



MARKETMANTRA



INTERNATIONAL CONNECT

Manjeet Kripalani, executive director, Indian Council on Global Relations, Gateway House on what it takes to make a career in international relations



perspective. International affairs professionals come from varied educational backgrounds - engineering, law, economics, and IT. They also come with extensive experience in rural areas in India or development and humanitarian programmes abroad such as child protection, refugee rehabilitation, disaster management etc.

Young people today must be willing and able to take it on as a career. It is an attractive field for people who want to do well and wish to work globally. International and extensive exposure to field work in India is extremely important because it helps to develop an experienced outlook on development and policy issues.

There are many opportunities to gain exposure through academic exchanges, model UN conferences, field work with local NGOs, international internships, etc.

organisations, government and diplomacy, financial organisations, multilateral organisations like the UN and World Bank and social enterprises, among others.

SKILL SET

A professional in this field must be equipped with knowledge, skills and a network in a particular area of interest like defence and security, human rights, etc.

To hit the ground running, quantitative, research and analytical skills are important, as are language and writing skills. In addition, skills in project management, communication and planning and organisation are always helpful. Quantitative skills are a must - knowledge of advanced statistical and research techniques are highly valuable in being able to assess the success of programmes, etc.

SCOPE

The basic premise of international relations is to strengthen ties with other countries from an economic, social, cultural and security

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As transnational education becomes popular, students can get more than just a flavour of multiple countries. A Master's programme jointly conducted by six universities, including Delhi-based Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), begins and ends in Europe but takes students to two more continents.

Enrolees "study various cultures and regions within the social sciences, focusing on the global south" - the overall aim of the two-year global studies programme (GSP). Except JNU, all other participating universities award the degree jointly, informs V Sujatha, coordinator, GSP, JNU.

FROM BUENOS AIRES TO BANGKOK

A Master's in global studies, jointly conducted by six universities, takes students to diverse cultures and civilisations

Course details

"There are two entry points at Berlin and Freiburg," she says. Depending on their option, students start the first semester at Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg (or Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin), Germany. They spend the second semester at the University of Cape Town, South Africa (or FLACSO, Buenos Aires, Argentina); and the third at JNU (or Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok), followed by an internship. The final semester involves writing a dissertation back at the German university.

Launched in 2001, the interdisciplinary

curriculum covers disciplines such as sociology, political science, economics, anthropology and geography, with modules relating to globalisation, global governance, and cultural change. For example, JNU's Centre for the Study of Social Systems offers papers such as modernisation and development and South Asian social thought while students can take up optional courses in any of the university's other social science departments.

"Since the early 90s, there was this feeling that sociology must have the capacity to engage with other disciplines - interdisciplinarity has to be cultivated in the younger generation of students interested in social sciences," says Anand Kumar, professor, CSSS.

Talking about the choice of regions

AT A GLANCE

- Seats : 40 (Freiburg)/ 30-35 (Berlin)
● Programme begins: April
● Eligibility: A bachelor's degree, preferably in the social sciences. For the details, visit www.gsp.uni-freiburg.de and global-studies-programme.com
● Cost and scholarships: Visit the websites. Limited financial assistance
● Deadline: November 30, 2014 (Freiburg). For Humboldt University, visit the institute website

where the programme is delivered, Kumar elaborates, "Europe is where the first wave of social knowledge-building took place. The Europeans created a science called social science. The second semester is in Africa or Latin America so that you see the other side of the industrial revolution and European expansionism. The third is in south Asia or southeast Asia. India was an ancient civilisation which was colonised and Westernised through 200 years of British domination whereas Thailand was never colonised; it was modernised without colonisation."

Candidates read, for instance, the value systems and ideas prevalent in Europe in the 16th century onwards and later "see what happened in Africa or in Latin America in the same period," he explains. "We give a compact understanding of the past 500 years because that's how old sociology is."

Career avenues

After graduating from the programme, alumni enrol for PhDs or join policy research centres; the media; or non-governmental organisations dealing with gender, human rights, environmental and other areas.

PSYCHOLOGY TRENDS

A course in health psychology offers a holistic approach to health and well-being

Mausumi Sucharita

Psychology, across universities is a part of social sciences. The University of Hyderabad (UoH) offers courses in health psychology at their Centre for Health Psychology.

COURSE DETAILS

Health psychology offers a holistic approach to health and well-being. It focuses on the emphasis of health from biomedical to bio-psychosocial model. It focuses on health promotion and maintenance, prevention and treatment of illness, the etiology and correlates of health, illness and dysfunction, and improvement of the health care system.

The IMSc (integrated MSc) is a five-year course in health psychology. Students who have completed their intermediate studies in science or arts with their first class are eligible to apply for this course. Admission to the course is based on their performance at the national level written test conducted by the university. Students are tested for their aptitude in psychology, knowledge of biology, mathematics and proficiency in English.

The programme aims at laying a strong foundation in psychology in the first three years. The fourth and fifth year focus on health psychology.

In the first three years, students are trained in subjects including environmental studies, English language, social sciences, mathematics, biology, IT and logic in addition to psychology. Apart from the theoretical inputs, the course involves experiments in the laboratory, internship, project work, dissertation and seminar paper presentation.

OPTIONS AVAILABLE

"A health psychologist must develop the skill of keen observation, empathy, good communication and counselling skills and must learn how to use this therapy appropriately. After completion of IMSc in Health Psychology, students can take up research, employment in hospitals to provide therapeutic intervention to the patients, employment in IT industry for optimising employee health and organisational output, work as consultant to health agencies and as faculty in universities and colleges," says Meena Hariharan, director, Centre for Health Psychology, University of Hyderabad.

Students can apply by filling the online applications between third week of December and third week of January.

The admission test is conducted in the third week of February. Classes commence in July. For more details, visit the university website.

AT A GLANCE

- Intake capacity: 16
● Duration: Five years
● Subjects: Environmental studies, English language, social sciences, mathematics, biology, IT, etc

NEWS BYTES

GLOBAL CONTEST A three-member team from Goa Institute of Management (GIM) qualified for the final round of an international marketing competition conducted by ESIC Business & Marketing School in Spain. Started in April, the four-stage competition involves 1800 stu-

dent teams from 76 countries. It had two teams each from three regions: Asia-Oceania, Europe, Africa and America, qualifying for the finals. GIM and IIM Bangalore are the top two teams to qualify for the competition from Asia-Oceania. The students had to start an automobile company from scratch and manage it in an online simulation. The second-year GIM students are going to compete with the top six teams

for the finals on November 18 in Spain.

VISA PROGRAMME Canada's citizenship and immigration minister Chris Alexander announced the launch of the CAN+ programme in India to ensure efficient processing for Indian visitors coming to Canada. CAN+ is open to Indian nationals who have travelled to Canada or the

United States in the last 10 years. Alexander made the announcement during an event with representatives of India's business, tourism and education sectors, where he highlighted a number of government initiatives.

DIGITAL LIBRARY The Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET) launched a new way to access high quality content in

its IET Digital Library. Users can purchase 10 downloads of the knowledge packs for 75 pounds which can then be used to access essential engineering research content including 24 research journal titles covering specialist subject areas from control theory and applications to wireless sensor systems, as well as the award-winning engineering and technology magazine and other publications.

TIMES CLASSIFIEDS

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Education Forum advertisement featuring Shemaroo Entertainment Ltd. (SIFT), JD Institute of Fashion Technology, Shiv Holistic Yoga, and Reliance AIMS (VFX & Animation).