

PROGRAMME PROJECT REPORT (PPR)
MASTER OF ARTS
IN
ANTHROPOLOGY & TRIBAL STUDIES
(Semester Mode)



CENTRE FOR DISTANCE AND ONLINE EDUCATION
MAHARAJA SRIRAM CHANDRA BHANJA DEO
UNIVERSITY, SRIRAM CHANDRA VIHAR, TAKATPUR,
BARIPADA, MAYURBHANJ, ODISHA – 757003

M. Goswami
19/9/25
(M. Goswami)

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(Priyanka Das)

B. Sabar
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PROGRAMME PROJECT REPORT (PPR)

OF

M.A IN ANTHROPOLOGY AND TRIBAL STUDIES

I. Programme's Mission & Objectives

(i) Mission:

The programme is conducted with the mission to train learners to become responsible practitioners and professionals in the discipline of Anthropology, equipped to understand and respond to the complexities of human life and culture with a scientific and humanitarian approach. Learners will be introduced to the application of anthropological theories, methods, and research techniques so that they may effectively integrate this knowledge while engaging with issues of human diversity, cultural heritage, tribal welfare, public health, and social development. During the initial stages of the programme, students will be placed in field settings such as tribal communities, archaeological sites, and museums to gain practical exposure, while in the final stages they will be engaged in independent research work. This structure will enable them to develop the aptitude to think critically, observe scientifically, and contribute meaningfully to the understanding and advancement of human societies.

(ii) Objectives:

The objectives of the programme are to provide learners with a strong foundation in Social-Cultural, Biological, and Archaeological Anthropology, to equip them with the skills of ethnographic fieldwork and anthropological analysis, and to prepare them to engage with contemporary issues such as health, environment, tribal welfare, gender, development, and globalization. The programme also seeks to create skilled professionals for academic, research, governmental, and non-governmental sectors while fostering critical thinking, ethical responsibility, and the application of anthropological insights for social transformation.

ii. Relevance of the program with HEI's Mission and Goals:

University Mission

- To educate as a catalyst for the promotion of self-esteem and as an instrument of change for all its students, with special attention to those from areas under the jurisdiction of the University, namely, Mayurbhanj and Keonjhar districts.
- To provide students with a safe and functional space conducive to learning, working, and conducting research by upholding professionalism, excellence, teamwork, and environmental stewardship in consonance with national needs and global standards.
- To establish a clean, efficient, sensitive, and transparent system of administration and governance for all stakeholders.

- To enable the University to exemplify the highest ideals of social equity, gender justice, and compassion for the weak and disadvantaged.
- To foster functional and outcome-based academic linkages with national and global organizations, including industry, for advancing stakeholder engagement, social development, research, innovation, consultancy, and outreach.
- To nurture an ecosystem for holistic education where natural sciences, technology, social sciences, liberal arts, and human values blend in a harmonious manner, thereby facilitating nation-building and contributing towards a sustainable planet.

The mission of this course is to achieve the vision and objectives of Maharaja Sriram Chandra Bhanja Deo University by strengthening the discipline of social science through the study of Anthropology. The programme is designed to prepare students as informed, aware, and socially responsible citizens, capable of engaging with the complexities of human diversity and development both within India and abroad. The study of Anthropology will provide learners with the ability to think critically, apply scientific and humanistic perspectives, and contribute to sustainable solutions for contemporary societal challenges.

By expanding the scope of education and making it more inclusive, the course aligns with the broader goals of higher education institutions. Since Anthropology is an academic as well as an applied discipline, the programme enables learners to establish themselves as professionals by acquiring the knowledge and skills necessary for careers in research, development, policy-making, cultural preservation, and community engagement. This not only ensures opportunities for jobs and professional growth but also fosters their contribution to the advancement of society and human welfare.

- Advanced syllabus covering macro, micro, and meso aspects of Anthropology, including biological anthropology, socio-cultural systems, archaeology, applied anthropology, and research methodology.
- Emphasis on administration, management of development programmes, participatory rural appraisal (PRA) methods, and specialised research on tribal, rural, and marginalised communities.
- Preparation of professional anthropologists through integrated theoretical and practical teaching, ensuring a balance of academic knowledge and field-based learning.
- Exposure to national and international seminars, intensive fieldwork, rural and tribal camps, internships, and study visits to museums, archaeological sites, NGOs, and government organisations.
- Placement opportunities with strong linkages to professional training, including organisations and CSR foundations such as Tata Steel Foundation, Pradhan, American Indian Foundation, Sadhana, Gram Vikas, CYSD, RCDC, and other Odisha-based development agencies.

iii. Nature of prospective target group of learners:

The main target group of learners are individuals from different age groups who wish to pursue higher education in Anthropology and strengthen their knowledge in the discipline in order to build a meaningful career and lead a responsible academic and professional life. Learners are expected to come from diverse

socio-economic backgrounds, residing in different parts of Odisha as well as neighbouring states. In keeping with the ultimate objective of distance education to reach the unreached, special attention is given to include learners from marginalised sections of society, backward castes, and tribal communities. The programme is especially relevant for graduate students who are interested in studying Anthropology at a higher level and who aspire to contribute to areas such as research, tribal welfare, cultural heritage, public health, and development sectors.

iv. Appropriateness of programme to be conducted in Open and Distance Learning and/or Online mode to acquire specific skills and competence:

Anthropology as a discipline is expanding steadily, with increasing demand for professionals who can apply anthropological knowledge to address contemporary challenges related to culture, health, environment, heritage, and development. However, conventional institutions offering Anthropology programmes often have limited seats and higher fee structures, which restrict access for many aspiring learners. In contrast, the Open and Distance Learning (ODL) system removes these barriers by providing affordable education without limitations on enrolment.

Through the ODL mode, a large number of learners can be reached, including those from rural, tribal, and marginalized communities, as well as working professionals who require flexible learning opportunities. The blended system of ODL, which combines printed self-learning materials, digital resources, personal contact programmes (PCPs), and online interactive classes, ensures that learners not only acquire theoretical knowledge but also develop the practical skills necessary for ethnographic research, fieldwork, and applied anthropology. This makes the ODL mode highly suitable for acquiring the specific competencies required in the discipline of Anthropology.

iii. Instructional Design: a. Introduction:

Anthropology is a practice-based academic discipline which is committed to the holistic study of human beings in their biological, social, cultural, and archaeological dimensions. It seeks to understand human diversity, evolution, cultural heritage, and contemporary issues faced by different communities. The discipline is equally concerned with addressing social challenges, development needs, and the empowerment of marginalized and tribal populations by combining scientific inquiry with a humanistic approach. Therefore, the course is designed in a manner that it covers the core concepts of Anthropology—spanning social-cultural systems, biological anthropology, archaeology, applied anthropology, and research methodology—along with practical field-based exposure. This comprehensive approach enables learners to critically engage with the complexities of human society, culture, and development in order to apply anthropological knowledge for academic, professional, and societal advancement.

Course Curriculum: The Institution adopts a specialized approach in designing and developing the course curriculum for the MA in Anthropology. The responsibility of curriculum design is entrusted to professionals within the Department of Anthropology and, wherever necessary, external experts from allied disciplines. A draft curriculum, prepared in line with the objectives of the programme, is first developed by the concerned faculty. This draft is then evaluated by the Institution, which convenes a team of experts to carry out a judicious review of the proposed course structure. The review ensures that the curriculum not only reflects the academic depth of Anthropology but also meets the objectives of distance and online education. By integrating both theoretical frameworks and practical applications, the curriculum is designed to provide learners with the knowledge, skills, and competencies necessary to address the diverse challenges of the discipline in contemporary society.

Program Structure: The Institution constitutes a team of experts to review the overall course structure of the MA in Anthropology. This review team, comprising internal faculty members and external subject specialists, evaluates the balance between theoretical knowledge, practical exposure, and research training within the programme. Based on their assessment, the team provides feedback and recommendations to the concerned faculty. In case any modifications are suggested, the curriculum is carefully reworked to incorporate these improvements so that it remains academically rigorous, relevant, and aligned with the goals of distance and online education. The structure of the programme ensures that students receive comprehensive training in social-cultural anthropology, biological anthropology, archaeology, applied anthropology, and research methodology, while also engaging in fieldwork and dissertation writing.

Study Materials: The study materials are developed in a Self-Learning Material (SLM) format, which forms the core of standard distance learning programs. Accordingly, the institution undertakes the development of all materials in the SLM format. Both internal and external experts prepare the study materials, following specific guidelines prescribed by the relevant statutory bodies.

Review by Board of Studies: The course is meticulously reviewed by BOS. Recommendations of BOS are implemented on priority. It also checks & defines the applicability, credit hours, scheme of examination for the course.

Approval by Academic Council: Finally, the course is submitted to the Academic Council of the University for Final Approval. Programs are offered on semester basis. A modular approach towards pursuing a long-term degree Program is implemented. Academic activities are linked together to engage learner and maximize learning.

The Anthropology course carries Five Theory papers and Two Field based Practical papers for first and second semester:

Besides this one dissertation will be submitted in final semester of this programme.

Program structure: Master of Anthropology and Tribal Studies

SEMESTER- I

Paper Code	Paper	Credit	Marks		
			Internal	Final examination	Total
ATS - 101	Socio-Cultural Anthropology	5	30	70	100
ATS - 102	Biological Anthropology	5	30	70	100
ATS - 103	Archaeological Anthropology	5	30	70	100
ATS - 104	Research Methodology	5	30	70	100
ATS - 105	Indian Knowledge System	5	30	70	100
	Total	25	150	350	500

SEMESTER- II

Paper Code	Paper	Credit	Marks		
			Internal	Final examination	Total
ATS - 201	Human Growth and Development	5	30	70	100
ATS - 202	Anthropological Theories	5	30	70	100
ATS - 203	Anthropological Demography, Health and Nutrition	5	30	70	100
ATS - 204	Principles and Methods of Prehistoric Archaeology	5	30	70	100
ATS - 205	General Practical	5	-	100	100
	Total	25	120	380	500

SEMESTER -III

Paper Code	Paper	Credit	Marks		
			Internal	Final examination	Total
ATS - 301	Indian Society and Culture	5	30	70	100
ATS - 302	Applied Anthropology in India	5	30	70	100
ATS - 303	Indian Prehistory	5	30	70	100
ATS - 304	Ecological Anthropology	5	30	70	100
ATS - 305	Medical Anthropology	5	30	70	100
	Total	25	150	350	500

SEMESTER -IV

Paper Code	Paper	Credit	Marks		
			Internal	Final examination	Total
ATS- 401	Tribal Development in India	5	30	70	100
ATS - 402	Ethno-Archaeology	5	30	70	100
ATS - 403	Business Anthropology	5	30	70	100
ATS - 404	Development Anthropology	5	30	70	100
ATS - 405	Fieldwork based Dissertation	5	-	100	100
	Total	25	120	380	500

Semester	Paper Code	Credit	Marks
Semester-I	ATS -101, ATS -102, ATS - 103, ATS -104, ATS -105	25	500
Semester-II	ATS -201, ATS -202, ATS - 203, ATS - 204, ATS- 205	25	500
Semester-III	ATS - 301, ATS - 302, ATS - 303, ATS - 304, ATS - 305	25	500
Semester-IV	ATS - 401, ATS - 402, ATS - 403, ATS - 404, ATS - 405	25	500
Total		100	2000

Procedure for admissions, curriculum transaction, evaluation and medium of instruction:

Minimum Eligibility: Bachelor's degree in any discipline with at least 50% marks (45% in case of SC/ST) from an University established by law in India.

Examination & Evaluation:

- a) A candidate shall be required to attend at least 75% of the lectures and practical classes taken separately and condonation in exceptional cases may be granted by the Head of the Department to the extent of 15% on production of medical certificate.
- b) The theory examinations shall be conducted by means of written tests and the same question papers be used at every place (in case there is more than one center) at which the examination is held.
- c) There shall be practical examination(s) in subjects as prescribed by the Board of Studies. The duration of examination for 5 credit course theory papers shall be 3 hours.
- d) A candidate has to submit a Project report/Dissertation for evaluation after completion of Semester-IV theory examination wherever necessary. The project shall carry 100 marks consisting of both dissertation and viva-voce.
- e) The question paper for the semester examination shall contain alternative questions from each unit based on the courses of studies prescribed for that academic session.
- f) In University examination shall be held for 70 marks and one Internal Assessment Examinations (IAE) of 30 marks of one hour duration, assignments of 10 marks and seminar/quiz of 10 marks per each theory paper having full marks as 100 or in the ratio of 70:30.

Curriculum Transaction: In the Anthropology course, instructions are primarily delivered through the Lecture method during the Personal Contact Programme. Smart classrooms are also utilized to enhance learning. Efforts are underway to provide study materials in soft copy format to learners and to enable them to download these materials from the institution's website using their respective student IDs.

Medium of Instruction: The medium of instruction in Anthropology is in English. The study material will be made available to the student in English language. The lectures in personal contact programme are generally delivered in English.

Requirement of the Library Resources:

Library support: The Central Library of the University is situated in MSCBU main campus. The holdings of the library have been fully processed using the popular technical tools like 20th Edition DDC for classification and AACR-2 for cataloguing. OPAC through SOUL 2.0. The library is fully automated with RFID based automation integrated with SOUL 2.0 Integrated Library Management System (ILMS). The Central Library of MSCBU, Baripada Campus is first among all the state Universities of Odisha to be a fully automated library. The automation is done by use of RFID, Smart Cards, Check-in Checkout Kiosk and Gate Antenna Systems.

One to One class: From time to time, the Dept. conducts one to one doubt clearing class for students on demand basis.

Doubt clearing session: A provision to interact with subject faculties is also facilitated to students. Students can clear their doubts one to one with faculty members.

Assignments, Case Studies, Project Work: In addition to the main learning materials, students are provided with assignments, case studies, and project work. These learning components are generally based on contemporary situations and developments in the field of Anthropology.

Cost estimate of the programme and the provisions:

Category	Semester Fee (Rs.)	Total (Rs.)
Course Fee	6500	26000
Development Fee	1000	1000
Admission Fee	600	600
Total	-	27600

Quality assurance mechanism and expected programme outcomes: The university has an effective quality assurance and control mechanism in place. The expected outcome of this programme is to provide high-quality education. The Department offering the Master's programme in Anthropology aims to develop competent anthropologists with a strong theoretical foundation and rich practical experience. The duration of the course is two years, following a semester pattern, with a total of 50 seats available.

Field Work: In addition to theoretical courses, substantial concurrent fieldwork and skill training are integral components of the programme. Anthropology students undergo practical training in various governmental and non-governmental organizations, research institutions, and field sites. The fieldwork programme is designed to enable students to acquire professional skills, develop critical attitudes, and internalize values, ethics, and commitment relevant to the discipline. The Anthropology programme includes fieldwork, rural/tribal camps, exposure visits, and study tours as essential parts of the course curriculum.

Placement: Anthropology graduates have a wide range of career and project opportunities. They can work in research institutions, museums, governmental and non-governmental organizations, and community development agencies. For instance, graduates may join NGOs like CRY (Child Rights and You), Smile Foundation, Goonj, or Akshaya Patra Foundation for social research and community projects, or engage

with international organizations such as UNICEF, UNDP, and Oxfam. Funding for anthropological research and fieldwork can also be availed through agencies like Tata Trusts, Infosys Foundation, Ministry of Tribal Affairs, and National Foundation for India, enabling students to gain hands-on experience while contributing to social and cultural development initiatives.