

M20HSS316-ITP/Assignment-0/20171047/CLD

1. I am currently in my seventh semester. I am a researcher at Information Retrieval and Extraction Lab where I'm working under Prof. Vasudeva Varma and Dr. Manish Gupta. My current topics of interest include Fact Salience, Automatic Text Summarization, and Scientific Document processing. The thing about IIIT I like the most are the people here.
2. I went through the proposed curriculum of all the humanities courses and this was what I was inclined towards. I really like making logical arguments based on facts and data. I also enjoy and appreciate when someone presents a well-flowing reasoning structure which is robust and comprehensible. I also enjoy writing and presenting my views in a seemingly matter-of-fact manner without completely losing out on the ornamental touches. Hence, I felt that I would be able to participate, learn and savor the course contents.
3. I need to take the course first in order to have a well formed opinion. However, if I understand correctly, practising how to think in a logical manner is at the core of any course on philosophy and in that, you end up exercising your mind. In order to support certain arguments, you might need to conduct some research and dig up some evidence. Through these processes, you amplify both your knowledge base and your capacity to infer from what you already know. Hence, though I cannot prove it myself, it makes sense to think that studying philosophy will improve one's mental ability. I think a better question here is whether studying philosophy improves someone's thinking more than lets say, studying mathematics. A binary does it improve or not is not that interesting. Whether the study of a particular subject is better than another from a thinking-skills enhancement standpoint is the more engaging question to ask.