



Azim Premji
University

Master of Arts in Development (2019-21)



POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMMES

Developing Leaders for Social Change

About the University



Azim Premji University was established under the Azim Premji University Act 2010 of the Government of Karnataka. Azim Premji Foundation, the sponsoring body set up the University as a fully philanthropic and not-for-profit entity, with a clear social purpose.

The availability of trained professionals in education, development and allied social sectors in India is grossly inadequate, given the scale, complexity of issues and the wide range of competencies required to work in these areas. Azim Premji University's key mission is to address this significant talent gap and prepare competent, motivated, socially committed graduates and enable them to engage with social sector.

The University started in 2011 and since then has admitted over 2000 students. It currently offers four postgraduate programmes; M.A Education, M.A. Development, M.A. Public Policy and Governance & LL.M. in Law and Development. We offer Undergraduate Degrees in Social Science, Science, Humanities and a Dual Degree in Science and Education. Six batches of postgraduate students have graduated and consistent with our social purpose, almost all of them work in the social sector.

The University conducts several continuing education programmes, in collaboration with many state governments, for functionaries in the Education and Development domains. Research is an important area of emphasis and the University Research Centre is currently engaged in several research projects in the Education and Development domains. In addition, the University also hosts national and international conferences, seminars, workshops, public lectures and brings out resource material and publications in English, Kannada and Hindi as a contribution to India's school education.

In a very short span of time, the University has built a team of 200 dedicated people engaged in teaching, research and administration.

Postgraduate Programmes

The postgraduate programmes follow a semester and credit-based system. The Curriculum consists of a set of essential core courses, a wide range of elective courses, a well-structured field engagement and Open courses.

Core Courses develop foundational understanding of the domain (Education, Development, Public Policy). In the second year of study, option to focus on sub domains/ themes by choosing a specified set of electives. In the academic year 2017-18, more than 100 theme-based electives were on offer. Students can also opt to do an Independent study in lieu of one elective course.

The Integrated Field engagement is a mix of projects and internships spread across all semesters.

Students have to do two open courses which provide them with an opportunity to expand their horizons by exploring areas outside the main curriculum. The open courses are on a wide range of subjects relating to art, cinema, music, theatre, science, history, sports, literature etc.

M.A. Programmes at Azim Premji University	
Master of Arts in Education (Two year, Full time, 72 credits)	The M.A. Education programme seeks to provide students with a rigorous and challenging educational experience aiming to develop sound theoretical grounding and the capabilities and competencies required to work in the field of education. The program also offers the opportunity for students to further focus on sub domains within Education.
Master of Arts in Development (Two year, Full time, 72 credits)	The M.A. Development programme aims to prepare individuals capable of informed and thoughtful development action, aware of the complexity, depth and scope of development, its ethical imperatives and its implications for policy and action. Students can meaningfully contribute to meeting India's growing need for individuals who can engage with diverse development challenges. The program also offers the opportunity for students to further focus on sub domains within Development.
Master of Arts Public Policy & Governance (Two year, Full time, 72 credits)	The M.A. Public Policy & Governance programme exposes students to a grounded understanding of theoretical frameworks, practical challenges and institutional arrangements that are important to a holistic understanding of public policy. The Programme also develops the ability to devise and use diverse research methods to evaluate public policies.

Master of Arts in Development

*Development, broadly understood, refers to the creation of social conditions that secure and contribute to **individual and collective well-being in a sustainable and equitable manner**. A robust engagement with this domain needs a large number of persons with varied backgrounds, capacities and interests and an ethical outlook that provide inspiration for development action.*

The Master of Arts (M.A.) in Development Programme at Azim Premji University aims to prepare individuals capable of informed and thoughtful development action, aware of the complexity, depth and scope of the discourse of development, its ethical imperatives and its implications for policy and action. They will be in a position to meaningfully contribute to meeting India's growing need for individuals who can engage with development challenges.

The curricular objectives of the programme are:

- ❖ Articulate a historically and socially grounded understanding of India's development experiences
- ❖ Understand and appreciate the evolution of development thoughts, practices and their critiques
- ❖ Empathetically engage with lived realities of individuals and communities as sites of development knowledge and practice
- ❖ Demonstrate ethical sensibilities and practical competencies for development action



Programme Design

The M.A. Development is a full-time 2 year, 4 semester programme of 72 credits with credit distribution as follows comprising

Core courses (Semesters I and II)	: 32 Credits
Electives (Semesters III and IV)	: 24 Credits
Field practice (Semesters I-IV)	: 12 Credits
Open courses (Semesters 1-IV)	: 4 Credits

Semester I	Semester II	Semester III	Semester IV
Sociology of Modern India	State, Democracy and Civil Society in India	Elective 1	Elective 5
Indian Economy and Development	Theories and Histories of Development	Elective 2	Elective 6
Ecology and Development in India	Social Interventions	Elective 3	Elective 7
Foundation of Social Research and Reasoning	Methods for Social Research and Action	Elective 4	Elective 8 Or Course Independent Study
Open course 1	Open Course 2		
Field Immersion (2 Credits)	Summer Field Apprenticeship (4 Credits)	Winter Field Project (6 Credits)	
20	22	15	15

Core Courses: The core courses will set the context and build foundational understanding and appreciation of key developmental concepts, theories and methods as relevant to examining the Indian development experiences. These courses are expected to provide adequate knowledge, competencies and orientations to embark on a deeper exploration of specific themes and practices in development. These courses are mandatory for all students.

Electives: Elective courses will build upon the concepts, ideas, theories and methods learnt in the core courses to deepen and broaden the understanding about a wide variety of specific, topical and relevant local and global development issues. Elective courses will enhance two broad competencies, namely critical analysis and imaginative practice. These electives cover a range of topics – Gender, technology, public health, Sustainability, Globalization, Policy and

Programmes, Poverty, Water etc. Typically, 50-60 electives are on offer each year for the M.A. Development Programme.

Field Practice: Field Practice forms an integral part of the M.A. Development programme. It helps develop a deeper understanding of the practical implications of the learning acquired through course work. Field Practice allows students to reflect on their role as change agents in the development domain and build skills for development action effectively.

Field practice has four components.

Type	Short Description
<p>Weekly Practicums</p>	<p>Practicums are field experiences comprising of an organized set of activities outside the classroom with the aim of embedding Conceptual and theoretical learning in practical experiences. Weekly practicums are linked to individual courses</p>
<p>Field Immersion, (Mid first semester) Two weeks</p>	<p>Students go in groups to different parts of the country to immerse themselves in the local ground realities. The Field Immersion is designed to enable students to relate and engage with people in rural/urban/tribal communities. They are expected to observe and reflect on the everyday lives of different communities and learn to appreciate the diversity of life, community and society in India.</p>
<p>Summer Field Apprenticeship At the end of Semester II Six weeks</p>	<p>The Summer Field Apprenticeship is designed for the students to be part of a development intervention/action as a student apprentice. Such interventions could include state or non-state programme implementation, policy advocacy, mass activism/social movements, behaviour change campaigns, innovative solutions to current social development challenges, etc. The apprenticeship is meant for the students to learn about the action processes, and critically reflect on the challenges of development action in the field through actively being part of such actions.</p>
<p>Winter Field Project End of Semester III Eight Weeks</p>	<p>Winter field project is aimed to encourage students to take initiative to design a field project and learn to systematically explore, implement and disseminate the project work. Such field projects could be a small research study, piloting an intervention, designing a training manual etc. Winter field projects are undertaken with close mentoring by faculty members</p>

Course of Independent Study

Students can choose to do a course of independent study, in place of one elective, in the fourth semester. This gives students the freedom to go beyond a set syllabus and explore a topic of their interest in depth under the guidance of a faculty mentor.

Concentrations

Within the wide range of electives, the M.A. Development Programme offers students a choice to opt for concentrations. A concentration refers to a set of four elective courses totaling 12 credits, which together cover a specific development theme/topic/domain in a focused and comprehensive manner. Illustrations of concentrations could include Gender in development, Urban sustainability, Land in development, Disability, Policies and practices in development. Concentrations will be offered on a year to year basis, depending on topicality of the issues and faculty availability. A student can choose more than one concentration across the two semesters.

Open Courses

These courses allow students to explore the arts, culture, the sciences and other subjects of interest. Students are required to enrol in two courses from a wide range of subjects such as literature, arts, cinema, epics, science, history, dance etc. based on their interest. About 10-15 open courses are offered each semester.

Faculty

Our faculty come from diverse backgrounds and expertise within the field of development. While some are drawn from disciplines like Economics, Sociology, Anthropology, Political Science and Ecology, others come with long standing engagement with the world of development practice thus offering a truly interdisciplinary engagement with the development sector. With their deep seated commitment to the sector, the faculty members provide a vibrant class room learning environment through a range of pedagogies including simulation games, power walk, role play, student seminars etc. All faculty members provide academic mentoring support to the students beyond the class rooms.

Detailed faculty profiles are available at - <http://azimpremjiuniversity.edu.in/faculty-DEV>

Career Opportunities in Development sector

Currently, there is a great need for people who understand the domain of Development. Students with a M.A. Development degree can look forward to a variety of roles in organizations such as NGOs, social movements, farmer producer organisations, state "missions", and others. Some students also choose to do research or higher studies based on their interest.

[Click here](#) to read more about placements.

[Click here](#) to see a video of our Alumnus working with the Mishing community at Majuli, Assam

Unique Learning Environment

The teaching and learning processes at Azim Premji University are designed to ensure that students and faculty engage each other in dialogue and discussions so that students develop deep critical thinking, self-learning abilities and capabilities for social action. We offer a unique and vibrant environment with multiple opportunities for learning beyond the classroom.

Courses

Foundational understanding of the domain through core courses and over 100 electives for students to choose from. Open courses in art and craft, music, cinema, Literature, Science etc. to expand the students' horizon.

Faculty

The faculty team of 130 comes with extensive experience in teaching, research and field practice. The teacher-student ratio of 1: 10 enables close support, mentoring and feedback.

[Click here](#) for details on faculty profiles

Integrated Field Practice

A mix of field experiences spread across all semesters consisting of immersion visits, organizational internships, faculty-mentored research projects and independent field projects.

Vibrant Environment

An engaging class room experience with interactive pedagogic tools. Learning opportunities through various events - weekly colloquiums, national and international conferences, workshops etc.

Learning from Diversity

Students come from almost all states of India with different educational and socio-economic backgrounds, fresh undergraduates and those with work experience. Over 50 percent of our students are women. We value and encourage this diversity and you will enjoy and learn with this experience



ADMISSIONS: Apply Now

We strive hard to ensure that students from disadvantaged economic, social, regional backgrounds can access quality higher education. This inclusion and diversity is important for us to realize our vision and purpose

- ✓ Admission tests and interviews in 30/15 locations, providing easy access
- ✓ Socio-economically disadvantaged students are given additional scores in the admission process

[Apply now](#) for the programme commencing in 2019. Admissions are through a National Entrance Test (common for all postgraduate programmes), followed by a personal interview by faculty for shortlisted students. The University may also decide to accept other entrance tests/ conduct more entrance tests if required.

Eligibility: Undergraduate degree in any discipline. Applicants completing their undergraduate degree in 2019 can also apply. We actively encourage applicants with prior work experience and provide additional weightage in the interview process.

Financial assistance: Azim Premji University has an explicit commitment towards supporting students from disadvantaged backgrounds. We offer need based scholarships (both full and partial) and facilitate education loans for students.

Working professionals are encouraged to apply and we provide 50% tuition fee waiver for candidates with 3 years of work experience

Apply now at www.azimpremjiuniversity.edu.in/apply

National Entrance Test and Interviews: February/March 2019

Contact Us

Website: azimpremjiuniversity.edu.in/admissions

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Address: Pixel B, PES Campus, Electronic City, Hosur Road, Bangalore

