Centre for European Studies
PONDICHERY UNIVERSITY
Pondicherry University

A Central University, established through an Act of Parliament in 1985, has already completed more than 25 years of its existence. The campus is spread over 780 acres of land with lush green tropical vegetation. It has emerged as India's fastest expanding Central University crossing growth mark of 300% during the last five years and has about 7,000 students now representing all the states and UTs of the country and abroad, and over 450 highly qualified faculty from across the country. It has a state of the art Library with remote access to over 31,000 digital information resources through a dedicated library portal. The entire university campus is Wi-Fi enabled.

The University offers 157 Masters, Doctoral and Diploma programmes in 34 Departments, 10 Centres and two Chairs under the umbrella of 15 Schools. It has a Community College and Directorate of Distance Education offering numerous professional and career-oriented programmes. Pondicherry University was the first University to adopt the CBCS and Semester system which easily facilitates the mobility of students with credit transfer both in India and abroad. The University is growing with a cardinal principle of Expansion with Excellence and Equity and remains connected globally. About 30 MoUs have been signed with International and National academic and research institutions for exchange of faculty and students.

European Studies Programme

Teaching and Research

European Studies continues to remain one of the thrust areas of teaching and research of the Department of Politics and International Studies of Pondicherry University. While courses like Modern Diplomacy and European Integration – Policies, Programmes and Institutions concentrate mainly on European Studies, certain other courses like International Law, International Economics and International Relations and Human Rights deal with certain aspects of Europe. Faculty as well as students of the department concentrates on different aspects of European Studies for their research. One of the faculty members has already completed a UGC-sponsored Major Research Project on European Common Foreign and Security Policy – Implications for India.

Publications

International/National Colloquia/Workshops
Organized

- Two-day International Workshop on Curriculum Development in European Studies in collaboration with India-EU Study Centres Programme on March 7-8, 2011.
- Two-day International Workshop on European Common Foreign and Security Policy – Implications for India in collaboration with India-EU Study Centres Programme on October 11-12, 2010.
- Three-day International Colloquium on European Convention on Human Rights – Lessons from Experiences in collaboration with the Faculty of Law, Political and Social Sciences of University of Paris 13 on March 1-3, 2010.
- Three-day International Colloquium on India, EU and the US – A Triilogue in collaboration with the Faculty of Law, Political and Social Sciences of University of Paris 13 on March 2-4, 2008.

Organised Series of lectures on different aspects of European Studies delivered by 11 scholars from Europe sponsored by the India-EU Study Centres Programme during 2011-12.

Centre for European Studies

The Centre for European Studies, Pondicherry University was established during the academic year 2011-12 by the University Grants Commission under its Area Studies Programme. Faculty positions and financial assistance is offered to support its academic activities.

Thrust Areas of Teaching and Research

Major area of teaching and research of the Centre will be European Union in general, with special reference to major countries like France, Germany and the United Kingdom. Within that framework, the following themes will be concentrated:

- European Foreign and Security Policy
- Inter-regional and Regional Cooperation – Europe and Asia (with special reference to India and China)
- European Economy and Business
- Environment and Development
- Conflict Transformation Studies

Objectives of the Centre
To promote holistic understanding of Europe with its cultural, socio-economic and strategic specificities

To create a hub of activities on European Studies

To pursue theory and policy oriented studies and research

Vision of the Centre

To blossom into a Centre of Excellence for European Studies in India

To provide platform for inter-disciplinary teaching and research

To develop network with Centres for European Studies in India and in Europe

To enhance the visibility of the EU in India

Academic Programmes

Ph.D. Programme in European Studies

P.G. Programme in European Studies (in Dual Degree Programme Mode)

P.G. Diploma in European Studies

International Collaboration/Networking

The Centre shall take benefit of the MoUs signed by the University with Paris 13 University, France and Free University of Berlin, Germany in pursuing its academic activities. It shall also develop networking with other European and Indian universities and institutions.

Future Plans

To organise international and national colloquia/conferences/seminars/workshops on major themes of European Studies

To establish an EU Documentation Centre

To publish books, occasional / working papers, research articles and popular articles both in English and Indian / local languages

To launch a Journal on European Studies

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