

# SHIV NADAR

INSTITUTION OF EMINENCE DEEMED TO BE

UNIVERSITY

DELHI NCR

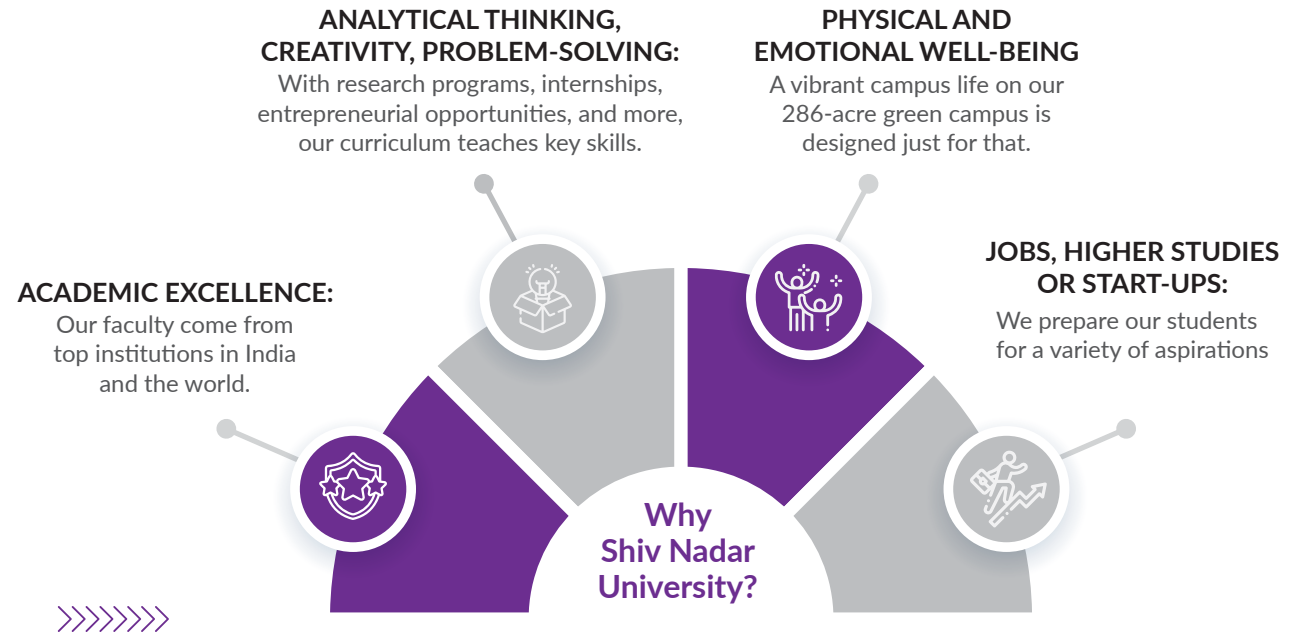
DEPARTMENT OF

# INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND GOVERNANCE STUDIES



# Why Shiv Nadar University?

Shiv Nadar University is a multidisciplinary research university established in 2011 by Mr. Shiv Nadar, one of Asia's foremost philanthropists and a pioneer of the technological revolution in India. The four Schools at the University offer undergraduate, postgraduate, and doctoral degrees in Engineering, Natural Sciences, Humanities and Social Sciences, and Management & Entrepreneurship. It is the youngest university to be recognised as an **Institution of Eminence** by the Government of India, a distinct category of higher education institutions that "strive to become the top hundred Institutions in the world over time". In the Government's National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF), the University has been the youngest institution in the 'top 100' Overall list for the last five years.



## Why Study International Relations at Shiv Nadar University?

The Department of International Relations and Governance Studies has dedicated faculty members who are deeply invested in teaching and research and who are keen to offer well-rounded training and exposure to students interested in studying international relations. We have a unique niche in terms of our ability to combine global history with cutting-edge theoretical knowledge applied to various practical global challenges.

The Department is attentive to the context of Asia in the 21st century, which entails not replicating any single dominant worldview but being open to a plurality of perspectives. The Department does not simply train students to receive existing knowledge but actively encourages them to take their first steps towards researching and developing an initial appreciation of how one contributes to knowledge creation.

We are confident of the training we give to our students. Some of our students who have completed their undergraduate education with us have secured admission to prestigious universities abroad for further studies. Finally, our canvas for studying international relations is genuinely expansive: from focusing on international organisations to the possibility of learning a foreign language (Mandarin) and then specializing in China, we offer an exciting spread of possibilities.

# Curriculum

## B.A. (Research) in International Relations

The B.A. (Research) in International Relations is designed to achieve the following three objectives:

1. Provide students with **domain knowledge** in the discipline of International Relations (IR). The program has courses covering the discipline's core areas, which include international theory, global history, foreign policy, international security, international political economy, international organizations, global governance, development, and international law.
2. Provide students with the core **skills** of organization of thought (thinking), critical examination of issues in international relations (analysis), effective oral communication of ideas (speaking), and effective written communication of ideas (writing) in various formats. These

skills are imparted through the assignments and evaluation exercises within our courses and through research projects such as the **Opportunities for Undergraduate Research (OUR)** and the undergraduate thesis project, which commences in the fourth year.

3. Provide students with **exposure** to external expertise and opportunities to **network** and **build connections**. We do this through our seminars, workshops, and conferences in which we invite experts from academia and the policy domains to speak on contemporary and critical issues. Students get to meet these experts and learn from their research and experience, drawing ideas about their research and future pathways.

The program begins with a focus on courses that train students in International Relations. These courses take up most of the first 4 to 5 semesters. Elective courses

that familiarise students with other disciplines become available from the 3rd semester onwards. Those who pursue a Minor with a different department usually do the required courses in the 5th and 6th semesters. Semesters 7 and 8 are assigned for writing the undergraduate thesis, internships, and preparation for post-BA pathways with the active assistance of the university's Career Development Centre.



## Minor

We offer a Minor in International Relations to students from other departments of the university. Students do a set of 6 courses to be awarded the Minor.

## Ph.D. Program

Our Ph.D. program trains prospective doctoral candidates in research methodology, theory, and other courses relevant to their doctoral thesis. Coursework is completed in the first two semesters. Thesis supervisors are assigned at the beginning of the second semester. Progression is monitored and

is subject to such performance as is considered satisfactory according to the metrics laid down by the university and the department.



# Department of IRGS Faculty

Our faculty is highly regarded, with Ph.Ds. from distinguished universities and institutions such as Harvard University; Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro (PUC-Rio, Brazil); School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London; Jawaharlal Nehru University; and the Centre for Development Studies (CDS), Thiruvananthapuram. Besides being excellent teachers, they are also leading researchers in their field. They consistently publish books, book chapters, and research articles with leading publishers worldwide. In recent years, they have published with Oxford University Press, Springer, Pearson Longman, Orient Blackswan, and other publishers. They also consult with major governmental and non-governmental organizations and author reports on

public policy issues. They also feature in leading national and international media, such as *Al Jazeera*, as experts on international affairs and write columns for newspapers such as *The Hindu*, *The Indian Express*, and *The Hindustan Times*.

Our faculty members have held fellowships and appointments at Harvard University, USA; Renmin University, China; Yunnan University, China; the Dalai Lama Institute of Higher Education, India; National Maritime Foundation, New Delhi; Naval War College, Goa; Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi; Social Science Centre (WZB), Berlin; Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg, Germany and Sciences Po, Paris.

They have also secured funding for conducting research from the South Asia Partnership Development Fund, University of Exeter; International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Canada; Indian Council for Social Science Research (ICSSR), India; Department of Science and Technology (DST), India; Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC), UK; Ford Foundation; and Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung India, among others. They also consult and serve advisory roles with various governmental and non-governmental institutions.



## Academic Collaborations

Faculty at the department draws on a whole range of academic networks. In terms of our teaching, we have invited guest faculty from leading universities worldwide.

As illustrative of this, in a course on international law and world politics, scholars from Cornell University (USA), King's College, London (UK), Cambridge University (UK), San Diego State University (USA), and Pontificia Universidad Católica de Valparaíso (Chile) spoke online to International Relations Major students. Regarding our research, colleagues have also presented their work at the National University of Singapore, the Berlin Social Science Center, the University of Melbourne, and other academic settings. At the national level, we have signed MoUs with the National Maritime Foundation and the Institute of Chinese Studies in the recent past. Students actively draw on these intellectual networks when we eventually write letters of recommendation to them to leading universities around the world.

Our B.A. program students can also study a semester at an overseas university and then transfer the earned credits to their degree at Shiv Nadar University. This is facilitated through collaborations between Shiv Nadar University's International Office and universities abroad. In Monsoon 2023, two students of the department selected under *New Southbound Policy Short-term Program* studied at National Quemoy University, Taiwan, taking courses in international relations and Mandarin extensively. However, it is essential to note that mere admission to the B.A. program in International Relations does not guarantee an opportunity to study a semester abroad. Prospective students and caregivers must take note of factors such as availability of opportunity, a competitive process, and the cost of studying abroad in this regard.



## OUR Program

Most of our courses have a research component. In addition, students can partake of the **Opportunities for Undergraduate Research (OUR)** program at the university.

This program aims to give students hands-on experience in conducting research and independent work under faculty supervision. The OUR project runs for a year, is non-credited, and is provided ample funding by the university. An OUR project may be carried out by a student in any discipline, not necessarily their Major. Every year, awards are given to the top three OUR projects in the university. Students of the Department of International Relations and Governance Studies have either completed

or are working on OUR projects within the department as well as with other departments of the university. Some of the OUR topics include domestic politics in China, nationalism and military practices in the Second World War, India's China policy, and the Pasmada movement.

In the final year of the program, students do the undergraduate thesis. This is a credited exercise in which students work with the department's faculty members on a research project, producing at the end of the process an 8,000-word paper that has the potential to be published in academic journals.



## Pathway to Progress

There is a wide range of opportunities available to any student trained as a Major in International Relations, which the department offers. These include master's and higher studies within the discipline overseas or at home, journalism with a focus on world affairs, working with non-governmental organizations in areas such as security, foreign policy, governance, developments, and potential aspirants to diplomatic careers training to compete in the Union Public Services Examination or in some instances, even working with private firms. The department works closely with the Career Development Centre of the university to assist students with career pathways.



# Student Outcomes

Some of our individual alum, on completion of their undergraduate education with us, are studying master's at the University of California, San Diego, the London School of Economics, and at Claremont Graduate University. One of our individual alums has also been placed in Bain and Company, a global management consulting firm. Multiple students from the batch that graduated in 2023 have gone on to pursue higher education in leading western universities while some have joined research and advocacy organisations within India.



# Admissions Eligibility

## Bachelor of Arts (Research)

Program	Selection Criteria	Class 12 <sup>th</sup> Eligibility
International Relations	SNUSAT Score	Aggregate of best 4 academic subjects in the marksheet must be >=65% (must include English)
	CUET 2024 Score + Interview	
	Valid SAT (College Board) Score	
	Valid ACT Score	

# Financial Support

Funding for Tuition and Stipends are available for deserving students applying for B.A (Research) International Relations.



# Contact Details

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