

**MBA (Rural Project Management)****Salient Features**

Gandhigram Rural Institute, Gandhigram has been offering a course on MBA in Rural Project Management since 2005-06 under the ampices of Dept. Extension Education. This is an AICTE approved, full-time programme offered thro' regular mode. Every year 15 students are admitted, thro' Entrance Test and Interview.

UG students from all disciplines (Humanities, Social Sciences and Sciences), with 50 percent marks are eligible to apply. Students from overseas and inservice candidates are also admitted in a small number.

Course structure comprises theory, internship and dissertation. Theory component consists of 20 subjects, carrying four credits each. Practical training component carries 26 credits, and Dissertation carries 8 credits.

Under practical training, First year students are placed in Village Panchayats, Block office, and District level development departments including DRDA, for one month. Final year students are placed with donor agencies, NGOs, Corporates, and Software companies for eight weeks.

In addition, students camp in villages for one week each during the first year and second year respectively. Interested students also stay in nearby villages under the institute's unique *Samaaj Shilpi* (Rural Change Agents) programme.

Guest lecturers drawn from various development sectors (Govt., Donor agencies, Corporates, Software giants etc) supplement the classroom teaching by the faculty, on topics of current global importance.

Placement rate is 100 percent. Government departments, Donor agencies, NGOs, Banks, Industry, Software companies, and Colleges/Universities employ these graduates in large number.

The department provides abundant opportunities for students to partner in the seminars and workshops as well as in the Action research projects sponsored by reputed institutions like UNDP, World Bank, and the Union Planning Commission, Govt. of India. Students also get opportunities in associating themselves with the rural extension programmes of the department and the institute.

Students are also encouraged to present papers in seminars/workshops, and formulate research proposal on varied themes. They are also trained in conducting case studies on live rural problems in the neighbourhood communities.

Students are eligible to get scholarship from Govt. of Tamil Nadu. Loan scholarship is facilitated from the Nationalized Banks. UGC also provides Post Graduate scholarship to Professional courses for SC/ST students.

The sylvan surroundings of Gandhigram provide a panoramic view of nature and a very pleasant atmosphere for learning and research by students throughout the year.

Note: *For detailed syllabus and general information about the institute, please log on [www.ruraluniv.ac.in](http://www.ruraluniv.ac.in)*