

## *Career Opportunities for students*

# Academic ladders to take you to the top

The best and the bright youngsters of the modern world look for challenging careers rather than just a degree or professional qualification that can provide a succor or employment opportunities. With advancement in every sphere of technology, many new avenues of professions and training for them have come up.

Beyond the conventional arts/science/commerce/engineering/medical/paramedical/law courses, different Universities and institutions have developed tailor made packages of innovative courses outside the periphery of known degrees and diplomas. The courses are rather reinvented to suit the industry requirement like the dual law degree, dual commerce and business management degree, etc. These dual degrees allow one to major in both the subjects simultaneously. Then you have other innovative areas hitherto unheard of such as Infrastructure, Metro Technology, Industrial Area Planning, Public Management, Media and Entertainment, Fashion Styling, Animation and Visual Effects, Packaging and Printing, Development Finance, Health Management, Clinical Research, etc.

Students learn not only the core subjects but management skills that are needed at real work

situation such as general management, HR, finance, production, marketing, etc. Rigorous internship is a part of these courses in many Universities and colleges. It paves ways for students to find job opportunities from a strong and bargaining point rather than just a job seeker's point of view. In shot these courses give a much desired boost to the careers of the young professionals.

From this issue onwards the Asian Journal of Professional Ethics and Management will cover different courses and career opportunities that they provide to the aspiring students. The right way to launch such a column may be to talk about an inclusive and global multi-facet, multi-discipline canvas of modern academic education that throws open umpteen number of avenues not only for full time students but also for working men and women. You must have guessed it right, we are talking about the distant education prospects of Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) for various certificate, diploma, post-graduate and doctoral research programmes.

**Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU)**, established by an Act of Indian

Parliament in 1985, has provided opportunities for over 2 million people to acquire a University certification, gainful employment, workplace education and career progression. “IGNOU is committed to quality education, teaching and capacity building of students through Open and Distance Learning (ODL) pedagogy driven by Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs). Self-learning study materials have been offered to the students in such excellence that they can prepare themselves easily and feel as if the teachers are seated beside them,” says Dr. V.N. Rajasekharan Pillai, Vice Chancellor of Indira Gandhi National Open University.

IGNOU has certain unique features such as flexible admission rules; individualized study; flexibility in terms of place, pace and duration of study; use of latest information and communication technologies; cost-effective programme; modular approach to programmes, resource sharing, collaboration and networking with conventional Universities, open Universities and other Institutions/Organisations, etc.

**Academic Programmes** - The University offers both short-term and long-term

programmes leading to Certificates, Diplomas and Degrees, which are conventional as well as innovative. Most of these programmes have been developed after an initial survey of the demand for such Programmes.

**Support Services** – In order to provide individualized support to its learners, the University has a large number of Study Centres, spread throughout the country. These Study Centres are co-ordinated by 60 Regional Centres and Recognised Regional Centres.

**Programme Delivery** – The methodology of instruction in this University is different from that of the conventional Universities. The open university system is more learner-oriented and the learner is an active participant in the teaching and learning process. Most of the instructions are imparted through distance education methodology and face-to-face mode as per the requirement.

The above information is only a road map. Full details can be obtained from the following websites.

[www.ignou.ac.in](http://www.ignou.ac.in)

[www.indiastudycenter.com](http://www.indiastudycenter.com)

**A.V.**

*When we study in a college, striving to become a doctor, a lawyer, or an engineer - this is education for a living. On the other hand, education for life requires understanding the essential principles of spirituality. This means gaining a deeper understanding of the world: our minds, our emotions and ourselves. We all know that the real goal of education is not to create people who can understand only the language of machines. The main purpose of education should be to impart a culture of the heart - a culture based on spiritual values.*

**Mata Amritanandamayi**

