



# STUDY IN KERALA

**(GOD'S OWN COUNTRY @Mahatma Gandhi  
University, Kottayam)**

**an unforgettable learning experience for young  
people who love the life and people of  
traditional villages in Kerala, the tiny state  
in the southern most tip of India**

Regular Programmes, Customized Study Abroad programmes,  
Faculty Development workshops tailored to the  
specialized needs and preferences of college and  
university students and the faculty from abroad



**University Centre for International Co-operation (UCIC)  
Mahatma Gandhi University, P.D. Hills, Kottayam- 686560, INDIA**



# STUDY IN KERALA GOD'S OWN COUNTRY @Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam

The beaches of Hawaii, the backwaters of Venice, the boathouses of Kashmir, the vales of Switzerland, the wildlife of



Africa, the festivals of Spain, the boattraces of Singapore, the Waterfalls of North America, the health

resorts of Phuket. Find all these in one place. That is Kerala, God's Own Country. National Geographic Society Traveller listed Kerala among the world's 50 greatest places of a lifetime. The only other Indian name in the list is Taj Mahal. Kerala has a long history and tradition of welcoming people from other lands. The Arabs, the Chinese, Phoenicians, Romans, Jews, the Portugese, the Dutch, the French and the English came to Kerala for trade and assimilated themselves into the mainstream of life in this most tolerant society.

Kerala has also an impressive history of higher education. This tiny state in the southern-most tip of India has a strong higher education system. Given small size, Kerala has, perhaps, the largest number of colleges among the states of India. Colleges in Kerala can be generally classified into two categories, viz. traditional and professional. Most of these colleges offer undergraduate and graduate degree programmes in several disciplines. The quality and standard of professional education in Kerala are very high. Tuition fee is perhaps, the lowest among all destinations in the world. Living cost is also the lowest. Most of the colleges in Kerala are situated in agricultural villages and are very close to nature.



Malayalam is the local language. However, most people

understand and speak English. There are also English lanugage daily newspapers published from Kerala. Hinduism, Islam and Christianity are the three major religions. People of Kerala live in complete religious harmony. In fact, Christianity was founded in Kerala, in A.D. 52, much before it was established in Europe. Early Arab traders brought the Prophet's words. The oldest Jewish synagogue east of Jerusalem in the sleepy by lane of Fort Kochi is still an attraction for tourists from all over the world.

Keralite students are very friendly, hospitable and helpful to students from other countries. Teachers may not be as informal as teachers in the United States, United Kingdom or Australia. Almost all colleges and universities in Kerala offer on-campus accommodation for students. There are also private hostels for students. Homestay is another option for



international students.

The climate in Kerala is very moderate. There are mainly only two seasons—summer and monsoon. Kerala is the land of coconuts. Palms shade the entire state from the tropical sun. The wildlife sancturies, the beach at Kovalam, one of the best in the world, the greenery, the lagoons, the wide vareity of tropical fruits and the people of high hospitality are a rewarding experience for young students from other countries.

The main food is rice eaten with dishes of spicy vegetable, fish and meat curries.



However, all varieties of Indian, Chinese and continental dishes are also available

at restaurants in Kerala.

Kerala has four international airports, at Kannur, Kochi, Kozhikode and Thiruvananthapuram. It takes less than four hours for the flight from South East Asia and the Middle East, about eight hours from Europe and less than sixteen hours from the United States to reach here. There are direct flights to Kerala from several overseas destinations. Internal travel is mainly by road and rail. Kerala is also connected with all major towns and cities of India by both air and rail.

A significant advantage of studying in this tiny state in the southernmost tip of India is that since life in Kerala is deeply rooted in strong family set-up and social relationship and since it also sets high store by spiritual and moral values, the experience gained from studying and living in the state will be of immense help to lay solid foundations for personal and family life later. In short, the education system in Kerala is tailor-made to produce morally upright, spiritually enlightened and socially committed citizens of tomorrow.

If the attitude towards new experiences and people is open-minded and positive, international students will enjoy their stay in Kerala where education is a perfect blend of oriental wisdom and modern technology.

## Kottayam

Kottayam, popularly known as the land of letters, latex and



lakes, is the first district in the country to have achieved total

literacy, a feat achieved as early as in 1989 itself. CMS College, the first college in Kerala and the CMS press, the first printing press in Kerala are located in this Town. The district is also a

leader in printing and publishing industry, in Kerala - Hence the title 'Land of Letters'.

More than 20% of the natural rubber produced in the country comes from the well kept rubber estates of Kottayam (mainly from the Taluks of Pala and Kanjirappally), which makes it the largest rubber producing district in the country. This gave Kottayam the title - 'The Land of Latex'. Kottayam district is flanked by the mighty [Western Ghats](#) in the east and [Vembanad lake](#) in the west. The western parts of the district are agriculture oriented, paddy being the main cultivation. Kumarakom, the famed backwater destination is located in this district, which is just 14 kms away from Kottayam Town. This makes it the land of Lakes. The nearest beaches are in the neighbouring Alleppey district, which can be reached in 45 minutes - 1.5 hours from Kottayam Town.

Climate in Kottayam is a blend of the tropical and equatorial climate. It can be characterized as hot and humid. The city has a hilly terrain and the high altitude vastly influences the climate of Kottayam. Kottayam experiences plenty of rainfall in monsoon season from June to September. The best time to visit Kottayam is in between September and March. The pleasant



and cool climate during this period has a soothing effect.

## Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam

Mahatma Gandhi

University, one of the major Universities in Kerala, is a premier educational institution that strives to fulfill the higher educational needs of the people from Central Kerala. Set on the sprawling 110-acre Priyadarsini Hills Campus at Athirampuzha, 12 kms off Kottayam, 80 Kilometers from Kochi Air Port, the University also has two satellite campuses in Kottayam. The University was established on 2nd October 1983 and has jurisdiction over the revenue districts of Kottayam, Ernakulam, Idukki and parts of Pathanamthitta and Alappuzha. The Institution offers a large number of programmes at the Undergraduate, Postgraduate, M Phil and Doctoral levels through its 17 University Departments, one International and Inter University Centre, 7 Inter University Centres, 10 Inter School Centres, 77 Govt./Aided affiliated colleges, 10 Autonomous Colleges (of which 8 are colleges with a Potential for Excellence), 200 unaided affiliated colleges and 199 Recognized research centres. It imparts education in the interdisciplinary as well as conventional disciplines of Science, Social Science and Humanities besides in professional

disciplines like Technology, Legal Studies, Pedagogy, Pharmacy and Nursing.



**Programmes Available** The University is well known for a wide variety of specializations at the Under graduate, Post graduate and Professional programmes through its statutory schools and affiliated colleges keeping pace with industry and market requirements. There are 52 specialisations for Bachelor of Arts (B.A), 43 for Bachelor of Science (B. Sc), 14 for Bachelor of Commerce (B.Com), 8 for Bachelor of Technology (B. Tech), 27 for Master of Arts (M.A), 44 for Master of Science (M.Sc), 10 for Master of Commerce (M.Com) , Master of Business administration(MBA), Master of Computer Applications (MCA) and 6 for Master of Technology (M. Tech) programmes. Research Programmes of M. Phil and Ph. D are available in almost all disciplines. Options are available to do the programme as full time regular programmes or on twinning basis as mutual agreement between University is abroad with credit transfer facility.

***Specially Designed Semester Abroad and India Study Programmes***

Tailor made Short modules of India Study Programmes of one month to one semester duration with credit transfer facility are available in the following area :- Indian policy, society, economy, culture, history, philosophy, Sustainable Tourism, Tourist Destinations in Kerala, Arts and Culture in Kerala, Yoga, Foreign language learning like German, Sanskrit, Chinese and French. Foreign students in Regular Programmes can also join for this programme along with their programme of study. The approximate cost of this programme is 150\$ per month.



***International Faculty Development Programme***

This programme specially designed for the faculty members and academicians in

foreign Universities who are interested to visit Kerala/India for a

short term visit as part of their academic requirement or personal travel plan. –It is a two week programme preferably conducted in the month of December/January. The participants will spend first week on the University campus attending academic sessions and visiting selected departments. The second week is dedicated to site visits to Kerala tourist locations and pilgrim centers. The programme fee includes academic session fee, tourist visit fee, accommodation excluding food airport pickup and launch which approximately costs to 1500 US\$.



**Academic Year**

The Academic Year starts in the month of July for the first semester and December for the second semester. Usually there are three vacations, one week break for *Onam*, the harvest festival of Kerala in the month of September and one week Christmas vacation and two months summer vacation during April/May.

**Tuition Fee and Living Cost**

The approximate annual tuition fee for undergraduate programmes ranges from 500\$ to 2500 \$, Post graduate programmes and research from 700\$ to 3000\$. Accommodation facilities are provided in University International Hostels, Studio type apartments and home-stays near the campus at an average monthly rent per head, ranging from 80\$ to 300\$ . The average living cost in Kottayam is 7\$ per day.

## **Programmes in M.G University Schools/ Departments/ Centers**

### **1. School of Behavioural Sciences (SOBS)**

Courses: M.Sc. - Disability Studies and Rehabilitation Science/Psychology, M. Phil- Behavioural Medicine and Rehabilitation, Rehabilitation Psychology, Special Education and Rehabilitation Sciences, Behavioural Science and Rehabilitation Nursing, Ph. D- Special Education, Psychology, Behavioural Medicine, Rehabilitation Nursing and Behavioural Sciences

### **2. School of Biosciences (SBS)**

Courses: M.Sc. - Microbiology, Biochemistry, Biotechnology, Biophysics, M. Phil- Bioscience, Ph. D- Microbiology, Biochemistry, Biotechnology & Physiology

### **3. School of Chemical Science (SCS) (1983)**

Courses: M.Sc. - Chemistry, Organic, Inorganic, Physical, Polymer Sciences, M. Phil- Inorganic/Organic/Physical/Polymer Chemistry, Ph. D- M.Sc. Ph. D (Integrated)

### **4. School of Computer Science (SOCS)**

Courses: M.Sc.- Computer Science, M. Phil- Computer Science, M. Tech- Computer Science, Ph.D.- Computer Science

### **5. School of Environmental Sciences (SES)**

Courses: M.Sc. - Environmental Science & Management, Environmental Science & Disaster Management, M. Phil & Ph.D. Environmental Management, and Short Term courses on Geo information Science and Technology

### **6. School of Gandhian Thought and Development Studies (SGTDS)**

Courses: M.A. Gandhian Studies, Development Studies, M. Phil. Development Studies, Gandhian Studies, Social Work and Ph.D.- interdisciplinary

### **7. School of Indian Legal Thought (SILT)**

Courses: 3 Year LL.B, 5 Year BA.LL.B, LL.M., Law of Human Rights, Constitutional and Administrative Law and Ph.D.

### **8. School of International Relations and Politics (SIRP)**

Courses: M. A. Politics & International Relations, M.A. Politics and Human Rights, M.A. Public Policy and Governance, M. Phil. in Politics and International Relations, and Ph.D. in International Relations)

### **9. School of Letters (SOL)**

Courses: M.A. - English, M.A. Malayalam, M. Phil. - Malayalam, English, and Theatre Arts, Ph. D. - English, Malayalam, Comparative Literature and Cultural Studies.

### **10. School of Life Long Learning and Extension (DLLE)**

Courses: Certificate courses: Yogic Science, Organic Farming, Counselling, Management of Learning Disabilities, Diploma Courses: Yogic Science, Organic Farming

### **11. School of Management and Business Studies (SMBS) (1998)**

Courses: MBA, M. Phil. in Business Studies, and Ph.D. in Management

### **12. School of pedagogical sciences (SPS)**

Courses: M.Ed., M. Phil.

### **13. School of Physical Education and Sports Sciences (SPESS) (1983)**

Courses: M. P Ed. and Ph.D.

### **14. School of Pure and Applied Physics (SPAP)**

Courses: M.Sc. Physics, M. Phil. and Ph.D.

### **15. School of Social Sciences (SSS)**

Courses: MA History, MA Anthropology, M. Phil - General Social Science, Social Transformation and Empowerment, Human Ecology & Natural History, Ph.D. - Social Science

### **16. School of Tourism Studies**

Courses: Master of Tourism and Travel Management (MTTM)

### **17. School of Distance Education (SDE) (1989)**

SDE-UGC Open and Distance Learning System-Application for approval of UGC for starting new courses under SDE

### **18. Department of Printing and Publishing (DPP)**

## **INTERNATIONAL INTER UNIVERSITY CENTRES**

### **19. International and Inter-University Centre For Nano Science & Nano Technology (IIUCNN)**

Courses: PG Diploma in Nano Science and Nano Technology (3 months) PhD in Nano Science and Nano Technology (3 years), M S in Nano Science and Nano Technology, M Phil in Nano Science and Nano Technology, Integrated PhD (including 2 years Master's programme extended to PhD)

## **INTER UNIVERSITY CENTRES**

### **20. The Advanced Centre of Environmental Studies and Sustainable Development (ACESSD)**

Courses: PhD-Environmental Science, Chemistry, Forestry, Inter disciplinary open courses, Research Programmes, Extension Programmes

### **21. Inter University Centre for Disability Studies (IUCDS)**

Courses: M.Phil. -Disability Studies, PhD - Disability Studies, Short term certificate programmes in Disability Rehabilitation, Early Assessment and Management Services (DREAMS) Speech Therapy, Physiotherapy, Psychological Assessments, Counselling Services, Disability Assessments.

### **22. Inter University Centre For Social Science Research And Extension (IUSSRE)**

Inter disciplinary teaching, research (PhD) and praxis invention in: Human Geography, Human Ecology, Social Transformation Studies, Gender Studies, Tribal Studies and Sustainable Development Studies.

### **23. Inter University Instrumentation Centre (IUIIC)**

**Courses: PhD - all branches of Science, Short term course on Analytical Instrumentation**

### **24. Institute For Intensive Research In Basic Sciences (IIRBS)**

Courses: Five Year Interdisciplinary Integrated MS (Master in Science) Chemistry, Physics, Biology-stream (Major), Five Year Interdisciplinary Integrated PhD(MSc +PhD) in Physics, Chemistry, Biology streams.

### **25. K.N. Raj Study Centre for Planning And Centre -State Financial Relations (KNRC)**

Courses: M.A Economics, MPhil and PhD - Fiscal Federalism, Centre-State Financial Relations

### **26. Centre For English Language and Communication Skills (CELCS) (2008)**

Courses: Post Graduate Certificate in English Communication (PGCEC), Post Graduate Diploma in English Communication (PGDEC), Other short-term courses in English Language and Communication, Eligibility: Graduation

### **27. University Centre for International Co-Operation (UCIC)**

**Courses:** Certificate course on foreign languages : German, Chinese, Arabic, French

### **28. Institute for Contemporary Chinese Studies (ICCS)**

Courses proposed: 5 year M.A. Integrated Programme in International Relations with specialization on Chinese Studies; Semester Abroad/ Study Programme whereby students from Mahatma Gandhi University will spend one semester in China and will specialize in course modules related to China. On the other hand, Chinese students will spend one semester in

Mahatma Gandhi University, focusing on India studies; M.Phil/Ph.D. Programmes in Chinese Studies.

**For Programmes offered in Colleges Affiliated to Mahatma Gandhi University please visit**

[www.mgu.ac.in/programmes](http://www.mgu.ac.in/programmes)

**For Programme Enquires and detailed programme Brochure and application form visit**

[www.ucicmgu.org](http://www.ucicmgu.org), [www.mgu.ac.in](http://www.mgu.ac.in)

**For more details contact**

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