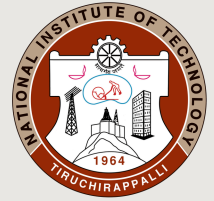


National Institute of Technology
Tiruchirappalli



DEPARTMENT OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

MA English
Admissions | 2026-2028



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About the Department

DEPARTMENT OF HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES

A Legacy of Excellence

Established in 2004, the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences is one of the top-ranked departments among the NIT Tiruchirappalli, known for its interdisciplinary research and strong faculty–student collaboration. The Department strives to meet the evolving demands of industry, business, academia, and public and private sectors through a practical and professionally relevant curriculum that prepares students to address real-time challenges. It offers a range of core and elective courses at the undergraduate and postgraduate levels, a full-fledged Ph.D. program producing quality research in emerging areas of Humanities and Social Sciences, Economics, Language and Literature.

Our Approach to Humanities

The Department currently offers an M.A. in English, guided by a vision to provide comprehensive education that traces the historical development of English language and literature through state-of-the-art pedagogy and research. Its mission is to enrich students understanding of the discipline while developing their communication, critical thinking, and research skills, preparing them for successful careers and lifelong learning, and instilling strong ethical values and professional practices. The Department is supported by a dedicated team of 13 faculty members who publish high-quality research, actively participate in sponsored projects, and deliver invited lectures at reputed academic institutions and industry fora.

Vision, Mission & Values

VISION

Comprehensive Education in English Language and Literature

To provide a comprehensive education in English Language and Literature, tracing its history and development through state-of-the-art pedagogy and research.

MISSION

Developing Scholars, Communicators & Ethical Thinkers

- To enrich students' understanding of English Language and Literature.
- To develop communication, critical thinking, and research skills.
- To prepare students for successful careers and a lifelong appreciation of learning.
- To instill ethical values, principles, and practices.

CORE VALUES

Critical Inquiry

Students are trained to read carefully, question assumptions, and engage with texts and ideas with rigour and analytical precision.

Ethical Awareness

The programme fosters an awareness of the moral, cultural, and social dimensions of language, literature, and human communication.

Lifelong Learning

Graduates are encouraged to remain engaged with the discipline and with the broader world of ideas throughout their personal and professional lives.

Programme Overview

The MA in English at NIT Tiruchirappalli is a two-year full-time postgraduate programme designed to develop students' understanding of the English language and its literary tradition. Students engage with a broad range of texts and critical frameworks across historical periods, developing the analytical, communicative, and research skills required for advanced study and professional practice.

PROGRAMME

MA English

ACADEMIC YEAR BEGINS

July / August 2026

DURATION

2 Years — 4 Semesters

Full-time residential programme

ADMISSION BASIS

CUET (PG) Score

Based on the NTA markings and norms

TOTAL INTAKE

25

Including reserved categories as per norms

MODE

On-Campus, Full Time

ELIGIBILITY

Bachelor's Degree in English or equivalent

1. First class (60% or above of aggregate marks or 6.5 CGPA)
2. SC / ST / PwD candidates shall have 55% or above (6.0 CGPA)
3. Candidates appearing in the final year of Bachelor degree programme may also apply. Provisional admission is permitted for such candidates.

What We Offer

Along with a well-grounded understanding of English language and literature, the programme's pedagogy is designed to develop a broad set of graduate competencies. These complement disciplinary knowledge and prepare students for both further research and professional contexts. The following are the key outcomes the programme aims to foster in each student.

01 Analytical Critical Thinking	02 Theoretical Literacy
03 Research Competence	04 Employability Skills
05 Pedagogical Expertise	06 Multilingual and Translation Skills
07 Interdisciplinary Thinking	08 Academic Writing and Communication
09 Analytical Reading Skills	10 Reflective and Ethical Awareness

Course Structure

YEAR ONE

Semester I

	CREDITS
Language and Linguistics	3
Indian Writing in English	3
Renaissance to Neoclassical Literature	3
Romantic and Victorian Literature	4
English Language Teaching	4
Elective - 1	3

Summer Internship : Internship / Industrial Training / Academic Attachment (I/A) / Seminar (6 weeks to 8weeks) 2 Credits

YEAR TWO

Semester III

	CREDITS
Biolinguistics	3
Second Language acquisition	3
Translation Studies	3
Introduction to Cultural Studies	3
American Literature	3
Elective - 3	3

Semester II

	CREDITS
Modern Literature	3
English for Specific Purposes	4
Postmodern Literature	3
Language through Literature	3
Reading, Writing & Cognition	3
Elective - 2	3

Semester IV

	CREDITS
Literary Theory and Aesthetics: East & West	3
Research Methodology	3
Project	8

Distinguished Faculty

The programme is delivered by a faculty with expertise across literary studies, linguistics, and the interdisciplinary humanities. Members of the department are actively engaged in research alongside their teaching, and bring that scholarly engagement directly into their courses.

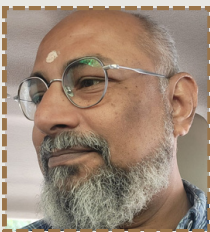
HEAD OF THE DEPARTMENT



Dr. R. Murugesan

PROFESSOR (HAG) AND HEAD

FIELD: Industrial Economics, Micro and Macro Economics, Econometrics, and ML Methods



Dr. Vinod Balakrishnan

Professor

FIELD: Cultural Studies, Philosophy, Public Humanities, Somaesthetics



Dr. R. Joseph Ponniah

Professor

FIELD: English Language Teaching, Second Language Acquisition, Reading, Bilingualistics; genetic & neuroscience of language



Dr. Sathyaraj Venkatesan

Professor

FIELD: Health humanities, Comics studies, American Literature



Dr. G. Nagasubramanian

Professor

FIELD: Managerial Economics, Organisational Behaviour, Industrial Psychology, Sociology and Culture, Entrepreneurship Development, Personnel Management

Distinguished Faculty



Dr. S. Mekala

Professor

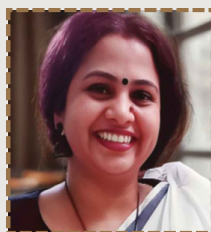
FIELD: Curriculum Design, Teaching and Learning Methods, Corporate Communication and 21st Century Skills



Prof. R. Gururaj

Associate Professor

FIELD: Language, Literature, Communication



Dr. V. K. Karthika

Assistant Professor

FIELD: English Language Education, Posthumanism, Critical Pedagogy, Peace Education, Indian Knowledge Systems



Dr. Padmaja M

Assistant Professor

FIELD: International Economics, Applied Econometrics, Foreign Direct Investment, and Industrial Economics



Dr. Nisha Viswanathan

Assistant Professor

FIELD: Post critique, Author Studies, Literary and Critical Theory, Critical Posthumanism



Dr. Anu Kuriakose

Assistant Professor

FIELD: Representation of Transgender and Genderqueer identities, Cultural Studies, Digital Humanities, intersection of AI in Academic Writing



Dr. S. Yogeshwari

Assistant Professor

FIELD: Agricultural Economics, Urban Economics, Environmental Economics, Public Finance, and Developmental Economics.



Dr. N. Maneesha

Assistant Professor

FIELD: Information Economics, Economics of Education, Human Resource Economics

The English Guild

The English Guild is the official association of the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences at NIT Tiruchirappalli. It actively fosters a vibrant literary and cultural environment by organizing a wide range of events throughout the academic year. These include guest lectures, seminars, workshops, poetry reading sessions, open mic events, quiz competitions, and both online and offline literary contests, attracting participation from students of NIT Trichy as well as other institutions across the country. The Guild also maintains an active presence through regular online events and consistent engagement with students via its Instagram page.

Over the years, the English Guild has had the privilege of hosting and facilitating interactions with several distinguished writers and scholars. Notable among them are renowned Indian English poet Jayanta Mahapatra; poet, fiction writer, translator, and academic Srilata Krishnan; and award-winning young poet Nitin Kushalappa. The Guild has also welcomed esteemed speakers such as Dr. Anandita Pan (IIT Hyderabad), Dr. Kavya Krishna (IIT Varanasi), Kavitha Krishnamoorthy (CELTA Trainer), and Gokul S., IAS, among others.



In addition to its independent initiatives, the English Guild regularly collaborates with various prominent student bodies on campus to enhance the scope and impact of its activities. These include Balls by Picasso, the official English Literary and Debating Society of NIT Trichy; The Thespians' Society, the institute's dramatics club; Streaks, the official fashion and modeling page of NIT Trichy; and Pixelbug, the institute's photography and videography club. Through such collaborations, the Guild continues to promote creativity, critical thinking, and interdisciplinary engagement among students.

Lexicon — The Annual Literary Fest

Lexicon is the annual literary fiesta organized by the English Guild, the official association of the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences at the National Institute of Technology Tiruchirappalli. Conceived as a platform to celebrate language, literature, and creative expression, Lexicon aims to foster intellectual engagement and artistic exploration among students from diverse academic backgrounds. It is typically conducted as a week-long literary fest featuring a blend of academic, creative, and interactive events.



Lexicon is designed to encourage participation not only from NIT Trichy students but also from students of other institutions, thereby promoting a broader exchange of ideas and perspectives. Lexicon comprises a diverse range of events catering to varied literary interests: Eminent academicians and writers are invited to deliver lectures on literature, culture, and career development. Events like Debate competition involve multiple rounds of argumentation on contemporary and abstract topics, encouraging critical thinking and articulation skills. Quiz competitions are conducted to test participants' knowledge of literature, language, and popular culture, often witnessing enthusiastic participation. Competitions such as poetry and creative writing include various formats like blackout poetry, slam poetry, and traditional verse writing. To ensure wider participation, Lexicon also features online competitions including micro-fiction writing, meme creation, typography, and photography contests. Activities such as Game Night and open mic sessions add a creative and recreational dimension to the fest, encouraging informal interaction and artistic expression.

Lexicon witnesses active participation from students across departments, reinforcing the interdisciplinary nature of the event. The hybrid format, comprising both online and offline events enhances accessibility and inclusivity, allowing participants from various institutions to engage meaningfully.

Life at the Department

◆ Senior-Junior Mentorship

The department's small cohort size fosters a close relationship between senior and junior students. Second-year students offer guidance on coursework, research methods, and academic writing — a tradition of peer mentorship that has become an integral part of the programme's learning environment.

◆ Reading & Research

Students develop independent research skills through seminar papers, critical essays, and the final dissertation. Access to the institute's central library and digital resources supports sustained engagement with primary texts and scholarly literature.

◆ Campus Life at NIT Trichy

MA students are part of NIT Tiruchirappalli's residential campus, with access to the central library, sports facilities, hostels, and a range of student activities. The institute's scale and infrastructure support a well-rounded postgraduate experience.

◆ Guest Lectures

The department regularly invites scholars, writers, and practitioners to speak with students on topics that extend and enrich the curriculum. These sessions offer students direct engagement with voices working at the forefront of literary studies, linguistics, and related fields.

Alumni Testimonials

“

The MA English programme at NIT Trichy has been a truly transformative experience for me. The well-structured assessments and constructive feedback helped me improve as a student of Literature. The classroom discussions and seminar sessions made learning engaging and intellectually enriching. Our dedicated and supportive faculty inspired me to choose the same institution for my doctoral programme.

ANNE JOSEPH • BATCH '25 • PHD, NIT, TRICHY

“

The MA course at NIT Trichy was quite well-structured. I genuinely enjoyed the variety in terms of the papers offered, spanning from English Literature, Linguistics and ELT, allowing you to explore many areas of study within a short span of time.

CHRISTINA JOSHY • BATCH '22 • PHD, IIT, HYDERABAD

“

Pursuing a Master's degree from NIT Trichy was the best choice. I was constantly challenged to think critically and push beyond my comfort zone, and these lessons prepared me immensely for my career. With a thoughtful blend of literature and language, the curriculum offered a broad disciplinary understanding that went beyond rote learning, making for an intellectually transformative experience.

ANUGRAHA SAJI • BATCH '24 • PHD, NIT, TRICHY

Alumni Testimonials

“*The MA in English course at NIT Trichy provided me with a strong foundation in my domain knowledge. The faculty at the department offered us invaluable mentorship and equipped us with the right skillsets, academic rigour and discipline even amidst the challenges of the pandemic. The well-designed course with a right mix of language, literature, and ELT components, effectively prepared me to appear for the UGC NET examination without any additional coaching and helped me clear the same on my first attempt. The research exposure and publication opportunities received during my MA project played a crucial role in enabling me to secure doctoral candidacy at premier institutions in India and abroad. My time at NIT Trichy allowed me to interact with students from diverse streams and actively take up several positions of responsibility including the organisation of department level programmes to institute level cultural fests. These opportunities trained me and my classmates in navigating professional workspaces and sowed the seeds of diverse career paths in front of us. I am truly indebted to my MA time at DoHSS NITT for my academic standing today and the friends I cherish.*

REVATHY KRISHNAN • BATCH '22 • PHD, IIT, MADRAS

“*The two-year M.A. in English programme at NIT Trichy provided me with invaluable opportunities and experiences that were quintessential to my growth as a scholar. The diverse expertise of the faculty widened and enriched our knowledge across different domains of literature, linguistics and ELT. Beyond strengthening our disciplinary knowledge, the faculty rigorously trained us in critical thinking, research methodologies, and academic writing. Such training enabled us to easily clear competitive exams like UGC NET and secure doctoral positions at reputed institutions in India and abroad. Furthermore, the programmes and activities we organised as part of The English Guild allowed us to channel our creative energy, work collaboratively, and make lasting memories. Overall, my time at the DoHSS NITT has not only allowed me to grow academically and professionally, but also as an individual.*

DEEKSHA. S V • BATCH '24 • PHD, IIT, KANPUR

Admission Procedure

Admission to the M.A. Programme will be based on the candidate's performance in CUET-PG 2026 conducted by the National Testing Agency (NTA).

Appear for CUET (PG)

Applicants must register and appear for CUET (PG) 2026 in the relevant subject as notified by the National Testing Agency

Meet Eligibility Criteria

Applicants must fulfil the eligibility criteria prescribed by NIT Tiruchirappalli for admission to the MA English programme

Fulfil Admission Requirements

All admission requirements as notified by the Institute must be met. Incomplete applications or those not meeting prescribed criteria will not be considered.

Application Procedure & Important Dates

Details regarding the application procedure, cut-off criteria, and counselling schedule will be announced on the Institute's official website. Applicants are advised to visit the website regularly for updates

Why NITT?

The MA in English at NIT Tiruchirappalli offers something distinct: the depth of a humanities education within the academic rigor of a premier national institution. The programme combines a grounding in literary tradition with engagement across contemporary fields — including Linguistics, English Language Teaching, Cultural Studies, Film Studies, Medical Humanities, Gender Studies, and Digital Humanities.

Students benefit from the guidance of experienced faculty whose research spans the discipline and its intersections, and from the resources and intellectual environment of an Institute of National Importance. The programme develops critical thinking, research capability, and written and oral communication to a standard that serves graduates well across academic and professional contexts.

For students who are serious about the study of English and wish to pursue it at the postgraduate level within a rigorous institutional setting, NIT Tiruchirappalli offers a considered and well-established programme through which to do so.





DEPARTMENT OF HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES

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WRITING IT ANEW

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