

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS

MIRANDA HOUSE
UNIVERSITY OF DELHI



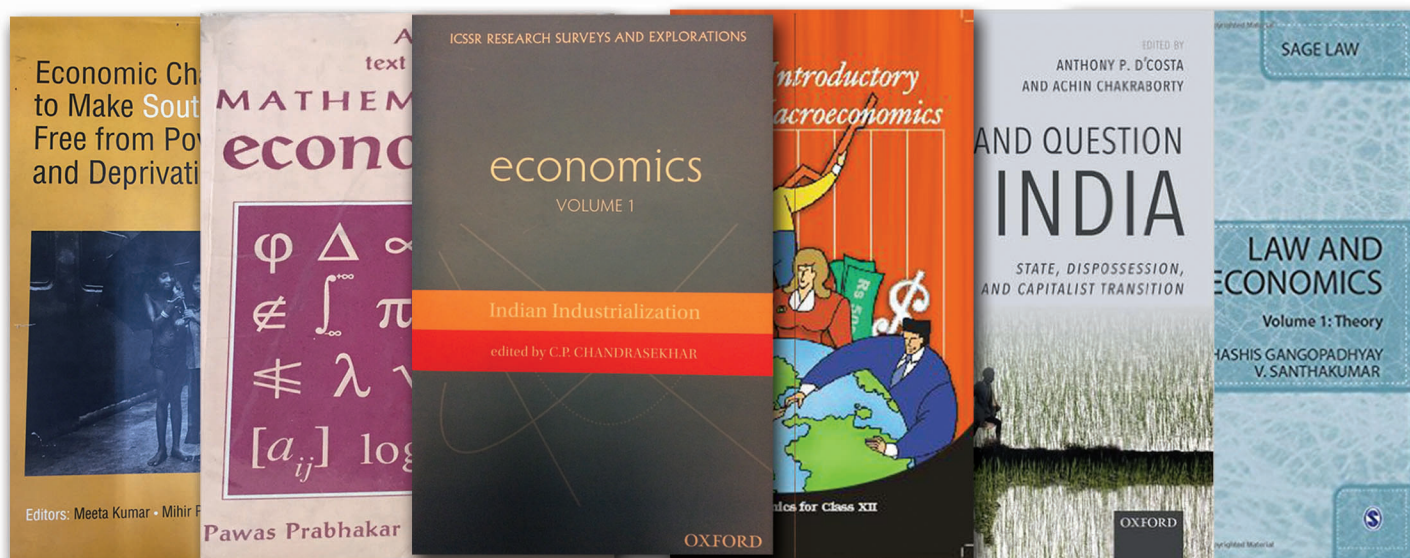
THE DEPARTMENT

This Department is one of the founding departments of Miranda House, established in 1948. The history of the department parallels the illustrious history of the college. The department endeavours to promote liberal thinking, social sensitivity and responsibility apart from academic achievements. Currently the department has a sanctioned strength of 63 students in each year and 11 faculty positions. As the BA(H) course has become an increasingly sought after course at the University of Delhi, we have been constrained to raise admission cut-offs. Currently these are in the range of 96 per cent for the general category. The skills and concepts related to rational choice, optimisation techniques and incentive mechanisms that are integral to the economics curricula, prove to be of great value irrespective of the career-path chosen by students. All students and faculty members of the Economics department are also members of Arthashastra, the Economics society.



FACULTY

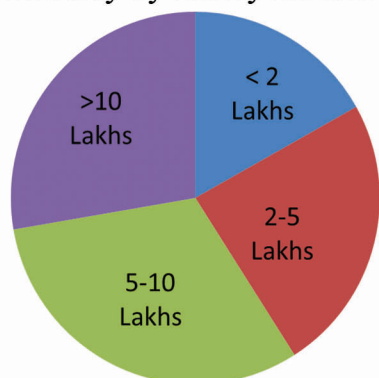
The diversity of specializations among the faculty at the Department of Economics, Miranda House makes it an outstanding department in the University. These specializations range from high theory to heterodox applications. This gives the Department a unique social science orientation, and allows us to explore inter-disciplinary opportunities both in teaching and in research. We have been closely associated with syllabus creation and revision in the University, for the Honours course as well as other courses where Economics is taught, like the BA(Program) and B.El.Ed. Faculty members also have research publications in renowned journals and participate regularly in national and international conferences. We have also been associated with various organisations including UNCTAD, UNDP, the VV Giri National labour Institute and the ILO. In addition, we have also been contributing to the creation of school curricula through contributions to NCERT.



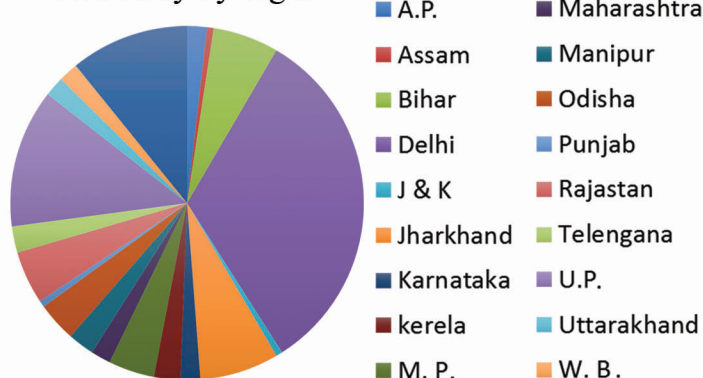
STUDENTS

DIVERSITY

Diversity by family income

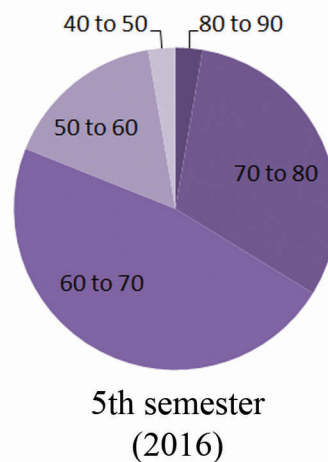
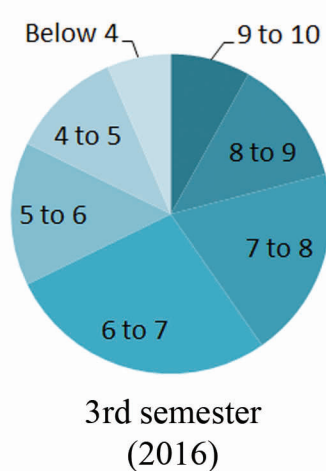
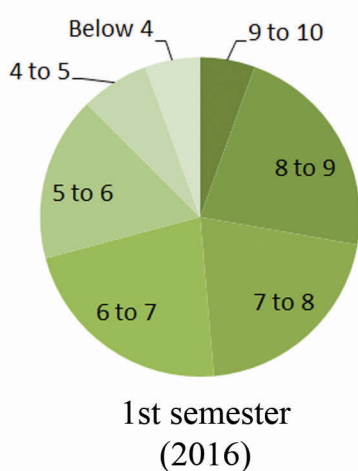


Diversity by region



PERFORMANCE

The Department accepts students at cut-offs which are among the highest in the University. Our results are also excellent, with very high proportions of our students passing with a first division. The chart below shows that of all the students who passed the course, none received a third division over the last two years, and the proportion of those receiving more than 75% has been rising.



REMEDIAL PROCESS

Our classrooms have become increasingly heterogenous over the last few years. We are called upon to address classes that are not just larger in size but also much more diverse in terms of regional, caste and merit representations. In class, we are sensitive to this diversity and try to pace our teaching to accommodate it. The tutorial program allows for intensive interaction with individual students. Often these tutorials are used to impart writing and articulation skills. The continuous evaluation process allows us to identify students who need special help. These students are encouraged to do more written work as practice. In addition the mentorship program enables students to approach us with academic as well as non-academic problems. On the whole the department encourages close interaction with all students. Ultimately, we believe that we are judged not only by our top-ranker, but by our over-all performance.

Internships

Our students intern regularly with policy institutions, firms and NGOs. In the past, students have interned with several Ministries, with the Planning Commission and its new avatar, the NITI Aayog, with the RBI and think tanks such as Centre for Civil Society. They have also interned with firms such as Google, HDFC Bank, IDBI bank etc. In the year 2016-17, more than 40 students reported to have done internships.

Research Programme

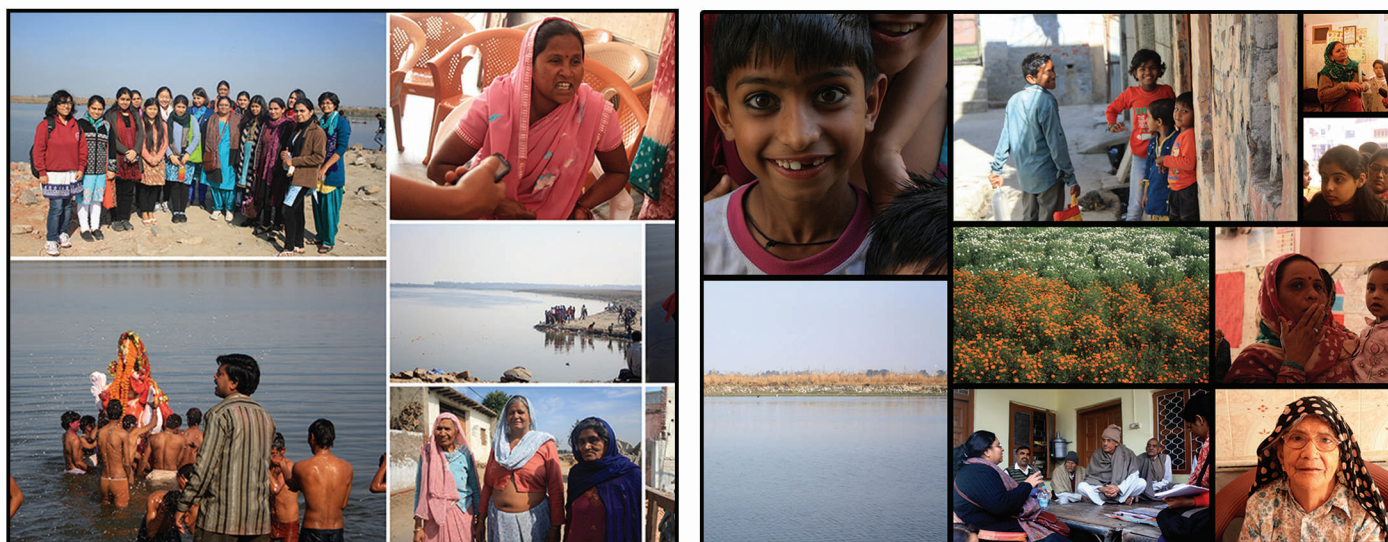
This is a voluntary, non-credit, research program instituted by the Department in 2015. Under this program, teams of students undertake research, typically involving primary data collection, on an area of their interest. The teams are mentored by faculty members through the project. They present their results at a seminar, and their papers are published in the Department's journal, Aapoorti. The list of projects undertaken by students this year is as follows:

1. To identify and study variables that affect the demand for Swadeshi Products
2. A move towards fixing India's broken subsidies regime?
3. The story of migrants in Delhi

DU Innovation Projects

This unique scheme funded by the University of Delhi instituted projects that encourage students to apply academic training to real world situations. The Department participated in the following inter-disciplinary projects:

1. Miles on the Yamuna: 2012-13
2. More Miles on the Yamuna: 2013-2015
3. Kashmiriyat: A study of Colonial and Postcolonial Kashmir: 2013-15
4. Reward Network as a form of Experiential Marketing: 2015-16



ARTHASHASTRA, THE ECONOMICS SOCIETY

The society provides a platform for effective discourse and engagement of young economic enthusiasts in activities and ventures that link economic theory to global issues. The goal of the society is to encourage interaction between members and create a liberal and open environment for discussion of everything that falls under the purview of economics. Some initiatives of Arthashastra are:

ZENITH, THE ANNUAL ECONOMICS CONCLAVE

Zenith is the Annual Economics Conclave of Miranda House, typically held in the month of February or March each year. With a number of competitions bearing economic-based themes, Zenith strives to aid students in developing their critical thinking abilities through application of economic principles from the textbooks to real life scenarios. Overwhelming participation from students across different colleges of Delhi has solidified its position as one of the best Economics Festivals in the University of Delhi. It is the biggest event in the calendar of the Department of Economics. Students and teachers alike are involved in the months of planning and preparation. A myriad of events ranging from intellectually stimulating Case Study and Business Plan competitions, Paper Presentations, Quizonomics, to informal events such as Wiz of the Brand Street, Profitus Maximus and Negozi have been held over the years. It has been a tradition to inaugurate the Conclave with a keynote lecture/seminar. Past speakers who have graced the occasion include Raja Chelliah, R. N. Malhotra, Ashok Desai, Montek Singh Ahluwalia, Isher J. Ahluwalia, Irfan Habib, Shankar Acharya, Jayati Ghosh, Abhijit Sen, Bibek Debroy, and Surjit Bhalla among others.

ZENITH MODEL UNITED NATIONS

In 2012, the Economics Department of Miranda House, organized its first edition of Zenith Model United Nations Conference as a part of its annual festival, called 'Zenith'. The aim of the conference was to simulate discussion on world issues and to allow for hypothetical resolutions. It also encouraged the development of other skills such as reporting and photography. The fifth edition of the conference was conducted in February 2016 with enthusiastic participation of roughly 200 delegates and about 40 organizing committee members. The organizing committee put up five committees which were the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women (UN Women), the Indo-Pak Joint Crisis Committee (JCC), the Executive Committee of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), and the Press Council of India (PCI).

The 6th edition of the conference was held on the 4th and 5th of March, 2017 and saw the simulation of the UN Security Council, UN Women, Indo-China Bilateral Meet, All-India Political Parties' Meet and the UN Convention on Laws of the Sea.

AAPOORTI, THE ANNUAL ECONOMICS JOURNAL

The Annual Economics Journal serves to bring together ideas and opinions of students about various facets of Economics. Aapoorti, Hindi for 'meeting wants', appropriately captures the root of Economics (matching supply with demand). It is a common platform for students to contribute their voices and opinions to. In the past, economists like Dr. C. Rangarajan, Dr. Isher Judge Ahluwalia and Lord Meghnad Desai have been engaged in discussions by the Editorial Board on various key issues as a part of the Interview section of the journal.

KAUTILYA CHRONICLES, THE SOCIETY BLOG

The society blog of the Economics Department is a lively, frequently-updated platform which features articles on pressing current issues affecting global and Indian economics. With a newly-added 'Alumni Speak' column with real-world advice and experiences from graduates, and many other interesting features, it makes for an interesting and informative read. The blog can be accessed at thekautilyachronicles.com

VISHLESHAN, THE ECONOMICS RESEARCH AND DISCUSSION GROUP

Vishleshan, the Economics Discussion Group aims to stimulate intellectual discourse on critical, current economic issues. Through various eminent guest speakers, various subjects are thoroughly analysed and then discussed. It is an opportunity for curious minds to discuss beyond the usual constructs of classroom teaching- a forum to inspire and provide greater opportunities of discourse to the next generation global citizens. Renowned economists have been a part of the platform in the past. Vishleshan also organizes monthly Reading Groups for students.

Vishleshan also manages the Research Programme of the Department. The programme started in the academic year 2015-16 with the objective of providing the students with an opportunity to gain hands-on research experience, right at the onset of their careers in Economics. The project undertaken by the students are a valuable method of training them in data collection, analysis, writing and presentation.



ALUMNA

Most of our students opt for a post graduate programs at prestigious universities within India and abroad. For example, 17 students from the batch that graduated in 2016 have joined the Delhi school of Economics, 3 went to the London School of Economics, 2 to the University of Oxford, and 1 to the National University, Singapore. In 2015, Sonali Chowdhry received the Rhodes scholarship, and Debasmita Padhi received the Departmental scholarship to study at Oxford. In 2014, Debasweta Banik joined the IAS, Devika Lal joined the IFS, and 7 Department alumna joined the IES. Several students have been employed as Research Assistants, Associates and Management Trainees in consulting firms including Penn Schoen Berland, South Asia, ITC Hotels, Zomato, OP Jindal Group, Groupon, TAF Marketing Ventures Pvt. Ltd. and many others. This list is illustrative of the diversity of career choices made by our students.

THE DEPARTMENT IN THE COLLEGE

Our students contribute widely to the corporate life of the college. Rishu is President of the MH chapter of National Sports Organization. Shreya Vishishtha is currently President of Enactus, Harshita Verma leads Geetanjali, and Niketa Singh is Vice-President for Snapshots.

The faculty are widely involved in various committees of the College as well. Dr. Ravinder Jha is the Convener of the Cafeteria Committee, Ms. Meeta Kumar and Dr. Bhupinder Kaur are on the Proctorial Committee, Ms. Nandini Dutta is on the Hostel Committee, as well as being Faculty Advisor to the MUN. Dr. Malabika Pal is Convener, Entrepreneurship Cell. This apart the Department has played an active role in anchoring several international collaborations alongside other departments of the college. These include: The Indo-Dutch Collaborative Program, King's College London International Summer School, the Rhetoric Program in collaboration with the George Washington University, the University of Chicago Summer Program in Financial Mathematics.

The 5th Indo-Dutch Collaborative Programme

MANAGEMENT AND CULTURAL CONTEXTS



15 to 19 October 2012

Participating Institutions:

MIRANDA HOUSE
University of Delhi, India

SRI RAM COLLEGE OF COMMERCE
University of Delhi, India

and

UTRECHT BUSINESS SCHOOL
Hogeschool Utrecht University of Applied Sciences
The Netherlands



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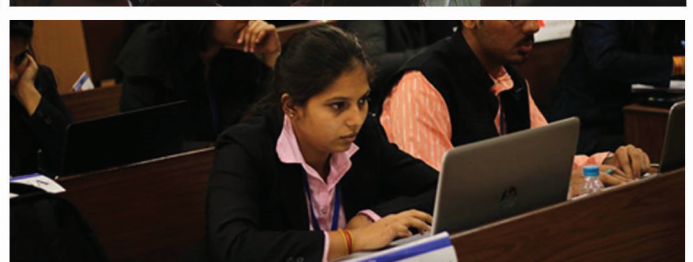
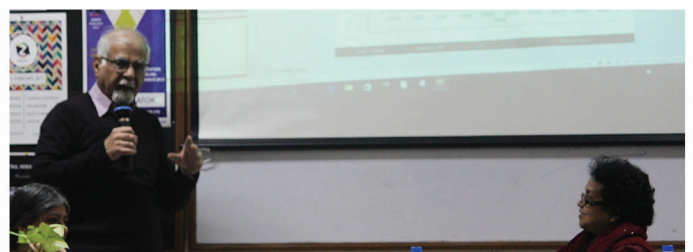
MIRANDA HOUSE, UNIVERSITY OF DELHI

in collaboration with

**Elizabeth J. Somers Women's Leadership Program
THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY**



EVENT HIGHLIGHTS



For more information, visit: arthashastra-mh.in