



কটন বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় Cotton University

A Brief about B.A. in Liberal Arts

“The basic purpose of a liberal arts education is to liberate the human being to exercise his or her potential to the fullest.”

-Barabara M. White

American ambassador, educator and
civil servant

The new **B.A. in Liberal Arts** of Cotton University is a **three-year Bachelor’s Degree programme, first of its kind in Assam and Northeast India.** It is designed in line with the latest draft National Education Policy (2019) which emphasizes Liberal Arts as the futuristic substitute for monochromatic B.A. programmes existing in most Higher Education Institutions in India. With the introduction of this programme in the next academic session, Cotton University envisions itself as a pioneering National Educational Institute that offers Liberal Arts under a public education system, in accordance with the norms and regulations of the UGC.

Why Liberal Arts Education?

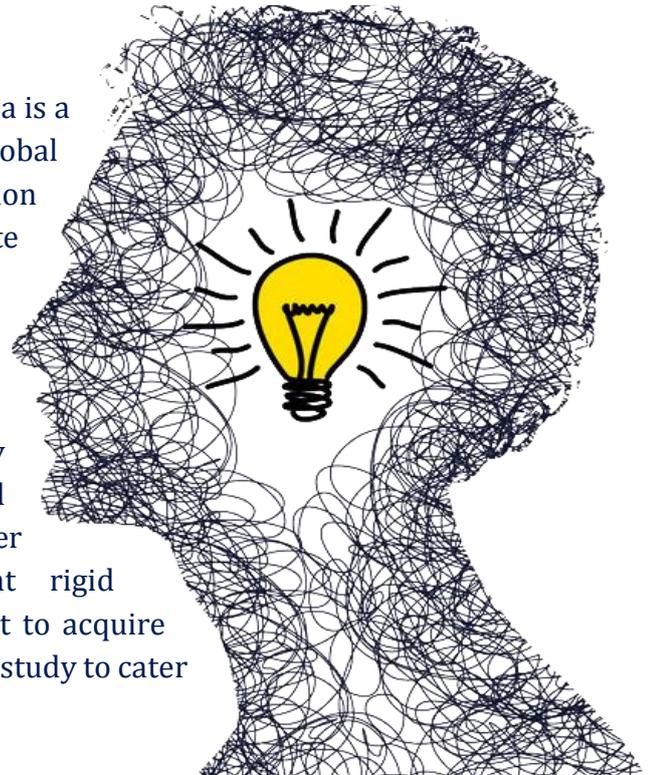
A solid well-grounded Liberal Arts education system in India is a need of the hour and is central to present-day global imagination. Institutions with a focus on Liberal Arts education aim to produce human resource capable of solving intricate problems through rational and critical thinking.

What does the programme offer?

B.A. in Liberal Arts offers students the opportunity to study a broad range of subjects while developing specialized knowledge in their major discipline. It offers a better curricular flexibility demolishing currently prevalent rigid boundaries in traditional B.A. degree. It enables a student to acquire knowledge across disciplines and design a unique course of study to cater to their need and future plan.

What are the courses included?

Foundation Course: Students will take up foundation courses in the first and second semesters of the programme. A student will choose any four subjects as foundation courses from a given pool of diverse subjects across disciplines such as English, Economics, Mathematics, Political Science, Psychology, Philosophy, History, Education, Statistics, Sociology, Geography and Environmental Science in each of the two semesters (in the second semester, out of the four courses, maximum two subjects common to those studied in the first semester). The idea of studying foundation courses is to allow the students



sufficient time to develop interest towards a particular subject and to identify the subject that can help him/her in achieving future goal.

Core Course: The core or major course is offered to the students in the third semester which continues till the sixth semester. From the foundation courses offered in the first two semesters, a student will choose one core course for intensive study till the final semester of the programme.

Elective Course: An elective course is one which can be chosen from a pool of courses such as Archaeology, Media Studies, Cultural Studies, Art History, Tribal Studies, Veda Studies, Sanskrit, Assamese, Data Analysis, Business Mathematics, Gender Studies, Legal Studies, Public Policy, International Relations, and Library and Information Science. Such a course seeks to provide students with exposure to other disciplines/subjects. Elective courses are offered in the third, fourth, fifth and sixth semesters.

Ability Enhancement Compulsory Course (AECC): There are three mandatory AECC courses: (a) Environmental Studies, (b) English Communication and (c) Research Methodology. The students will take up these courses in the first, second and fifth semesters.

Skill Enhancement Course (SEC): A SEC may be chosen from a pool of courses such as Classical Music, Sattriya Dance, Drama, Design, Fine Arts, Creative Writing, Yoga and Physical Education, Entrepreneurship, Website Development, and Foreign (French and German) language courses. Such a course is designed to provide skill-based knowledge to the students. The primary purpose of the course is to acquaint students with life-skills in hands-on mode to increase their employability. Such a course is offered during the third and fourth semesters.



Dissertation/Capstone: Capstone is a course which allows a student to pursue independent research on a question or problem of their choice with advisory support by a faculty member to produce a substantial report. Such a course is compulsory and offered to the students in the sixth semester.

What are the Career Opportunities?

A degree in Liberal Arts opens up a plethora of career options and a student can branch out into different careers such as academics, managing foreign affairs and embassies, policy research and development, health care administration, social work, civil services, client servicing, marketing, banking and a lot more. With a Liberal Arts degree, a student can assume various roles such as translator/ interpreter, technical writer, economist, sociologist, psychologist, human resources specialist, Public Relations specialist and many more.

