

2017



**The
Department
of Sociology**



**Miranda
House**



**Information
Brochure**

Introduction

The Department of Sociology at Miranda House was established in 1972. The department offers B.A. (Honours) Sociology and Elective courses to students of other social sciences and humanities departments. The vision of the department is to produce socially responsible and capable women leaders. We train students with a strong conceptual foundation, so that they are able to put into practice what they have learned. We train them to develop a 'sociological imagination'. Given the fact that we live in a global world, it is important to have a strong conceptual base and analytical skill in order to excel in our chosen fields. As a student of sociology and as a global citizen, it is important that one is able to understand the details and appreciate the big picture. With this in mind, we aim to teach students to understand society in all its complexity and appreciate diversity. We view the classroom as a social space, where they learn to appreciate differences due to natural ability, nationality, gender or ethnicity. Students are taught to put into practice what they have learned. They are also taught to think critically.

Department of Sociology
Miranda House Presents **UTOPIA 2017**

TALK SESSION
on Information Technology & Society

By
Madhulika Banerjee
Faculty Member, Political Science Department, DU

Yasmeen Arif
Associate Professor, Delhi School of Economics

Date: **February 15 2017** | Time: **10:00 AM to 12:30 PM** | Venue: **SAC Student Activity Centre**

Department of Sociology
Miranda House Presents

Nandini Sundar
Professor : Ph. D. (Columbia University, NY)

"REFLECTIONS"
ANNUAL LECTURE SERIES

September **15 2016** | **12:00 to 01:00 PM** | **SAC Student Activity Centre**

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY
MIRANDA HOUSE
PRESENTS

WIRED
Decoding Tech, Encoding Society
UTOPIA 2017

14TH & 15TH FEB' 2017
VENUE : STUDENT ACTIVITY CENTER
10 AM ONWARDS

Events:

- Declamation
- Panel Discussion
- Photography Competition
- AD-MAD
- Slam Poetry

f <https://www.facebook.com/utopiaMH/>

DEPARTMENT OF
SOCIOLOGY
MIRANDA HOUSE
invites you

to a screening
and discussion of the film

**THE GODS
MUST BE
CRAZY**
by Jamie Uys

23rd September, 2016
Students' Activity Centre
12:00 PM onwards.

FOR MORE INFORMATION,
CONTACT US -
Punam 8826952425
Divya 9873816656

Result Analysis of the Odd Semester (July-December 2016)

Students of the department have performed successfully on all fronts. We encourage the students to maximize their potential. On one hand, we have ensured that our students perform well in semester examinations academically our students have continuously performed well; on the other hand, we have promoted students' participation in co-curricular activities, in volunteering for internships, and in interdisciplinary engagements.

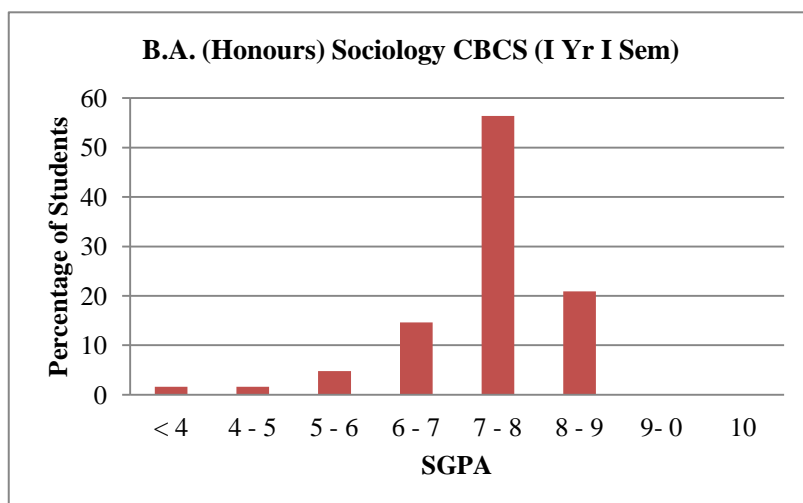
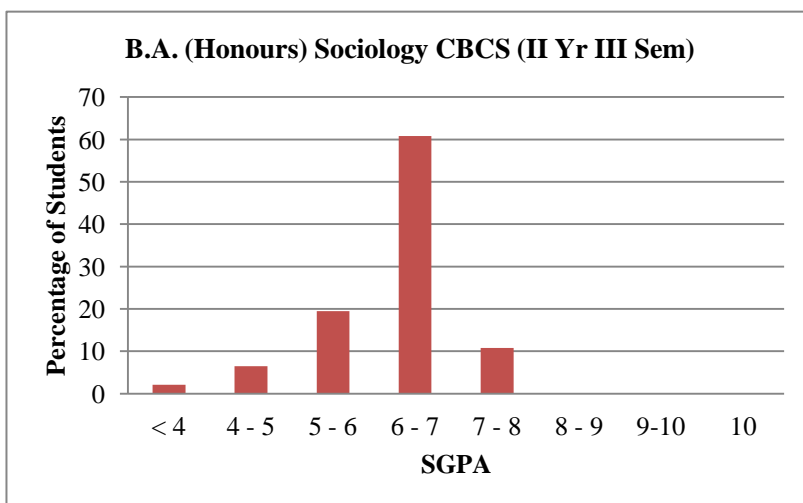
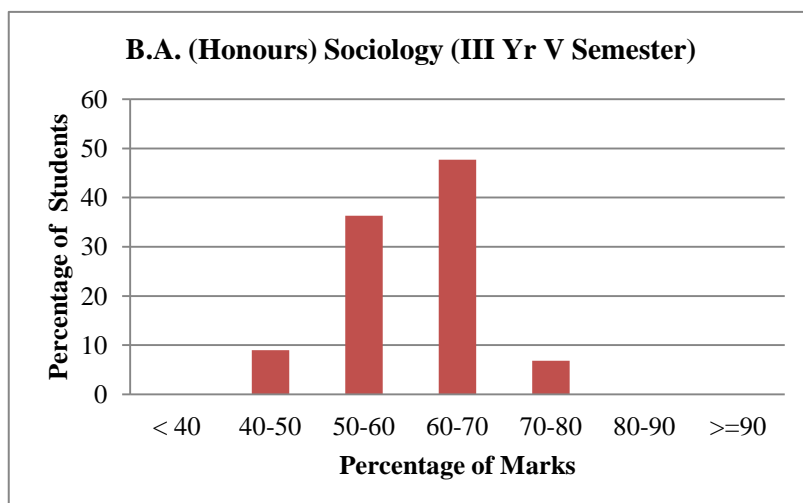
University Rankers

Students from our department have consistently secured the top ranks in the University. The first rank in the erstwhile FYUP (2013-16) batch is Ms. Rhea Dutta. 7 out of the first 10 ranks in the North Campus were from the department.



Rhea Dutta

In Part II (2014-17), the semester mode batch, the first rank in the University was secured by Sumra Alam; Vertika Jain and Pragya Mahajan were ranked second and third respectively. Seven of our students featured in top ten ranks in North campus, whereas, in top 15 ranks our students secured nine places. The Miranda House topper for the CBCS Semester II, on the basis of CGPA, is Poonam Ghore. She is ranked second in the North Campus.



Support Mechanism for Students

As the result analysis in the previous section has shown that we focus not just on the achievers but on every student to enhance their performances in university examinations. The focus of the department is two- fold. On the one hand, we encourage the bright students by providing them with an environment that challenges them to exploit their caliber and to capitalize on the various opportunities given to them. On the other hand, the focus is also on providing extra support and attention to the students, who have not performed satisfactorily in any stage of the course. We are also aware of the challenges that students face in adapting to a new and different environment. The support mechanism for students is found not only in the classroom interaction, but also through tutoring and mentoring outside the classroom.

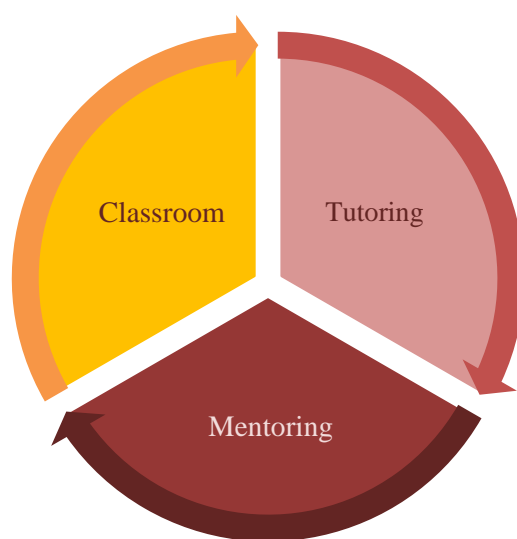


Figure: Teaching process

Tutoring: Students are divided into small tutorial groups and are assigned a tutor for each paper, with whom they meet at least once a week. In the tutorial meetings, teachers motivate the students to discuss the paper specific problems. These are also focused on developing their skills of academic reading and writing. Students' assignments are discussed individually and a feedback is given on how to improve them.

Mentoring: To give psychosocial support to students, the department allocates each group of students a teacher for mentoring. Students are given 'contact hour' with their mentors once every week, where they can discuss their problems in strict confidentiality. Students with special needs are encouraged to seek professional help. The department organized counseling and talks on mental health with the help of in-house counselor. Students in need of financial assistance are also directed to the Bursar and other committees.

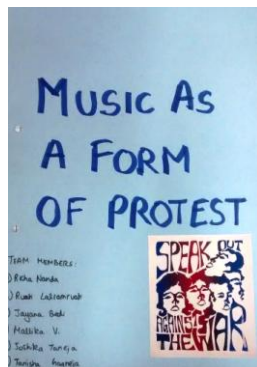


Best Practices of the Department

Promoting Research through Projects: The department has developed a culture of research and innovation, firmly believing that teaching and learning among the faculty as well as its students, extends beyond the classroom lectures. The faculty conducts their own innovation projects on diverse social issues. The projects have been interdisciplinary and have included students and faculty members from Economics, Geography and Chemistry. As part of the research team, students have learnt techniques of primary and secondary data collection, fieldwork, focus group discussions, data compilation, etc.



Projects are not a mandatory part of the curriculum. However, since its inception, the department has strongly encouraged students to undertake project work. The department encourages students to do projects in areas of their interest. In 2016-17, all students in all the three years did group projects. The choices of projects are collaborative with the faculty and are designed to promote an understanding of the subject.



Innovation Projects

Title: *More Miles on the Yamuna*

Department Dr. R. Bhatia
Co-PI
Students Ojaswini Bakshi,
Chandrayee Goswami
Funding Innovation Project Scheme,
Agency University of Delhi.
Grant 3 lakh
Duration November 2013-
March 2015

Title: *Gendered Socialization: A Comparative Perspective of Matrilineal and Patrilineal Societies*

Department Dr. D. Mirchandani
Co-PI
Students Eisha Roy, Bhaswati
Choudhury, Prerna
Saharia, Puja Prasad,
Priyanka Prasad
Funding Innovation Project Scheme,
Agency University of Delhi.
Grant 3 lakh
Duration November 2013-
March 2015

Title: *Miles on the Yamuna*

Department Dr. R. Bhatia
Co-PI
Students Aikantika Das, Priyanka
Das, Priyakshi Pandey,
Shunyo Dang
Funding Innovation Project Scheme,
Agency University of Delhi.
Grant 10 lakh
Duration 2012-2013

Title: *Inheriting Land, Endangering The Girl Child: Interrogating Land Productivity, Property Rights And Family Planning In Western Uttar Pradesh And Punjab*

Department Dr. M. Bandyopadhyay
Co-PI
Students Jayati Narain, Jyostna,
Sakshi Sinsinwar
Funding Innovation Project
Agency Scheme, University of
Delhi.
Grant 10 lakh
Duration 2012-2013

Thematic Workshops and Seminars: The department organises a series of workshops, seminars and invited lectures throughout the year. Certain themes are followed throughout the academic year. The themes for the year 2015, 2016, and 2017 have been ‘The Many Hues of Tribal India’, ‘Beyond the Looking Glass Self: Understanding the Social’, and ‘Information Technology and Society’ respectively. On 14th and 15th February 2017, we had a panel discussion and a talk session on Information Technology and Society. Some of the social scientists who visited the department recently, among others, are Roma Chatterjee, Surinder Jodhka, Patricia Uberoi, Madhulika Banerjee, Yasmeen Arif, Rukmini Sen, and Nandini Sundar.



The department has also organised a 15 hour ethnographic filmmaking workshop called ‘**Ethnographia**’, with noted filmmaker Mr Ajay Govind, from 9th to 11th February 2017 and on 20th February and 1st March 2017. The workshop was focused on technicalities of shooting, editing and production of ethnographic films. As part of the workshop, the students have made individual one minute films. They have also made 3-5 minute films divided into a group of five each. The third session of the same workshop is due to happen in April 2017, where students will make and edit 5-8 minute films.

International Collaboration: Dr. Reema Bhatia co-organized with Ms. Meeta Kumar, Department of Economics, Miranda House, a ten week self-financed add-on seminar course entitled – ‘Rethinking the Obvious: Examining the Rhetoric of Development’ from 12th August 2016 to 28th October 2016. It was organized in collaboration with Elizabeth J. Somers Women’s Leadership Program, The George Washington University, Washington, USA.

Faculty at Present



Dr. Reema Bhatia

*Associate Professor and
Teacher Incharge*

Specialization: Health and
Medicine, Knowledge,
and Environment



Dr. Avantika Berwa

Assistant Professor

Specialization: Religion,
Kinship and Marriage,
Fashion and Social
Stratification



Dr. M. Kamminthang

Assistant Professor

Specialization: Medical
Anthropology, Disaster
Studies ,and Sociology of
Science and Technology



Dr. Binu Sundas

Assistant Professor

Specialization: Sociology
of Health and
Marginalization



Dr. Anasua Chatterjee

Assistant Professor

Specialization: Urban and
Political Sociology,
Social Exclusion,
Development



Mr. W. S. Machutmi

Assistant Professor

Specialization: Land,
Tribe and, Agrarian
Structure



Mr. Rajiv Mishra

Assistant Professor

Specialization: Science,
Technology and Society
(STS), Innovation Studies



Mr. Sharib Zeya

Assistant Professor

Specialization:
Anthropology of Law,
Property, Agrarian
Structure

Dr Dinaz Mirchandani Retires

On 30th August, 2016, the erstwhile Head of the Department of Sociology, Dr. Dinaz Mirchandani retired after 39 years of working tirelessly at Miranda House. She has made a seminal contribution towards shaping the department as it is today.

With all her grace, she is the epitome of a kind heart spreading joy wherever it goes. With the innate ability to bring a smile on anyone's face, she shared not only her immense knowledge of her subject, but also spread love with just as much élan as did her beautiful aura.

Dr. Mirchandani's contributions transcend into the academic realm as well. Her numerous research projects and publications, for several of which she has won awards, are testimony to the extent to which she is celebrated as an academican.



Notable Alumni of our Department



Maya Krishna Rao
Theatre performer,
Educationist



Vinita Bakshi
Social Entrepreneur,
Author



Susan Visvanathan
Professor JNU



Ravinder Kaur
Professor IIT Delhi



Shilpa Shukla
Actor



Radhika Chopra
Associate Professor DSE

Young Achievers of the Department



Amrita Sengupta
(2007-2010)

Chevening Scholarship 2015 for M.Sc. Social Science of the Internet, University of Oxford. She also represented the college at the Clash of the Titans Invitational Debate on 25th February 2017. Team Miranda won the debate.



Nayyara Tabassum
(2006-2009)

Commonwealth Fellowship 2011 currently a Ph. D student at the University of Cambridge.



Eisha Roy
(2012-2015)

Ambassador for peace, Kings College London, 2013-2014 and 2014-2015. Ambassador for Peace, Universal Peace Federation, United Nation Economic and Social Council, 2014-2015. M.A. in Development Studies at Sussex, 2016.



Mahima Sharma
(2012-2015)

Young India Fellowship 2015.