Admission to Direct PhD in Women’s Studies & Integrated M.Phil/Ph.D. Programme in Women’s Studies
Academic Year 2013-14

M.Phil in Women’s Studies

The M.Phil in Women’s Studies is part of the integrated M.Phil & Ph.D programme which consists of two academic degree programmes that can be pursued with a single admission procedure taken at the entry level for the M.Phil degree. Successful completion of the two-year degree would facilitate the transition to the Ph.D programme. A mid-stream option exists where students can move into the Ph.D programme after one year of course work, provided they acquire A- and are found suitable. All candidates enrolled for the programme shall undergo a taught full-time M.Phil programme.

Eligibility Requirements
Students with a Master’s degree in any of the Social Science subjects (preferably with a M.A. in Women’s Studies or dissertation on gender issues or demonstrated interest) with a minimum of 55 per cent of aggregate marks, or a grade point average of 3.5 under the seven-point scale of the UGC, awarded by a recognized university in India or abroad, are eligible for admission. In the case of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students, the minimum eligibility is an average of 50 per cent of aggregate marks, or a grade point average of 3.05.

Rationale and objectives
M.Phil in Women’s Studies is a course recognized by the UGC NET. TISS is one of the very few Universities in India offering M.Phil in Women’s Studies.

This is an interdisciplinary course with wide-ranging perspectives, insights, and literature drawn from across various social sciences and humanities disciplines. It encourages students to explore and understand how intersecting categories of gender with other markers of inequalities contribute to the organization and maintenance of social life.

Students will be taken through the challenging field of Women’s Studies that explores relations of power in the lives of individuals, groups, and cultures in multiple settings and sites, locally in the Indian contexts as well as globally.

The programme’s core curriculum builds upon feminist scholarship, both international and Indian, incorporating the new interdisciplinary agendas, intellectual debates, changing methodological practices, and major scholarly shifts that have shaped and reshaped the field of women’s studies. Students will be enabled to do a critical reading of social science literature, develop the skills required to conduct an independent research project including conceptualizing its research design and execution, understanding of research ethics, and finally, to write a dissertation following the canons of academic writing.
Structure of the programme

The duration of the M.Phil programme shall be two years, spread over four semesters coinciding with the academic calendar of the Institute.

The M.Phil programme shall carry a total of 46 credits and will have five components:

1. **Basic Courses (BC)** (12 Credits)
2. **Auxiliary Courses (AC)**
3. **Optional Courses (OC)** (4 Credits)
4. **Survey of Literature (SL)** (6 Credits)
5. **Dissertation (DI)** (24 Credits)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sem</th>
<th>Course No.</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>BC 01</td>
<td>Philosophical Foundations of Social Science Research</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>BC 02</td>
<td>Theorizing Feminisms</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>BC 03</td>
<td>Feminist Perspectives on Women, Gender and Society</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>BC 04</td>
<td>Research Methods in Social Sciences: Quantitative and Qualitative</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>AC 01</td>
<td>Workshop on Academic Writing Skills</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>BC 05</td>
<td>Feminist Research Methodologies and Methods</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>OC</td>
<td>Any two to be chosen from a thematic cluster of courses</td>
<td>2+2=4</td>
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<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>BC 06</td>
<td>Seminar</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>SL</td>
<td>Survey of Literature on a Problem Area</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>III &amp; IV</td>
<td>DI</td>
<td>Dissertation</td>
<td>24</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Grand Total</td>
<td>46</td>
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1 Credit is equivalent to 15 hours of instruction

Employability options

A M.Phil degree in Women’s Studies prepares students for pursuing the field further at the doctoral level, while being self-sufficient to enable students who exit with the degree to take up careers in multiple workplace and community environments. Benefiting from the critical and analytic skills developed, and the exposure to the wide interdisciplinary connections and perspectives of the field, students will be able to be employed in education, governmental and non-governmental organisations working on equity issues, research, and policy planning.
Ph.D. in Women’s Studies

Admission to the Ph.D. programme will follow the existing procedures in TISS: (i) after M.Phil and/or (ii) Direct Ph.D. admission

Candidates seeking admission to direct Ph.D. in Women’s Studies should be (a) Individuals with M.Phil in Women’s Studies (b) Or in Social Sciences with a dissertation on Gender; (c) Or having a Masters degree and 5 years experience in the field of Women’s Studies and Gender; (d) Or having a Masters degree and demonstrated research & publications in Women’s Studies.

Admission to Ph.D in Women’s Studies is as per the procedures for admission where candidates are expected to appear for a written test (Research Aptitude Test) and a Personal Interview. The application form has to be accompanied with a Research Proposal.

Course work

Candidates admitted to direct Ph.D. will be expected to do the one semester of coursework as full time students or in a modular form. Feminist methodologies, academic writing and other such essential course content will be offered as modular workshops from TISS Hyderabad for off-campus scholars and research scholars from other Universities.

For further details read the Information Brochure available on the Institute website i.e. www.tiss.edu

Prof. Neela Dabir
Deputy Director (Administration)