

# SHIV NADAR UNIVERSITY

## DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

### Notice of admission to M.A. programme in English 2020-2022

*This notice has **two sections**: the first provides an outline of the programme, the eligibility requirements, the admission procedure, the fee structure and the financial aid provided by the University. The second section has a set of questions that the candidate must answer. Please read the document carefully before applying to this program. All applications must be made online. Deadline for submission is 5pm on **15<sup>th</sup> June 2020**. This has been extended to July 15 2020 due to current prevailing situation.*

The Department of English at Shiv Nadar University would like to announce that admission into the Masters Programme in English is now open for the 2020-22 academic year.

### **Programme Overview**

The M.A. is a two-year (four semesters) programme. It is designed to combine rigour with creativity. It will take students through the significant moments in English literary history and world literature but it also incorporates courses in critical and cultural theory, translation, creative writing and visual theory. It is our intention to equip our M.A. students with the skills needed for a range of competitive examinations as well as for careers in publishing and the media. Most of all, we see potential academics in our best students and we are committed to supporting them through research careers in every possible way. This involves preparing them for admission into PhD programmes.

### **Eligibility**

Candidates **who have an undergraduate degree in any discipline from the Humanities and Social Sciences** from a recognized university or institution, with a minimum aggregate of 55% are eligible to apply. **Provisional admission** (for candidates from disciplines in the Humanities and Social Sciences) will be given to those who have a minimum aggregate of 55% in their **first and second years** and are **able to complete their degrees** by the start of the academic year 2020-21.

Candidates **who have an undergraduate degree in disciplines other than the Humanities and Social Sciences** from a recognized university or institution, with a minimum aggregate of 70% are eligible to apply. **Provisional admission** (for candidates from disciplines outside the Humanities and Social Sciences) will be given to those who have a minimum aggregate of 70%

in their first and second years and **are able to complete their degrees** by the start of the academic year 2020-21.

## **Financial Aid**

Shiv Nadar University provides substantial financial aid to all candidates selected for the M.A. in English programme:

- All selected candidates will be eligible for **tuition waivers of 75%**.
- In addition, every selected candidate will be eligible for **Teaching Assistantships**. The stipend for the teaching assistantship stands at **Rs 12,000 per month** for a maximum of 20 months over two years.

## **Fees Structure**

Detailed fee structure for MA program is available on our website.

## **Admission Process**

- Candidates who are interested must apply through the online application form.
- On the basis of the submitted applications, candidates will be shortlisted for an interview with the M.A.-in-English Admissions Committee. Interviews will be conducted online.
- The success of the application is dependent on the quality of the application pack and the interview.
- Successful candidates will be notified through email.

The M.A in English at Shiv Nadar University has **10 available seats**. Offers will be made till the seats are full (though the Department may decide to reduce the number of seats if suitable candidates are not found). Interested candidates are encouraged to apply early.

**The deadline for submitting the online application is 5 pm on 15<sup>th</sup> July 2020.**

## **Application Instructions**

All interested applicants shall apply online from the link given below. Please follow the instructions carefully.

- Fill in all the mandatory fields.
- Upload the following documents with your application
  - Passport-size color photograph
  - Current CV
  - All Marks sheets/Degree Certificates (10<sup>th</sup> Standard onwards)
  - A Statement of Purpose (Maximum 500 Words) on as PDF document

- Answers to the two questions asked below
- The statement of purpose and the answers to the question shall be uploaded as one file (one PDF document).

**Please note that the application is not deemed complete until we receive all the necessary prescribed documents and application fees.**

You will be required to pay a **non-refundable** application fee of Rs. 1,200 (One Thousand Two Hundred Only) by credit/debit card.

**Note:**

There is no fixed template for a **Statement of Purpose**. The quality we value most is originality and we will be delighted to read a SOP that bears a clear stamp of who you are. You might, however, wish to keep in mind the following when you write your statement.

1. What is it that attracts you to an M.A in English?
2. Do you have a particular interest in any area of literary studies? How did this interest develop?
3. Where do you see yourself going after you've finished your M.A.?

## Questions

*Submit answers to this section in a PDF document. Please cite all sources you use to answer these questions. Please use a standard reference style (such as MLA) while writing your answers. Well formatted and original pieces of writing will be given special preference.*

**A.** Read the following passage carefully :

“As for the rumour of me and the milkman, I dismissed it without considering it. Intense nosiness about everybody had always existed in the area. Gossip washed in, washed out, came, went, moved on to the next target. So I didn't pay attention to this love affair with the milkman. Then he appeared again—this time on foot as I was running in the parks with the lower and upper waterworks.

I was alone and not reading this time, for I never read while running. And there he was, again out of nowhere, this time falling into step beside me where he'd never been before. Instantly we were running together and it looked as if always we were running together and again I was startled, as I would be startled by every encounter, except the last, I was to have with this man. At first he didn't speak, and I could not speak. Then he did and his talk was mid-conversation as if too, always we were mid-conversation. His words were brief and a little strained because of my pace of running, and it was of my place of work that he spoke. He knew my work—where it was, what I did there, the hours, the days and the twenty-past-eight bus I caught every morning when it wasn't being hijacked to get me into town to it.

Also he made the pronouncement that I never caught this bus home. This was true. Every weekday, rain or shine, gunplay or bombs, stand-off or riots, I preferred to walk home reading my latest book. This would be a nineteenth-century book because I did not like twentieth-century books because I did not like the twentieth century. I suppose now, looking back, this milkman knew all of that as well.”

1. Analyze in about 300 words the writer’s attitude the milkman.
2. In about a 100 words give us a sense of the environment in which this passage is set.

**B.** Write an essay in no more than 1500 words on **one** of the following :

1. Contagion as metaphor
2. The figure of the hero as we move from the realistic to the fantasy novel
3. Why, in your opinion, is the European Renaissance often described as the early modern period?

## Contact

We wish you the best of luck with your application. If you need any clarifications, please call Ms. Mamta Nagar at +91 99903 12100 or send your questions via email at [mamta.nagar@snu.edu.in](mailto:mamta.nagar@snu.edu.in).

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