

M.A. Development



Postgraduate Programme
*Developing Leaders **for** Social Change*

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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. The key objective of the postgraduate programme 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 2500 students. It currently offers five postgraduate programmes; M.A. Education, M.A. Development, M.A. Public Policy and Governance, M.A. Economics and LL.M. in Law and Development. We offer Undergraduate Degrees in Social Science, Science, Humanities and a Dual Degree in Science and Education

Seven Batches of postgraduate students have graduated and consistent with our social purpose, almost all of them work in the social sector. Many of our graduates have also set up Social Enterprises implementing pathbreaking solutions to complex social problems.

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 and a well-structured field engagement.

Core Courses cover foundational knowledge and Skills, while also developing a deeper understanding of the domain of study. In the second year, students have the option to focus on sub domains/ themes by choosing a specified set of electives. In the academic year 2018-19, more than 100 theme-based electives were on offer. The Integrated Field engagement is a mix of projects and internships spread across all semesters.

Programme Summary	
M.A. Education (Two-year, full time, 72 credits)	Our efforts to improve public education in India requires highly capable and committed education personnel in substantial numbers. The Master of Arts in Education is a unique broad-based programme of study that includes theory, practice, research, policy and planning in education. They will be equipped to take up roles such as Program Associates/Managers, Curriculum designers, Teacher Educators, School Leaders, Policy maker, Researchers etc.
M.A. Development (Two-year, full time, 72 credits)	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. The programme aims to prepare individuals capable of informed and thoughtful development action. They can look forward to a variety of roles such as Program Associates/Managers, Domain Specialists, Researchers and other exciting roles in organisations working in the area of livelihoods, sustainability, public health, social entrepreneurship, financial inclusion, advocacy, etc.
M.A. Public Policy & Governance (Two-year, full time, 72 credits)	The MPG Programme systematically and critically explores the nature and practice of complex public problem solving in a developing constitutional democracy. The programme draws on the disciplines of law, economics, history, philosophy, politics and anthropology to devise an interdisciplinary curriculum that also includes sophisticated empirical analysis of policy choice and programme implementation. Career opportunities would range from programme evaluation, research, policy analysis, programme management, advocacy and other aspects of operations and governance.
M.A. Economics (Two-year, Full time, 72 credits)	The M.A in Economics is a uniquely designed programme to develop the next generation of Economists with the theoretical knowledge, and technical skills to perform high quality analysis, while at the same time being grounded in the institutional, developmental and ecological context of contemporary India. The programme will help students develop strong technical economic skills along with contextual understanding of development issues facing India.
LL.M. in Law and Development (One-year, Full time, 36 credits)	Law and Development seeks to initiate a decisive, novel and meaningful intervention at the intersection of the domains of Law and Development in India. This postgraduate legal education programme is a) inter-disciplinary, b) empirically grounded, and c) refocuses law and legal education to the ethical resolution of critical public policy problems.

Unique Learning Environment

The teaching and learning processes inside and outside the classroom are designed to ensure that students and faculty engage each other in dialogue and discussions so that students develop deep critical thinking and self-learning abilities.

<p>Courses Foundational understanding of the domain through core courses and over 100 electives for students to choose from. Strong grounding on theory, practice and research.</p>	<p>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 faculty profiles</p>
<p>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.</p>	<p>Vibrant Environment An engaging class room experience with interactive pedagogic tools. Learning opportunities through various events - weekly colloquiums, national and international conferences, workshops etc.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Learning from Diversity</p> <p style="text-align: center;">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.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>We value and encourage this diversity and you will enjoy and learn with this experience.</i></p>	



I. M.A. 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 imaginative development actions

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 1	Semester 2	Semester 3	Semester 4
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 of India	Social Interventions	Elective 3	Elective 7
Foundation of Social Research and Reasoning	Methods of 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, skills 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. [Click here](#) for a glimpse of electives offered.

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 *Work and labour in contemporary India*, *Food and Nutrition in Development*, *Social Sector Organizations: Forms and Actions*, *Sustainability for development practice*, *Gender and development etc.* Concentrations will be offered on a year to year basis, depending on students' interest, topicality of the issues and faculty availability. A student can choose more than one concentration across the two semesters.

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.

Open Courses: A well-rounded and balanced curriculum that allows students to explore areas that focus on themes related to the arts, culture, the sciences and other subjects of topical interest. Students are required to study 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. [Click here](#) for details on Open Courses.

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. [Click here](#) to know more about field practice.

Field practice has four components.

Type	Short Description
Weekly Practicums	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
Field Immersion, (Mid first semester) Two weeks	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.
Summer Field Apprenticeship At the end of Semester II	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,

<p>Six weeks</p>	<p>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>

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

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

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.

[Click here](#) to register for the Postgraduate Programme

Eligibility: Undergraduate degree in any discipline. For the LL.M. Programme the candidate should have an undergraduate degree in Law. We actively encourage applicants with prior work experience and provide additional weightage in the interview process.

Scholarships:

- Extensive need- based scholarships (100%, 70%, 50%) for candidates with family income less than Rupees 5 Lakhs per annum
- Guaranteed 50% tuition waiver for applicants with 3 year of work experience after graduation (For 2-Year Master's Programme only)

Contact Us

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