



Department of Humanities & Social Sciences

BITS Pilani, Pilani Campus

About the Department

The Department of Humanities and Social Sciences is involved in research and teaching. It offers higher degree programs leading to the award of Doctoral and Master's degrees. The Master's program in General Studies, M.Sc. (Tech), is oriented along the streams of Communication and Media Studies, and Development Studies

Ph.D. Admission, I Semester, 2026-27

Thrust Areas

JRF is open to all disciplines, while the institute fellowship is only available in the following thrust areas.

1. Visual Culture
2. Comics Studies
3. Cultural Studies
4. Gender and Social Reproduction
5. Applied Linguistics
6. English Language Teaching
7. Theatre and Performance Studies
8. Folklore Studies
9. Communication, Technology, and Media Studies
10. Education
11. Environmental Humanities
12. Film Studies

Important Dates

Online Application Deadline	: 29th April 2026
Shortlist for Test/Interview	: 6th May 2026
Test/Interview	: 18th & 19th May 2026
Results	: 28th May 2026
Reporting for registration	: 25th July 2026

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

Eligibility

- The candidate should have at least an MA or an equivalent degree.
- The candidate should have scored at least 55% in the postgraduate degree.
- The Department should have an expert in the area to supervise the candidate.

Full-time Candidates

- Eligible to be considered for Institutional Fellowship of INR 34,000 or 37,000 per month as per intake qualification.
- Candidates from thrust areas only to be considered for Institute Fellowship .
- Candidates with UGC/JRF Fellowships in all areas of expertise in the Department are encouraged to apply.

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Selection Process

- Written exam followed by interview
- M.Phil. and/or JRF holders exempted from written exam

Detailed Advertisement: <https://www.bitsadmission.com/phdmain.aspx>
Department Website: <https://www.bits-pilani.ac.in/pilani/pilaniDepartmentofHumanitiesandSocialSciences/DepartmentofHumanitiesandSocialSciences>

Birla Institute of Technology & Science,
Pilani Campus,
Pilani, Distt. – Jhunjhunu
Rajasthan - 333031

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Sangeeta Sharma

Professor & Head

Email: sang@pilani.bits-pilani.ac.in

Official Page : <https://www.bits-pilani.ac.in/pilani/sangeeta-sharma/>

Research Areas: Advertising, Business Communication, Gender Studies, ELT

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Pushp Lata

Professor

Email: plat@pilani.bits-pilani.ac.in

Official Page : <https://www.bits-pilani.ac.in/pilani/plat/profile>

Research Areas: English Language Teaching, Translanguaging and Migration
Language, Culture and Communication

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Kumar Neeraj Sachdev

Associate Professor

Email: kns@pilani.bits-pilani.ac.in

Official Page : <https://www.bits-pilani.ac.in/pilani/kns/profile>

Research Areas: Normative Ethics, Ethical Issues in Professions, Indian Philosophy

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Devika

Professor

Email: devika@pilani.bits-pilani.ac.in

Official Page : <https://www.bits-pilani.ac.in/pilani/devika/Profile>

Research Areas: Feminism, Literature, Creative writing, Cinematic Adaptation

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Sushila Shekhawat

Professor

Email: sula@pilani.bits-pilani.ac.in

Official Page : <https://www.bits-pilani.ac.in/pilani/sula/profile>

Research Areas: Film and Media Studies, Ecofeminism, Business Communication, Soft Skills

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Virendra Singh Nirban

Professor

Email: nirban@pilani.bits-pilani.ac.in

Official Page : <https://www.bits-pilani.ac.in/pilani/nirban/profile>

Research Areas: Social Informatics, Technology Acceptance Behaviour, Computer Mediated Communication,

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Sanjiv Kumar Chaudhary

Associate Professor

Email: chskumar@pilani.bits-pilani.ac.in

Official Page : <https://www.bits-pilani.ac.in/pilani/chskumar/Profile>

Research Areas: Linguistics, Phonetics, ELT, Soft Skills

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Gajendra Singh Chauhan

Professor

Email: gsc@pilani.bits-pilani.ac.in

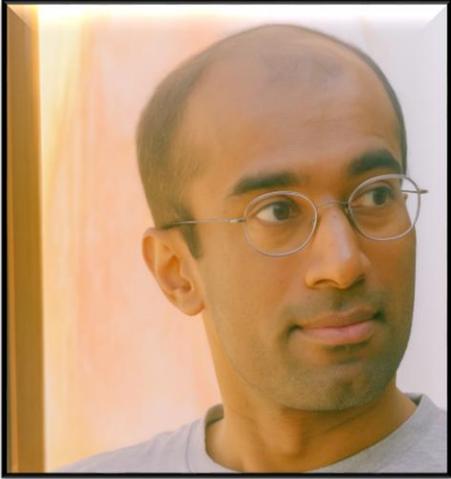
Official Page : <https://www.bits-pilani.ac.in/pilani/gsc/profile>

Research Areas: Applied Linguistics, Media Studies, Business and Advertising Communication, Soft Skills

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Hari Nair

Associate Professor

Email: harinair@pilani.bits-pilani.ac.in

Official Page : <https://www.bits-pilani.ac.in/pilani/harinair/profile>

Research Areas: Intellectual History, Political Thought

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Tanu Shukla

Associate Professor

Email: tanus@pilani.bits-pilani.ac.in

Official Page : Social Informatics

Research Areas: Applied Psychology, Cognitive Psychology, Education, Informatics and Behavioral Analytics

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Rajneesh Choubisa

Associate Professor

Email: rajneesh.choubisa@pilani.bits-pilani.ac.in

Official Page : <https://www.bits-pilani.ac.in/Pilani/rajneeshchoubisa/Profile>

Research Areas: Psychology, Organizational Psychology, Positive Psychology, Online Behavioral Sciences

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Anupam Yadav

Associate Professor

Email: anupam.yadav@pilani.bits-pilani.ac.in

Official Page : <https://www.bits-pilani.ac.in/pilani/anupamyadav/profile>

Research Areas: Continental Philosophy, Hermeneutics Philosophy, Feminist Philosophy and Epistemology, Aesthetics, Kashmir Shaivism

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Sailaja Nandigama

Associate Professor

Email: sailajan@pilani.bits-pilani.ac.in

Official Page : <https://www.bits-pilani.ac.in/pilani/sailajan/profile>

Research Areas: Development Studies, Environment Studies, Public Policy, Gender and Development, Mixed Methods, Ethnography

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Madhurima Das

Assistant Professor

Email: madhurima.das@pilani.bits-pilani.ac.in

Official Page : <https://www.bits-pilani.ac.in/pilani/madhurimadas/profile>

Research Areas: Gender Studies, Development Studies Migration and Labour ,
Sociology

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Chintalapalli Vijayakumar

Assistant Professor

Email: c.vijayakumar@pilani.bits-pilani.ac.in

Official Page : <https://www.bits-pilani.ac.in/pilani/cvijayakumar/profile>

Research Areas: Applied Linguistics, English for Academic Purposes



Veena Ramachandran

Assistant Professor

Email: veena.r@pilani.bits-pilani.ac.in

Official Page : <https://www.bits-pilani.ac.in/pilani/veenar/profile>

Research Areas: International Relations, Chinese Studies

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Paul Mathew

Assistant Professor

Email: paul.mathew@pilani.bits-pilani.ac.in

Official Page : <https://www.bits-pilani.ac.in/pilani/paulmathew/profile>

Research Areas: Film and Cultural Studies

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Prateek

Assistant Professor

Email: prateek@pilani.bits-pilani.ac.in

Official Page : <https://www.bits-pilani.ac.in/pilani/prateek/profile>

Research Areas: Theatre, Film Studies

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Natasha Hazakika

Assistant Professor

Email: natasha.hazarika@pilani.bits-pilani.ac.in

Official Page : <https://www.bits-pilani.ac.in/pilani/natasha-hazarika>

Research Areas: Public Policy, Sustainable Transitions, Environmental Governance

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Hricha Rashmi

Visiting Assistant Professor

Email: hricha.rashmi@pilani.bits-pilani.ac.in

Official Page : <https://www.bits-pilani.ac.in/pilani/hricha-rashmi>

Research Areas: Hindustani Classical Vocal Music

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Susan Haris

Assistant Professor

Email: susan.haris@pilani.bits-pilani.ac.in

Official Page : <https://www.bits-pilani.ac.in/pilani/susan-haris>

Research Areas: Environmental Humanities

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Shriya Raina

Assistant Professor

Email: shriya.raina@pilani.bits-pilani.ac.in

Official Page : <https://www.bits-pilani.ac.in/pilani/shriya-raina>

Research Areas: Visual Culture, Comics Studies