Prospectus

Centre for Development Studies
Thiruvananthapuram 695 011

Admission 2015

Integrated MPhil/PhD in Applied Economics

CDS invites applications for admission to its full-time residential programme leading to Integrated MPhil/PhD in Applied Economics. The programme will commence on Monday, August 03, 2015.

The CDS Integrated MPhil/PhD Programme admits students from any discipline. The focus on Applied Economics from a plural perspective and adaptation of effective learning tools add to its uniqueness.

The degree is awarded by Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.

The curriculum is designed to suit:

- students of economics who wish to sharpen their skills in applied economic research;
- students from other disciplines who are interested in the economic dimensions of social development;
- Professionals in Governmental/ Non-Governmental organizations, media, research organizations and consultants, who seek to enhance their skills in applied economic analysis.

Curriculum and Duration

The Programme involves coursework and a dissertation completed under faculty guidance.

MPhil course duration would be of twenty four (24) months. Students have to spend at least eighteen (18) months, including twelve (12) months on course work and six (6) months on the dissertation. Students could submit the MPhil dissertation anytime after the stipulated eighteen (18) months. Beyond twenty four (24) months no further extension will be allowed.

The coursework, spread over 4 courses in two semesters, comprises of modules on quantitative techniques, economic theory and its application to selected economic problems and Indian economy.

Dissertations are usually on issues of economic development in the context of the regional/ national/ international economy or on social/ historical/ environmental problems with an economic dimension. Students are free to take up topics falling within any area of specialisation, provided they focus on a problem with an economic dimension.
**Eligibility to Apply:**

Master’s Degree in any subject

Those awaiting results of the qualifying examination may also apply. Such candidates, if selected, will be allowed to join the Programme only if their previous institutions certify that they have completed all requirements for award of degree. The name of such candidate shall stand automatically removed from the rolls of the Centre & University if he/she fails in Master’s programme, when his/her results are announced.

**Admission**

- Statutory reservations will apply for **SC, ST, OBC (non-creamy layer) & PH (≥ 40% disability)** candidates.
- Foreign nationals and officials nominated by the Government of Kerala will be considered separately.

**The Selection Process**

Selection is based on an entrance test and interview. **Entrance test** is scheduled on **Sunday, May 24th 2015** from **10.00am to 12.00 noon** at Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Mumbai, New Delhi and Thiruvananthapuram. Candidates will be shortlisted for interview on the basis of the Entrance test. **Interview** is scheduled on **July 1 & 2, 2015 at CDS, Thiruvananthapuram**. No TA/DA will be provided for attending the Entrance Test. The candidates are advised to make their own arrangements for travelling and lodging for attending the Entrance Test.

Outstation candidates will be reimbursed to and fro sleeper class train fare/bus fare by shortest route from the place mentioned in the application (Communication Address) to Thiruvananthapuram, or actual fare paid (whichever is less) for attending the **INTERVIEW**. The candidates have to make their own arrangements for their stay at Thiruvananthapuram, at their cost.

**Minimum Marks to be obtained in the written test and interview taken together in order to be considered for selection**

- General Category – 40%
- OBC (NCL) – 36%
- SC/ST/PH – 30%
Candidates admitted to the Integrated MPhil/PhD Programme may be allowed to continue for PhD according to the following provisions:

1. After the completion of the course work, students scoring a minimum CGPA of 6.5 would be eligible to enter the PhD programme, without having to write and submit MPhil dissertation. Such students would not get an MPhil degree.

2. Students completing the MPhil degree with a minimum FGPA of 6.0 (5.5 in case of students from SC/ST/PH categories) will be admitted to the PhD programme without further screening. After submitting the MPhil dissertation, students may be given provisional admission to the PhD programme till the announcement of the results and final FGPA. The PhD admission will be confirmed only after the results are declared, subject to fulfilment of the above conditions. If any selected candidate does not obtain the required FGPA, his/her name will stand automatically removed from the rolls of the Centre & University.

**Financial Assistance**

All the selected candidates will be offered CDS Fellowships for a period of 24 months or till the time of MPhil thesis submission, whichever is earlier.

**Fees**

1. Tuition Fee: Rs. 120 per semester
2. JNU Registration/Enrolment fee: Rs. 3615

All students will be provided Hostel accommodation on a shared basis. (The Campus has separate hostels for men and women. All rooms have attached bath and are modestly furnished). CDS hostel rent is Rs. 250 per person per month which includes charges for electricity and water. All hostel residents must also pay the monthly mess bill.

Selected candidates must join the Programme on August 03, 2015

**How to Apply**

Application is to be submitted in the prescribed format along with

- Copies of Mark sheets and Certificates of Bachelor’s and Master’s Degrees
- Age Proof – SSLC Certificate or any other relevant document.
- Candidates belonging to the following categories should submit self attested copies of latest relevant certificates issued from competent authorities.
  1. SC/ST candidates - caste certificate
  2. OBC (non-creamy layer) candidates - OBC (non-creamy layer) certificates
  3. PH (with ≥ 40% disability) candidates – PH certificate
Applications of candidates working in Government Departments and Public sector undertakings should be forwarded through proper channel along with a no objection certificate from the competent authority. However an advance copy may be submitted, if expecting procedural delays.

- **Research Proposal written in English (Please read the guidelines with the Application form for details) Applications without Study Proposal will be summarily rejected**

- Application Fee of Rs. 200, as a DD drawn in favour of the Centre for Development Studies, payable at Trivandrum. The application fee is non-refundable.

- SC, ST and PH (with ≥ 40% disability) applicants are exempted from payment of the application fee

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: APRIL 21, 2015**

Duly filled application form along with self attested copies of above documents should be sent to Academic Programme Office, Centre for Development Studies, Ulloor, Medical College P.O, Thiruvananthapuram – 695 011, Kerala with the superscription over the cover ‘Application for Integrated MPhil/PhD Programme- 2015 ‘ on or before APRIL 21, 2015.

For any additional information please contact Academic Programme Office at 0471 – 2774254. All communications regarding the admission process will be intimated to candidates only through E-Mail.