



BITS Pilani
K K Birla Goa Campus

DEPARTMENT OF
Humanities & Social Sciences

Department of Humanities & Social Sciences

About the Department

The Humanities and Social Sciences at BITS Pilani, K. K. Birla Goa Campus, was established in 2004. The department is dedicated to recruiting faculty members from newer research areas alongside traditional disciplines. It provides support and autonomy to the individual teachers to develop their areas and introduce new courses, particularly in interdisciplinary areas. The expertise of the faculty members range from Shakespearean studies, literary theory, ecocriticism, film studies, meta-cognitive studies, tourism studies to developmental studies, disaster management, environmental social sciences, maritime studies, qualitative psychology, mental health and professional ethics.

Our Mission and Vision

The Department of HSS is one among the several technology and science departments at the K. K. Birla Goa Campus envisaging the vision of BITS Pilani University (to be deemed). The Department of HSS aims at bridging the gap between technology, science, and humanities; theory and praxis; and academics and society, through offering courses to undergraduate students in multi-and trans-disciplinary academic areas such as Literary and cultural studies, Tourism studies, Ecocriticism, Indigenous Studies. Environmental Humanities, Cross-cultural communication, film studies, digital humanities, gender studies, environmental adaptation, disaster management, development studies, international relations, maritime studies, philosophy of mind, bio-philosophy, ethics, cognitive science, and so on. By bridging the gap between disciplines, the Department of HSS aims at sensitizing students about ethical, aesthetic, environmental, societal, political issues and concerns, thereby enhancing their intellectual and critical abilities. Owing to the undergraduate students' special interests in humanities and social sciences, the department offers two minor programmes in Philosophy, Economics and Politics (PEP), and English Studies. In tandem with the research acumen and expertise of the HSS faculty member, the department offers an M. Phil. in Liberal Studies and Ph.D. in HSS. The research programs are designed with a focus on understanding the deep societal connections between humanities/social sciences and science/technologies. These programmes help to augment the knowledge and competence of the PhD and M.Phil research scholars in interdisciplinary fields within Humanities and Social sciences. The research scholars are encouraged to present research papers in national and international conferences and publish in highly reputed journals which strengthen their critical thinking and communication skills a requisite for teaching, research and for analysing the real-life problems in the world. The department aims at embodying a holistic and value-oriented approach towards creating/engaging in knowledge production in the diverse fields of humanities and social sciences, and providing an intellectual space for students to think critically, consistently engage with societal problems, and thereby create a just world for all living beings.



RESEARCH AREAS

Humanities	Social Sciences
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Literary and cultural studies➤ Communication➤ Philosophy➤ Ecocriticism➤ Dalit & Indigenous Studies➤ Environmental Humanities➤ Cross-cultural Communication➤ Digital Humanities➤ Film studies➤ Gender Studies➤ Tourism Studies➤ Women Studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Environmental Studies➤ Psychology➤ Technology in Society➤ Behavioral Sciences➤ Development Studies➤ Urban studies➤ Political Science➤ Sociology➤ Public Policy➤ Disaster Management➤ Education and Moral Cognition➤ Maritime Studies & International Relations

Department link: <https://www.bits-pilani.ac.in/goa/HumanitiesandSocialSciences/HumanitiesandSocialSciences>

Admission

Ph.D. Admission Open for Second Semester, Academic Year 2023-24

Minimum eligibility criteria for “Full - Time” admissions

- ❖ 65% CGPA or above in Masters
- ❖ Suitable match between academic background and research interest
- ❖ Research area matches the expertise available in the department
- ❖ Written exam followed by interview
- ❖ M.Phil and/or UGC-JRF holders exempted from written exam

Full time candidates

- ❖ Eligible to be considered for fellowship of INR 28,000 or 31,000 per month as per intake qualification
- ❖ Candidates from thrust areas to be considered for institute fellowship
- ❖ Candidates who have UGC-JRF fellowships in the following areas are encouraged to apply

Minimum eligibility criteria for “Part-Time” admissions

- ❖ Candidates with an M.A. degree and a minimum of 65% aggregate may apply.
- ❖ Work in an organization particularly from Goa, which encourages and facilitates research.
- ❖ Meet the requisite minimum qualification for admission to Ph.D program of BITS Pilani.
- ❖ Have a minimum of one year work experience in related field.
- ❖ Furnish a "Consent & No Objection Certificate" from his/her parent organization in a prescribed format (**provided on the next page**)

It is mandatory for interested part-time candidates to obtain all necessary permissions from his/her employer. Admission will be made by following the same process of selection as that for full-time candidates. All existing academic regulations that apply to full-time students admitted to the Doctoral program will also be applicable to part-time PhD students, unless specifically mentioned otherwise.

Meeting the minimum eligibility criteria does not guarantee admission into the PhD program. In addition, Departments may set specific admission criteria for shortlisting. Shortlisted candidates will have to appear for an admission test, which will comprise of a written exam and/or interview.

Important Date	
Last Date for filling application form online	25-November-2023
Declaration of shortlisted candidates (on BITS admission website)	15-December-2023
Date of Admission Test/Interview	3-January-2024
Result Notification	6-January-2024
Deadline for Fee Payment	15-January-2024
Student Reporting	18-January-2024
Student Registration	18-January-2024

* The Institute reserves the right to change the above deadlines. Candidates will be informed well in advance should there be such a change.

*Format for obtaining “Consent & No Objection Certificate” from employer
(To be submitted on official stationery of organization along with application form)

This is to certify that Mr./Ms..... is working in our organization as.....since The Organization has no objection if Mr./Ms..... is admitted to part-time PhD programme of BITS Pilani. The organization will grant leave as and when required and all necessary facilities to the employee in order to complete all components of PhD programme.

Date:

Signature of Head of the organization with Seal



Faculty Members



Dr. Amitendu Bhattacharya

Assistant Professor

Areas of Interest: Anglophone World Literatures,
South Asian Literature, Comparative Studies and Translation

Official page: <https://www.bits-pilani.ac.in/goa/amitendub/profile>

Email: amitendub@goa.bits-pilani.ac.in



Prof. Basavadatta Mitra

Associate Professor

Areas of Interest: Cross Cultural understanding,
Renaissance Literature, Héritage Communication, ELT

Official page: <https://www.bits-pilani.ac.in/goa/bmitra/profile>

Email: bmitra@goa.bits-pilani.ac.in



Dr. Bidisha Banerjee

Assistant Professor

Areas of Interest: Qualitative psychology, Caregiving,
Mental health and health, social psychology BITS

Official page: <https://www.bits-pilani.ac.in/goa/bidishab/profile>

Email: bidishab@goa.bits-pilani.ac.in

Faculty Members



Prof. Geetha B

Professor

Areas of Interest: Literature, Film Studies,
Learning Analytics in Humanities Education

Official page: <https://www.bits-pilani.ac.in/goa/geethab/Profile>

Email: geethab@goa.bits-pilani.ac.in



Dr. Hareesh AG

Assistant Professor

Areas of Interest: Philosophy of Science (Biology),
Metaphysics and Ontology

Official page: <https://www.bits-pilani.ac.in/goa/hareesha/profile>

Email: hareesha@goa.bits-pilani.ac.in



Prof. K.A. Geetha (HOD)

Professor

Areas of Interest: Dalit Literatures, Post Colonial Literatures,
Women's writing and Cultural Studies

Official page: <https://www.bits-pilani.ac.in/goa/geethaka/profile>

Email: geetha@goa.bits-pilani.ac.in

Faculty Members



Prof. Lakshmi Subramanian

Visiting Professor

Areas of Interest: Maritime History, Social and commercial networks in the Indian Ocean, Cultural and social history of modern India

Official page: <https://www.bits-pilani.ac.in/goa/lakshmis/profile>

Email: lakshmis@goa.bits-pilani.ac.in



Dr. Mohan Kumar Bera

Assistant Professor

Areas of Interest: Sociology, Disaster management, migration and tribal studies

Official page: <https://www.bits-pilani.ac.in/goa/mohanb/profile>

Email: mohanb@goa.bits-pilani.ac.in



Prof. Nilak Datta

Associate Professor

Areas of Interest: Tourism Studies, American Postmodernist Fiction, American Frontier, Literary & Cultural Studies (special focus on Consumer/Popular Culture), Literary Urban Studies Post-Truth, Travel Literature (Anglophone), American Literature (19th / 20th/21st)

Official page: <https://www.bits-pilani.ac.in/goa/ndatta/profile>

Email: ndatta@goa.bits-pilani.ac.in

Faculty Members



Dr. Nilanjana Goswami

Assistant Faculty

Areas of Interest: Gerontology, Education

Official page: <https://www.bits-pilani.ac.in/goa/nilanjanag/profile>

Email: nilanjanag@goa.bits-pilani.ac.in



Prof. R P Pradhan

Professor

Areas of Interest: Maritime Studies And Blue Economy, International Relations, Political Economy

Official page: <https://www.bits-pilani.ac.in/goa/rppradhan/profile>

Email: rppradhan@goa.bits-pilani.ac.in



Prof. Rajiv Kumar Chaturvedi

Associate Professor

Areas of Interest: Forest Ecology, GHG inventory, Climate Policy, Climate Change Mitigation, Impacts and Adaptation

Official page: <https://www.bits-pilani.ac.in/goa/rajivc/Profile>

Email: rajivc@goa.bits-pilani.ac.in

Faculty Members



Prof. Rayson K. Alex

Associate Professor

Areas of Interest: Environmental Humanities
(Ecocriticism, Ecocinema studies, Ecopedagogy) BITS

Official page: <https://www.bits-pilani.ac.in/goa/raysonalex/profile>

Email: raysonalex@goa.bits-pilani.ac.in



Prof. Reena Cheruvalath

Professor

Areas of Interest: Philosophy, Education,
Ethics, Cognitive Science

Official page: <https://www.bits-pilani.ac.in/goa/reena/profile>

Email: reena@goa.bits-pilani.ac.in



Dr. Sayantani Sarkar

Assistant Professor

Areas of Interest: Urban studies,
Ecosystem services (Wetlands), Sociology of water,
Big data in social sciences

Official page: <https://www.bits-pilani.ac.in/goa/sayantanis/profile>

Email: sayantanis@goa.bits-pilani.ac.in

Faculty Members



Prof. Shalini Upadhyay

Professor

Areas of Interest: Communication(Corporate, Crisis and Rhetoric)
Technology and Human Behaviour, Behavioural Sciences , Text Analysis and ELT

Official page: <https://www.bits-pilani.ac.in/goa/shaliniu/profile>

Email: shaliniu@goa.bits-pilani.ac.in



Dr. Solano Jose Savio Da Silva

Assistant Professor

Areas of Interest: Development Studies; Politics of Land-use Planning,
Political-Economy of Goa

Official page: <https://www.bits-pilani.ac.in/goa/solano/profile>

Email: solano@goa.bits-pilani.ac.in

Ongoing Externally-funded Projects

Project Title	Funding	Principal Investigator
Assessment and monitoring of tree biodiversity in semi-evergreen forests in goa	GSBB 3.00 Lakhs	Dr. Rajiv Kumar Chaturvedi
Capacity Building for Modelling India's Long-Term Land Use Emissions'	ISEF 3.1 Crore	Dr. Rajiv Kumar Chaturvedi
Modelling Forest Phenological Parameters from Time Series Remote Sensing data	ISRO 29.07 lakhs	Dr. Rajiv Kumar Chaturvedi
Assessing the Impact of Climate change on mountain communities in Spiti Basin (<u>Outcome of the project</u>)	ISRO 24.84 lakhs	Dr. Rajiv Kumar Chaturvedi
Economic valuation of ecosystem services of selected wetlands in Goa	ICSSR	Dr. Sayantani Sarkar
"Museum Effect: A Case Study of Goa State Museum and Goa Chitra Museum"	SPARC 67 lakhs	Indian PI: Prof. K.A Geetha Indian Co-PI: 1 Dr. Nilak Datta Indian Co-PI 2: Dr. Amitendu Bhattacharya
"Public Humanities and Pedagogy in the Global South: Challenges and Directions"	SPARC 49 lakhs	Indian PI: Prof. Geetha Bakilapadavu Indian Co-PI 1: Prof. Reena Cheruvalath Indian Co-PI 2: Prof. Lakshmi Subramanian International PI: Prof. David Kaldewey International Co-PI: Dr. Desiree Schauz
"On the Anatomy of Collaborative Teaching-Learning Process: A Cultural Tale of Two Nations"	SPARC 49 lakhs	Indian PI Prof. BasavadattaMitra Indian Co-PI 1 Prof. ArfatAhmad Sofi International PI Dr. PremanRajalingam International Co-PI Asst Prof Reddy Mogali



THANK YOU