

India AT

A MULTIDISCIPLINARY ONLINE CERTIFICATE

SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER 2022

PROGRAMME PROSPECTUS



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ABOUT ASHOKAX

AshokaX is a unique and pioneering online initiative by Ashoka University, India's premier Liberal Arts and Sciences university, to bring its renowned faculty, platform, and learning experience to a broader audience in India and around the world. Built on a robust intellectual foundation, AshokaX intends to further Ashoka University's mission to be inclusive, innovative, and diverse in its offerings.



World-Renowned Faculty - India's Leading Scholars and Intellectuals



Exclusive Experience - Intimate Learning fostering Dialogue & Debate



Interdisciplinary Perspective - Unique Liberal Arts Foundation across Disciplines



Senior Professional Cohort - AshokaX's Premium Learner Community



ASHOKA UNIVERSITY

Ashoka is India's premier Liberal Arts and Sciences University and a Top 5 private university in India, with its path-breaking focus on offering a liberal education on par with the best in the world. Founded on a collective philanthropic model, Ashoka offers Bachelors, Masters and Doctoral programmes across the Arts and Sciences.



THE 'INDIA@75' PROGRAMME

*A one-of-its-kind multi-disciplinary programme
uniquely crafted for the general interest learner.*

Live,
Online
Learning

With India's
leading
Scholars

Unmatched
Intellectual
Experience

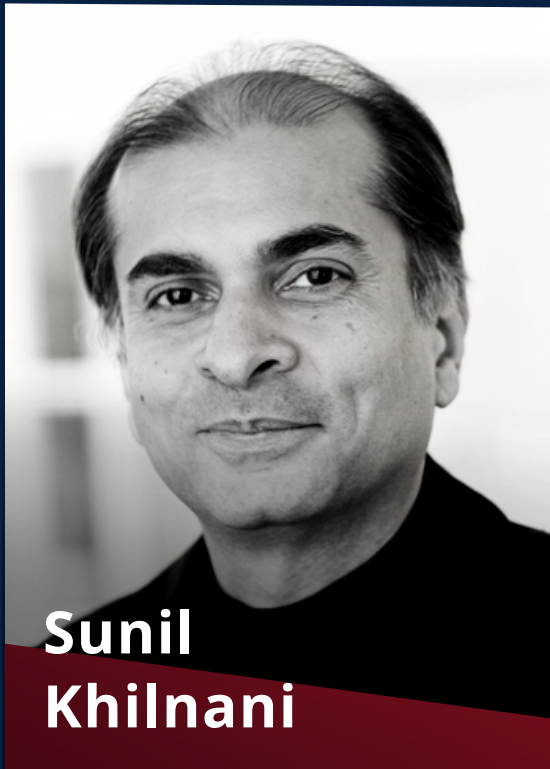
Open
to
All Learners



HISTORY.
POLITICS.
SOCIETY.
ECONOMICS.
CULTURE.
PROGRESS.

What is the story of India since its inception 75 years ago? How did its foundational politics shape what the country became? What can its subsequent social, economical and cultural trajectory tell us about where the country is today? **After 75 years as a nation, what hopes, fears and progress can Indians look forward to?** This fascinating multidisciplinary programme will look at all these questions and more, giving learners a comprehensive, analytical overview of India since independence.

FACULTY AND MODULES



**Sunil
Khilnani**

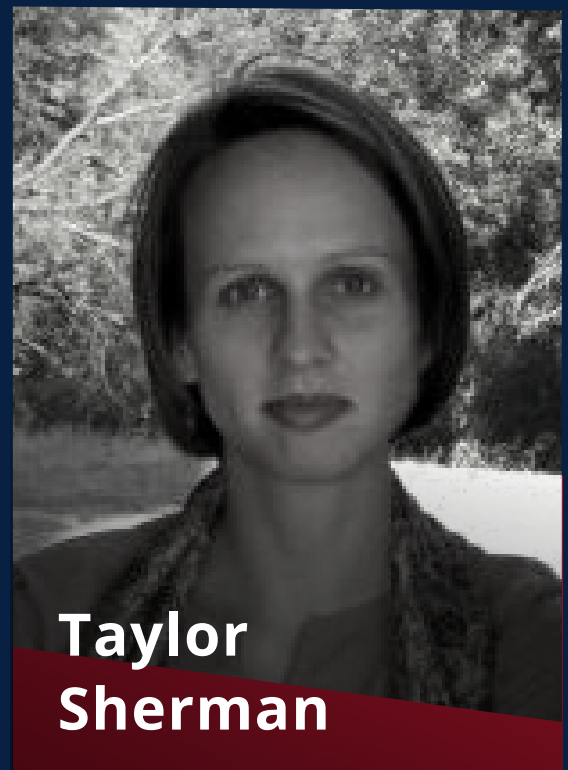
*Professor of Politics and
History, Ashoka University*

THE IDEA OF INDIA - PARTITION & CONSTITUTION

Renowned historian Sunil Khilnani, author of the 'Idea of India', begins this 15 week journey with a focus on India's foundational moment in 1947. He will be joined by historian & author Rudrangshu Mukherjee and other guests. They will look at some of the intellectual and political legacies that came together to define this pivotal moment and will examine some of the individuals who set their impression on the nation's democratic inception. What were the contending ideas and the debates that underpinned the making of the Indian Constitution?

MAKING OF THE UNION: IDEAS, TERRITORIES, PEOPLE

In this module on the advent of federalism and India's politics in the immediate years after Independence, Taylor Sherman, scholar of South Asian history and politics, will look at how the Union came into being. What were the founding politics and challenges in the initial years of the Republic? How did the princely states and independent regions in the subcontinent integrate into India? What were the conflicts and negotiations leading up to their accession?



**Taylor
Sherman**

*Associate Professor,
International History, London School
of Economics*

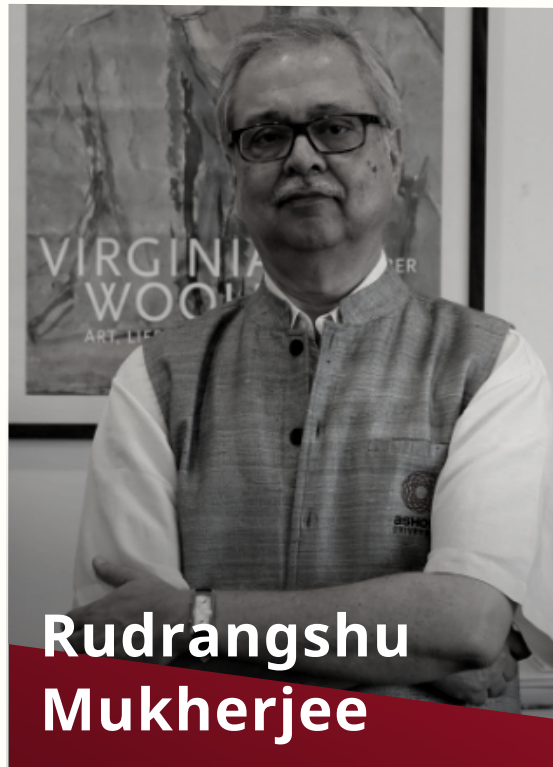
FACULTY AND MODULES

THE PEOPLE, PARTIES & POWER

Political Scientist Vinay Sitapati, reputed author of 'Half-Lion' and 'Jugalbandi,' will take a deep dive into political parties and power in this module. What did India's political landscape look like at the time of independence and how has it changed in the past 75 years? This module covers the ideology, culture, and the story behind shifting electorates and changing voter preferences. Who is the Indian voter and what are the major events in history that shaped Indian politics as we see it today?



Associate Professor, Political Science and Legal Studies, Ashoka University

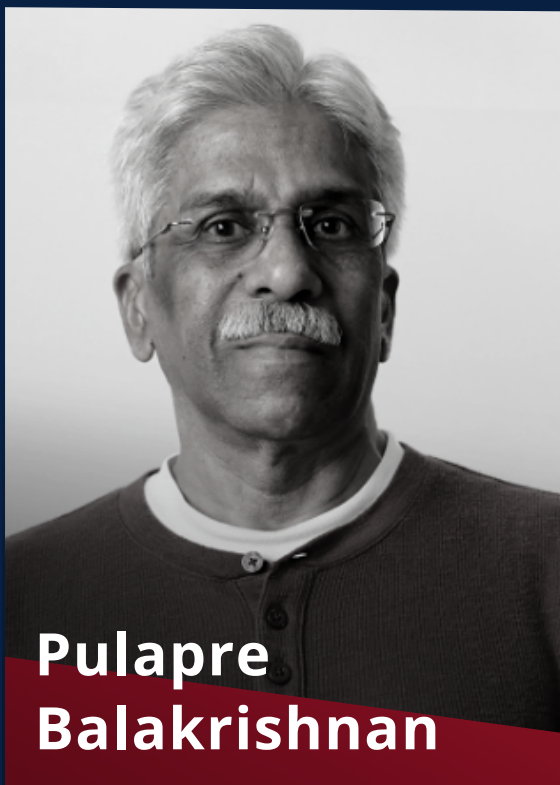


Chancellor, Professor of History, Ashoka University

THE INSTITUTIONS OF DEMOCRACY

Rudrangshu Mukherjee, Chancellor of Ashoka University, eminent Historian, and author of books on Gandhi, Nehru, Tagore & Bose, will look at India's identity as a democracy and the role of extra-parliamentary institutions within a democratic state in this module. Tracing the relevance and necessity of such institutions, particularly the media, he discusses how they can make or break a democracy. What is the state of democracy in India currently, and how has it changed since independence?

FACULTY AND MODULES



**Pulapre
Balakrishnan**

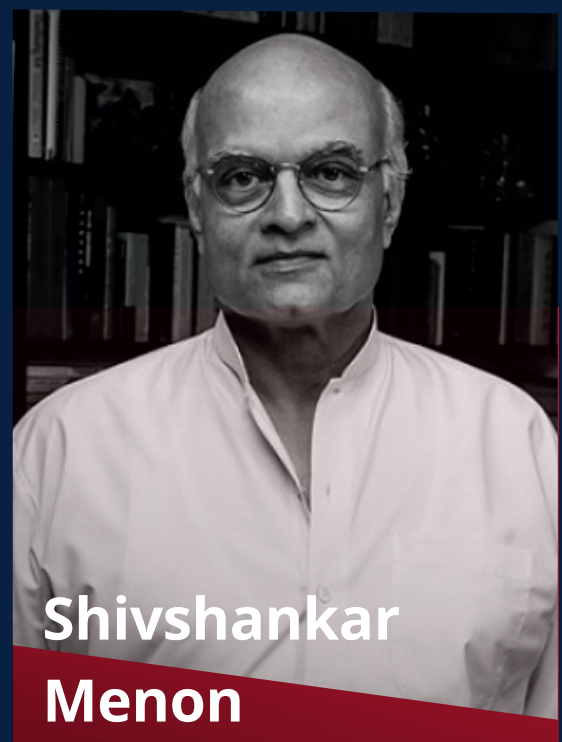
*Professor of Economics,
Ashoka University*

THE ECONOMY - FIRST FOUR DECADES

Pulapre Balakrishnan, distinguished economic historian and economist, will take learners through the story of India's economy from independence in 1947 to the economic crisis and liberalisation in 1991. This module looks at India's transition from a colonial economy to a self-sufficient country with significant potential. What challenges did the economy face after independence, and how were they resolved? How did these influence economic policies? How did India react to internal and external circumstances and shape its formative economic trajectory?

INDIA'S FOREIGN RELATIONS SINCE 1947

Shivshankar Menon, former Ambassador to China and Pakistan, Foreign Secretary, and National Security Advisor of India, will cover the breadth and depth of what shaped India's foreign policy since independence. From its days of non-alignment to its current status of 'multi-alignment,' this module will cover the decision-making process and choices that shapes the foreign policy that we see today. What were the different factors, international politics and global situations that were in play, and how did India react?



**Shivshankar
Menon**

*Visiting Professor (IR), Ashoka
University & Chair, Ashoka
Centre for China Studies*

FACULTY AND MODULES

WELFARE, POLICY & THE STATE

Mekhala Krishnamurthy, policy expert and one of India's top academics in government, will give a distinctive perspective on questions of development across the subcontinent, and on governmental strategies of health, social welfare and capital. How has India addressed its deep welfare needs across populations and regions? What role has policy formation played? Has institutional reform kept pace with India's needs?



*Associate Professor of
Sociology and Anthropology,
Ashoka University*



*Dean, Faculty and Professor of
Environmental Studies and
Sociology and Anthropology,
Ashoka University*

DEVELOPMENT, SOCIAL MOVEMENTS & POLITICS

Eminent sociologist Amita Baviskar will take learners through the dominant narratives of development in India in this module. How have economic growth and progress been conceived? What concerns have been prioritised and what sidelined? How has this affected different sections of India -- the country and its citizens? How have social and public movements have responded to such developmentalism and contributed to creating other approaches to development and growth in India?

FACULTY AND MODULES



**Madhavi
Menon**

*Professor of English,
Director of CSGS,
Ashoka University*

IDENTITY AND THE STATE

Madhavi Menon, scholar and theorist of gender, sexuality, politics, and identity takes learners through questions of identity and the state in India. The module covers the ways in which law and literature have treated the subject of sexuality and gender over the last 75 years. Did independence come with emancipation for everyone? How have the last 75 years looked for people on the margins of gender and sexuality? How did politics, culture, and the social lives of citizens change in this context?

REGIONS, BORDERS, COMMUNITIES

Rita Kothari, multilingual scholar and translator, leads a conversation on regional cultures and identity within the framework of a national culture. This module examines how India's states, with their own cultures and identities, negotiate the question of a national identity. How has migration shaped the culture and politics of the nation? What are some of the major events and conflicts that we saw?

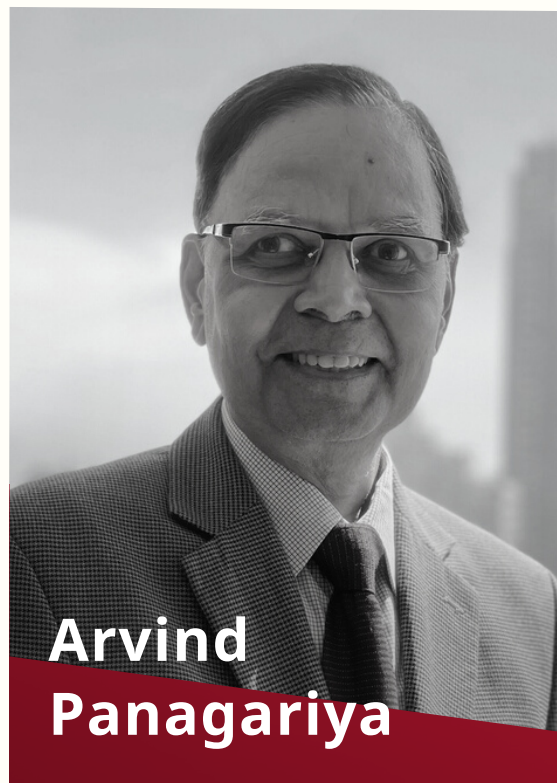


Rita Kothari

*Professor of English,
Ashoka University*

THE ECONOMY: REFORMS, LIBERALISATION & GROWTH

Eminent economist Arvind Panagariya picks up from 1991 and takes learners through the major economic reforms and policies that liberalised and globalised the Indian economy. How were the reforms that India made both an immediate response as well as the result of building pressures? Why did India make these significant changes at this stage, and how did they affect its economic position in the world? How did growth impact the well-being of the masses, especially the poor? The module will conclude by looking at India's accelerated growth, its relations with the global economy and challenges it now confronts. "



Professor of Economics and Indian Political Economy at Columbia University

INDIA: PROGRESS, HOPES & FUTURE - SUNIL KHILNANI AND GUESTS

After 15 weeks of historically based analysis of the past and the present, this module turns to some of the challenges that lie ahead. We will engage in dialogue and debate to envisage India's future together. It draws on the historical resources of India's 75 years - as explored in the previous 11 modules - in order to articulate the possibilities and constraints India now faces, across its economy, politics, society, and culture. As citizens of one of the great experiments in democracy, what could be our role in deepening the traditions of public argument and progressive self-criticism that we have inherited, and how might we better build the constitutional patriotism which our founders envisaged?

PROGRAMME FEATURES

**SATURDAYS &
SUNDAYS - 17TH SEP
TO 21ST DEC**

**12 CORE MODULES
WITH LEAD FACULTY**

**GUEST SPEAKERS
ACROSS SESSIONS**

**EVENING IST LECTURE
SESSIONS - 5 TO 7 PM**

**DISCUSSION SESSIONS
WITH TF & PEERS**

**READINGS,
RESOURCES, MOVIE
SCREENINGS**

**RECORDINGS FOR
SESSIONS MISSED**

WHAT YOU'LL TAKE AWAY

**A
Multidisciplinary
Perspective of
India's trajectory
since 1947**

**Diverse Readings
& Resources
across Literature,
Film, Music &
Journalism**

**Critical Thinking
tools to apply to
Historical
Controversies,
Political Debates &
Societal
Challenges**

**Insider Stories &
Scholarly
Research
on Key Individuals,
Events & Issues**

WHO SHOULD JOIN THIS PROGRAMME?

- The 'India@75' programme is **open to all learners**, regardless of age or background.
- The programme is specially designed to appeal to the **general interest learner**.
- The online weekend sessions make it convenient to be **taken by anyone, from anywhere**.

Working Professionals
looking to expand
intellectual horizons

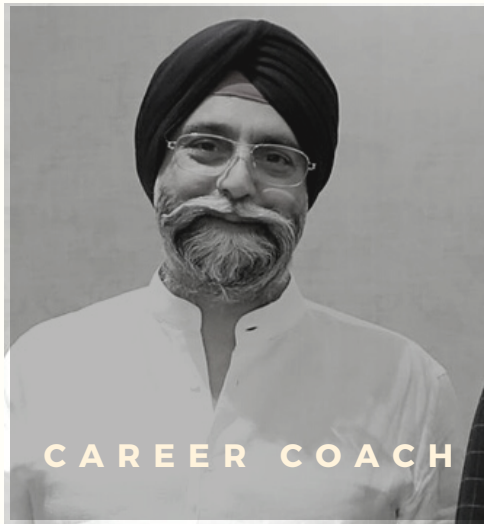
Lifelong Learners
interested in history,
politics & current affairs

**Indians from around
the World**

Leaders
from Education, Law,
Media & Society

Students
from any field

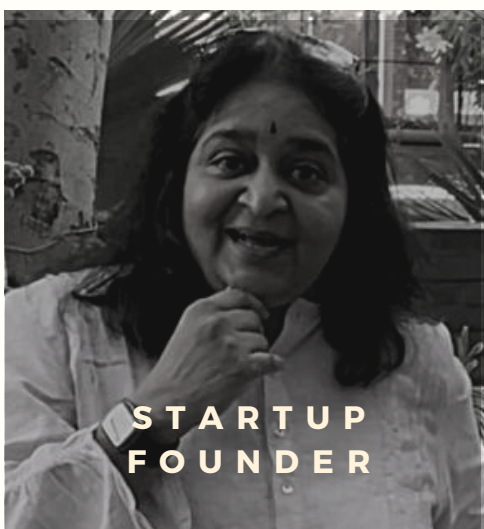
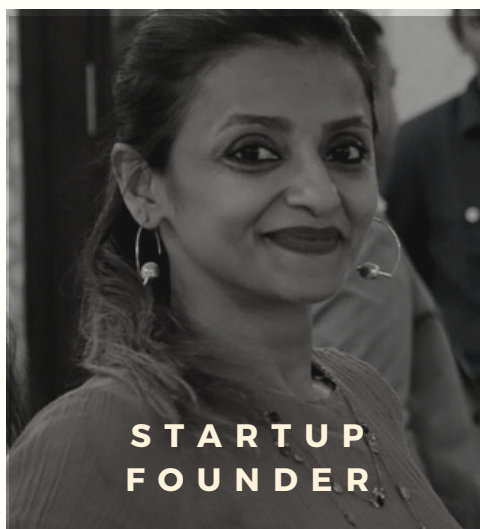
THE ASHOKA CLASSROOM



“—
Excellent platform to satiate the appetite for knowledge of a lifelong learner



“—
One of the best learning investments of my time in recent years



“—
The platform attracts diverse learners for enriched peer learning in a safe setting

APPLICATION STEPS

1

Application

[Submit Application](#) with a simple Statement of Purpose

2

Selection

Login with your credentials to check Application Status

3

Payment

Once selected*, complete payment to join Cohort

PROGRAMME FEE
₹ 50,000 + GST



[Apply Here](#)

**Limited seats on first come basis.*

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Who is eligible for this programme?

This programme is open to all learners regardless of age, interests, professional, and educational backgrounds. It has been specially designed for the general interest learner, assuming no prior background in the disciplines or topics covered. The application asks only a simple statement of purpose on why this programme is of interest to you.

Where will the classes be held?

The classes will be held on Zoom, an online meeting platform. Classes have been conveniently scheduled for weekend evening times and in certain cases recordings will also be available for any class sessions missed.

How can I get in touch for assistance with the application, payment or status tracking?

You may contact the programme team at certificates@x.ashoka.edu.in for assistance with any part of the application or enrollment process.

Do I get a certificate of completion at the end of the course? What must I do in order to obtain that certificate?

Yes, all learners who successfully complete the programme will be eligible for a certificate of completion from Ashoka University.

Who are TFs? What are discussion sessions/tutorials?

TFs (Teaching Fellows) are experienced and trained graduates in the disciplines who will assist the faculty member and conduct discussion sessions. They will be your Point Of Contact (PoCs) during the programme as well.

Discussion sessions are usually held in smaller groups with a variety of agendas and formats that complement the learning like resolving queries, debates, discussions, simulations, etc.

How do I know the status of my application?

You can check the status of your application by logging in to the application portal that you will receive post registration. Your email-ID will serve as your username and your password will be sent to you via email.

Are there any scholarships available?

AshokaX offers need-based financial aid on some of its courses on a case by case basis. Please contact the programme team with specific requests.

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