

Message:

Head

Centre for Development Studies



The Master of Arts in Development Studies launched by the University in 2009 is a distinctive programme in Indian higher education, as is revealed in its curriculum. It is an innovative programme, certainly; the issues related to the development of underdevelopment that has been haunting in the minds of the academic thinkers as well as policy planners since decolonization constitute parts of the curriculum. The students are taught advanced knowledge in socio-economic, cultural as well as human development, and also about political institutions. They do acquire skills in the method of introspection when confronting issues in the real world. Among other, they are trained in such subjects as principles and practices of public policy; and project cycle management apart from advanced quantitative methods in social sciences. Their direct engagements with intricate and contemporary issues in development in the course of preparation of the Thesis—that begins in the 2nd semester with a taught course, followed up by primary data collection and processing in the 3rd semester, and finally the write-up in the 4th semester—make them competent to write research reports independently, as well.

They have the ability to pursue higher education. They are also competent to join appropriate jobs, immediately. I have no hesitation in stating that given opportunities they would be able to exhibit their skills in organizing, and even to take leadership in development programmes.

Prof. Debdas Banerjee