu.in)

The following two courses are compulsory for second-year students majoring in Political Science or PPE. Second-year students planning to minor in Political Science must take one of the two courses.

POL 102-01, Dynamics of State Formation**Faculty: Gilles Verniers**

Course Description: This course will consist of a critical examination of India's political institutions, from their origin to their contemporary transformations, with special emphasis on the sociology of political actors. The course will dwell on the analysis of the role and functions of the main branches of government, as well as on the faultlines that traverse them.

POL 201-01, Introduction to Western Political Thought**Faculty: Sandipto Dasgupta**

Course Description: The course will introduce students to the history of Western political thought through the works of some of the major figures in that tradition: Plato, Hobbes, Rousseau, Kant, Marx, Mill, Nietzsche, amongst others. Along with a focus on each individual thinker, the course would also trace the development of some of the themes, debates, and concepts that are central to the constellation of Western political thought.

The following three courses are compulsory for third-year students majoring in Political Science. The 'Comparative Politics' course is also compulsory for third-year students majoring in PPE with concentration in Political Science, and for third year students planning to minor in Political Science.

POL 301-01, Democracy and Authoritarianism in South Asia**Faculty: Gilles Verniers**

Course Description: This course will consist of a critical examination of the political trajectory of major South Asian countries. Beyond the traditional historical and institutional approach, the course will focus on the democratic and anti-democratic social and political forces as well as counter-currents that exist throughout the subcontinent. It will study how these at times challenge common misconceptions about the democratic or non-democratic character of South Asian countries. Students will be required to follow current affairs through the reading of major newspapers across South Asia and the compilation of a regular press review exercise.

POL 302-01, Qualitative Research Methods in Political Science**Faculty: Sandipto Dasgupta**

Course Description: The course will introduce students to the basic methodological questions involved in conducting qualitative research in political science. The course will discuss: A. the relationship between methodological choices and substantive claims; B. how to make causal claims, supply evidence, test hypothesis and counterfactuals, and develop analytical frameworks; and C. the methodological considerations for interdisciplinary and comparative research, amongst other topics.

POL 303-01, Introduction to Comparative Politics

Faculty: Adnan Farooqui

Course Description: This course will apply various theories and concepts to analyze the similarities and differences between political units, to help develop causalities and generalizations in a cross-country perspective.

The following course is an elective course for third-year students majoring in Political Science/PPE or minoring in Political Science.

POL 304-01, Politics and Society in India, 1937-77 (Cross-listed with History, HIS 303-01)

Faculty: Mahesh Rangarajan

Course Description: The era of Congress dominance, from the victory in most provinces in the 1937 provincial elections to its first defeat in a general election in 1977. The course spans an era through freedom, Partition and constitution making to the emergence of the parliamentary system and the early years of independent India. Socio-political and economic changes in India are viewed in relation to the changing role of the republic in Asia and the world.

PPE (Politics, Philosophy, Economics)

Programme Coordinator: Professor Gilles Verniers (gilles.verniers@ashoka.edu.in)

PPE Majors are expected to take 8 courses in the subject of their concentration. In addition, they must take 4 courses each in the other two subjects. Third-year and second-year PPE majors should consult the programme co-ordinators to check which courses are compulsory in each subject.

PSYCHOLOGY

Programme Coordinator: Professor Kai Qin Chan (kai.chan@ashoka.edu.in)

Students intending to major or minor in psychology should read the respective requirements on <https://psychology.ashoka.edu.in/>. Students should note that most courses are offered once a year, and third-year courses generally require students to have read PSY 102 (Statistics & Research Methodology II; offered in Monsoon 2016) and PSY201 (Statistics & Research Methodology II; to be offered in Spring 2017). Second-year students planning to minor in Psychology are encouraged to take PSY102 in Monsoon 2016.

The following course is compulsory for 2nd-year students majoring in Psychology.

PSY 102-01,02, Statistics & Research Methodology I

Faculty: Simantini Ghosh (2 sections)

Course Description: The primary focus of this course is on mastering basic statistical concepts and reasoning. In the process, students will learn characteristics of different types of research, and how to think critically about statistics. The course also includes a practical components where students learn how to use statistical software to analyze existing datasets (secondary data analysis). Students are advised to take this course as soon as possible.

Prerequisites: None

Second-year Psychology majors must take one or two of the following courses. The prerequisites for each course are given at the end of each course description.

PSY 201-01, Cognitive Psychology

Faculty: Madhu Maganti

Course Description: In this course students will consider cognition, a subtopic within the field of psychology. The specific emphasis of cognition is on a scientific consideration of how people think and how they process information – tasks which are “invisible.” We will examine current models in cognitive psychology from a theoretical perspective as well as the research methods that allow us to make accurate inferences about the workings of the mind. Topics will include perception, attention, memory, imagery, language, comprehension, problem solving, and decision-making.

Prerequisites: Gateway to the Psychology Major

PSY 202-01, Social Psychology

Faculty: Kai Qin Chan

Course Description: This course explores the scientific nature of social influence and interaction, covering topics such as social judgment, self concept, attitudes, conformity, prejudice, and interpersonal relationships. We will also pay particular attention to the use of empirical evidence from which we build theories of social behavior.

Prerequisites: Gateway to the Psychology Major

PSY 206-01, Biological Psychology

Faculty: Kaveri Rajaraman

Course Description: This course provides an introduction to the relationship between brain and behaviour. The focus will be on key questions asked about the brain, such as: How is the brain organised? What activities in the brain affect behavior? How is behavior affected by drugs? How

does the brain see, hear and produce movement? What does it mean to have a brain disorder? Clinical disorders, such as Parkinson's Disease and schizophrenia, will be integrated into the course, along with basic understanding of fMRI concepts.

Prerequisites: None.

Third- year Psychology majors must take two or three of the following courses. Third-year students planning to minor in Psychology must take at least one of these courses. The prerequisites for each course are given at the end of each course description.

PSY 351-01, Cross-cultural Psychology

Faculty: Kai Qin Chan

Course Description: Comparisons of human thought and behavior across cultures provides a natural “experiment”, allowing us to appreciate the relative influence of how culture influences micro aspects on individuals psychological processes and behaviors. This course will examine whether cultures truly differ or whether the apparent cultural differences are simply manifestations of some 'core' adaptive psychological mechanisms that is shared by all humanity.

Prerequisites: Social Psychology; Statistics & Research Methodology II

PSY 352-01, Emotion

Faculty: Kai Qin Chan

Course Description: This course examines the nature of emotions various perspectives (e.g., cognitive, social, cultural, and biological perspectives.) The emphasis is on developing a nuanced understanding on how emotions affect behavior, and how behaviors affect emotions. Classic emotion research will be revisited, as well as the introduction of current advances in emotion research.

Prerequisites: Social Psychology (or concurrently taking it); Statistics & Research Methodology II

PSY 332-01, Developmental Disabilities

Faculty: Madhu Maganti

Course Description: Some pathways of development lead individuals to develop in atypical ways. The objective of this course is to provide an in-depth examination of the medical, psychological, and cultural contexts that are experienced by individuals with developmental disabilities and their families. We will explore the etiology, assessment, intervention, and integration of individuals with specific types of developmental disabilities.

Prerequisites: Developmental Psychology; Statistics & Research Methodology II

PSY 399-01 Independent Study Module

Faculty: All faculty. Max. 5 students per faculty member, subject to mutual interest between student and faculty

Course Description: The Independent Study Module (ISM) allows students to delve more deeply into research, either assisting an instructor on a specific research agenda, or in some cases, charting their own research agenda. The ISM is as rigorous as any 4-credit course. Students interested in doing an ISM must seek out an instructor in the department and work out a concrete study plan with that instructor before signing up for the course. Students may do only one ISM at level-300.

Prerequisites: Gateway to the Psychology Major; Statistics and Research Methods I; with consent of instructor.

SOCIOLOGY-ANTHROPOLOGY

Programme Coordinator: Professor Ravindran Sriramachandran
(ravindran.sriramachandran@ashoka.edu.in)

The following two courses are compulsory for second-year Sociology/Anthropology majors. The 'Understanding Development' course is also compulsory for third-year Sociology/Anthropology majors. Second-year students planning to minor in the subject must take at least one of the two courses.

SOA 102-01, Critical Approaches to Political Economy

Faculty: Staff

Course Description: This course on Critical Approaches to Political Economy will interrogate concepts and critiques of political economy by major thinkers and address some critical policy interventions in the Indian political economy. How do the axes of caste, class, race, colonialism and gender determine relations of political economy? What can critical historical analyses of classical, Marxist and postcolonial theory teach us about India's contemporary political economy?

SOA 203-01, Understanding Development

Faculty: Ravindran Sriramachandran

Course Description: The course begins with the premise that development is not static, and that it has long been impelled by both practical and theoretical concerns. It has also been and continues to be shaped by geopolitical interests and social scientific trends that are not immediately tied to development. Bearing this in mind, we shall seek to answer the following key questions this semester: What is development? How have our ideas about development, its causes, and its objectives changed over time? Why, after 60 years of development, are so many people still suffering from poverty, economic decline, ill health, political insecurity, repression, and powerlessness? Where should we focus our development efforts in the future?

In addition to the ‘Understanding Development’ course (above) the following two courses are also compulsory for third-year Sociology/Anthropology majors. Third-year students planning to minor in the subject must take at least one of the following two courses.

SOA 302-01, Environment and Society

Faculty: Mitul Baruah

Course Description: This course is meant to introduce students to nature-society relations. We will examine the historical, social and political processes that shape the societal relations to resources and the natural environment. Most importantly, this course will introduce students to some of the ways people have modified the environment over the past century and examine how societies have attempted to cope with environmental problems.

SOA 303-01, Indigenous Histories (Cross-listed with History HIS 304-01)

Faculty: Gwen Kelly

Course Description: This course is focused on ‘indigenous peoples’ — known in India as ‘tribals’ — communities who are often thought of as outside mainstream society, isolated, ‘backward’, and perhaps anachronistic remnants of ages past. Recent interdisciplinary work in History and Anthropology has focused on understanding the specific histories of indigenous and ‘tribal’ communities, to break out of the timeless mold, and understand how and why they have existed alongside states and empires, and continue to co-exist within and along side nation-states. In order to do this, we explore a variety of case studies in indigenous histories from all over the world including South Asia, North America, Hawaii, Africa and Australia.

Minor Courses

CREATIVE WRITING

Programme Coordinator: Professor Saikat Majumdar (saikat.majumdar@ashoka.edu.in)

The following course is compulsory for all second and third-year students planning to minor in Creative Writing. Other students in second or third-year can take the course as an elective, subject to course caps.

CW 102-01, Creative Writing

Faculty: Janice Pariat

Course Description: The course will use a workshop format, where students will work on craft through close reading of each other's fiction, this Creative Writing minor will focus on the short story. We will cover narrative strategy, imagery, thematic cohesion, dramatic structure, voice, point of view, tone, among other literary technicalities.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Programme Coordinator: Mr Priyank Narayan (priyank.narayan@ashoka.edu.in)

The following course is compulsory for second-year and third-year students planning to minor in Entrepreneurship. Other second or third-year students may take the course as an elective, subject to course caps.

ENT 103-01, Political Economy of Entrepreneurship in India

Faculty: Vanita Shastri; Priyank Narayan

Course Description Description: This course will explore the economic and business climate of India. It will review the economic and industrial policies of a closed economy in India after Independence. Exploring the kind of industrial regime that developed as a result of the early policies, it will examine who benefitted and who were left behind. It will then look at why and how the policies were changed in the 1990s and their impact on the opening up of the Indian economy. The course will take a historical approach to see how India got to its present state and through several cases discuss the present scenario. The course will examine what has fueled India's position on the global stage and its engagement with global markets and trends. It will also chart how India has become the preferred destination for outsourcing and global partnerships, discuss the recent initiatives of Make in India, Digital India, Startup India, Investing in India to see what these various trends in business today will impact and bring forth. Through case studies, guest speakers and field visits the course hopes to engage the students in what are the primary developmental and inclusive challenges for India.

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

Programme Coordinator: Professor Valentina Zuin (valentina.zuin@ashoka.edu.in)

All Second-year and third-year students minoring in Environmental Studies must take at least one the following courses. They may also take both. Other second or third-year students can take one or both the courses as electives, subject to course caps.

ES 201-01, International Development, Poverty, and the Environment (cross-listed with IR 202)

Faculty : Valentina Zuin

Course Description: This class will discuss what is poverty, what is development and sustainable development, the linkages between poverty and the environment, and the role of different actors in the development process, including states, NGOs, foundations, and the private sector. Mainstream thinking will be challenged using readings from a range of disciplines and different countries.

ES 202-01, Animal Histories (cross listed as a Critical Thinking Seminar,CT-218)

Faculty :Mahesh Rangarajan

Course Description: It is impossible to disentangle the way we look at animals from how we look at people. Mainly but not wholly focused on the modern world, the paper examines the way animal-human relations have changed over time. The paper ranges over hunting and museums, animal science and empire, nation making and nature protection, gender and nature. The ethical and political issue of how we define animals is critical to how we define the human condition in our times.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Programme Coordinator: Rudra Chaudhuri

The following courses are compulsory for all third-year students minoring in International Relations. Second-year students planning to minor in IR must take at least one of the two courses. Other second or third-year students may take one or both the courses as electives, subject to course caps.

IR 201-01, International History of the Twentieth Century (cross listed with HIS 314-01)

Faculty: Srinath Raghavan

Course Description: This course will chart and analyse the transformation of the international and global politics over the long twentieth century. It will focus on events and processes from the late nineteenth century to the present, covering the two world wars and the cold war, the fall and rise of global capitalism, revolutions and decolonization, international institutions and economic development, ideologies and religion, new discourses of neoliberalism and human rights."

IR 202-01, International Development, Poverty, and the Environment (cross-listed with ES 201-01)

Faculty :Valentina Zuin

Course Description: This class will discuss what is poverty, what is development and sustainable development, the linkages between poverty and the environment, and the role of different actors in the development process, including states, NGOs, foundations, and the private sector. Mainstream thinking will be challenged using readings from a range of disciplines and different countries.

MEDIA STUDIES

Programme Coordinator: Professor Vaiju Naravane (vaiju.naravane@ashoka.edu.in)

The following courses can be taken by second-year students planning to minor in Media Studies or major in English and Journalism. Other second or third-year students may take the courses as an elective, subject to course caps.

MS-202-01, Journalistic Theory: Principles, Ethics and History of Journalism and Laws of the Press

Faculty: Vaiju Naravane

Course Description: This course lays emphasis on the core principles and ethics that underlie journalistic responsibility in the sphere of public information. It discusses essential ethical principles such as objectivity, truth and accuracy, verification, accountability, fairness, independence, originality or restraint. What should be the ethical concerns of any good journalist besides integrity and honesty? What are the ethical dilemmas journalists face? The course examines the theories of journalism as defined by Noam Chomsky and others. Students will also study the history of journalism with a special accent on the role of newspapers and magazines during the struggle for independence. Starting with British colonial efforts to quell the freedom of expression, this course will also introduce students to media law and how it has evolved through legislation in independent India, including the much-debated law on criminal defamation. This is essentially a theoretical course although it will involve journalistic writing.

MS-102-01, Introduction to Newswriting and Reporting

Faculty: Neha Dixit

Course Description: In this essentially a technical course during which students will learn the foundations of journalism and the craft's main components –reporting and writing the news **for different mediums.** There will be a focus on convergent media where all five mediums-print,

television, radio, online and photography will be touched upon. They will learn to cover and write stories, news analysis, op-ed and editorial pieces keeping in mind the tenets of accuracy, objectivity, timeliness, fairness and concision. This course is rigorous and challenging and there will be a lot of writing both inside and outside the classroom. Students will also grasp the essentials of photography and news shorts for broadcast.

The following course is compulsory for third-year students planning to major in English and Journalism or minor in Media Studies. Other second or third-year students may take the course as an elective, subject to course caps.

MS 301-01, Broadcast Journalism

Faculty: K.Hariharan and Vaiju Naravane

Course Description: Conducted in Ashoka University's brand new, fully equipped television studio, this course will teach students how to conceptualise, shoot, narrate, edit and produce a film or a radio programme whether it be a 15-minute long documentary or a 90-second news short. Students will learn all the elements that go into broadcast journalism. They will be put through their paces both behind and in front of the camera and will be taught how to write and present television news and documentaries, interview subjects in a studio situation, the use of a green screen, editing film and sound on Adobe editing suites, giving and receiving instructions from the control room. Writing for radio will also be an integral part of this course.

PERFORMING ARTS

Programme Coordinator: Justin McCarthy (justin.mccarthy@ashoka.edu.in)

The following course is compulsory for second-year, planning to minor in Performing Arts:

PA 104-01, Performing Arts History

Faculty: Justin McCarthy, Subhadra Desai

Course Description: This course will provide an overview of the performing arts on the sub-continent from ancient times to the present day. An important premise of this course will be that music, dance and theatre are three strands of an intertwined whole. Their closely-related cultural, social and aesthetic histories will constitute the core material to be studied. Though mainly academic, the course may contain a small practical component.

The following course is compulsory for third-year students, planning to minor in Performing Arts. Second-year students may also take it if they wish to.

PA 201-01, Production Skills

Faculty: Navtej Johar

Course Description: This class will serve as a laboratory for building scene work. Using the playful and interactive methodologies developed by Augusto Boal, founder of the Theatre of the Oppressed, the students will be facilitated to adapt and re-contextualize a scene from a pre-existing play. The focus will be on tenaciously crafting a connection between text, methodology and social context. The process of production will be meticulously documented and analysed in post-production.

VISUAL ARTS

Programme Coordinator: Professor Anunaya Chaubey (anunaya.chaubey@ashoka.edu.in)

The following course is compulsory for second-year and third-year students, planning to minor in Visual Arts

VA 201-01, Intermediate Visual Arts Practicum

Faculty: Anunaya Chaubey

Course Description: This course will ask you to draw on your creative as well as critical thinking skills. While painting or drawing you will realise that you are actually trying to solve problems – how to use the blank space? How to represent the world around you? What image best suggests your feelings or thoughts? Which colour to use? In the process, you will understand how a visual artist expresses herself using a different set of tools and a different language to address concerns that are the same as those addressed by scientists, historians, philosophers or economists. The course will combine theory with practice and will conclude with an exhibition of the best works done by the students. Students will be introduced to the basics of the arts of Clay modelling, Print-making and Oil painting.

Co-Curricular Courses

All students must take 2 co-curricular courses, one each in any 2 semesters.

PERFORMING ARTS

PA 010-01, Contemporary Dance

Faculty: Deepak Shivaswamy

Course Description: The practice, theory and history of contemporary dance as practiced internationally with special emphasis on how this practice translates into contemporary dance work being done on the sub-continent.

PA 011-01, Carnatic Music

Faculty: Sudha Raghuraman

Course Description: South Indian classical music through the lens of the voice. Elements of singing as well as insights into carnatic music as a historical and a cultural phenomenon.

PA 012-01, Improvisational Theatre

Faculty: Lokesh Bharadwaj

Course Description: Elements of improvisation as utilised in global contemporary theatre with an emphasis on non-verbal and movement-oriented techniques.

VISUAL ARTS

VA 006-01, Filmmaking

Faculty: Gautam Pande

Course Description: An exploration of documentary filmmaking, including practical as well as theoretical dimensions.

VA 007-01, Photography

Faculty: Anshuman Sen

Course Description: A social history of and practical course in the art of taking photos, approached from the angle of photography as a common practice and cultural phenomenon.

VA 008-01, From Drawing to Print making

Faculty: Staff

Course Description: An essentially practical course, skills in drawing will be developed while simultaneously relating these skills to larger questions of creativity and its place within our individual and collective lives.

VA 009-01, Indian Crafts**Faculty: Purnima Rai and Deeksha Nath**

Course Description: A curated course introducing half a dozen craft or folk art forms from various parts of India. The course will engage the students both in understanding the social and historical milieus of the forms as well as actually trying their hand at creating under the guidance of craftspeople.

LANGUAGES**LAN 001-01, French****Faculty: Isabelle Jaitly**

Course Description: An introduction to the French language, culture and Civilization. This is the first part of a two semester course.

LAN 002-01, Urdu for Hindi Speakers**Faculty: Tanvi Bhikchandani**

Course Description: An introduction to practical and cultural aspects of Urdu. This is the first part of a two semester course.

LAN 006-01, Sanskrit**Faculty: Subhadra Desai**

Course Description: An introduction to practical and cultural aspects of Sanskrit. This is the first part of a two semester course

LAN 007-01, Spanish for Backpackers**Faculty: Dario Darji**

Course Description: A panoramic view of Spanish as it is used in various countries around the globe.

LAN 008-01, Languages of Delhi**Faculty: Sohail Hashmi and Rizio Yohannen Raj**

Course Description: Mapping the City's Linguistic Routes- a laboratory for an ambitious new project to historically, socially and culturally map all the languages of Delhi, resulting in an ongoing, living archive. This is the first part of a two semester course.