

Guru Jambheshwar University, Moradabad



Faculty of Geography Program Proposal Document
Master of Arts (M.A)

(NEP 2020 Compliant, Industry-Integrated Postgraduate Program)

1. Introduction

The proposed Master of Arts (M.A.) in Geography programme at Guru Jambheshwar University, Moradabad is designed to provide advanced, systematic, and interdisciplinary knowledge of physical, human, regional, and applied geography. The programme aims to develop strong analytical, spatial, and research competencies among students, with special emphasis on Geospatial Technologies (GIS & Remote Sensing), environmental studies, disaster management, urban and regional planning, population studies, tourism geography, and sustainable development.

In alignment with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 and the UGC Guidelines for Postgraduate Programmes (2022-23 onwards), the M.A. Geography programme adopts a flexible, learner-centric, and outcome-based curriculum. The structure of the programme integrates theoretical foundations, practical laboratory work, field surveys, project-based learning, internships, and research-oriented activities, ensuring holistic academic and professional development.

The programme emphasizes skill enhancement and employability by incorporating hands-on training in GIS, Remote Sensing, GPS, spatial data analysis, cartography, statistical techniques, and field-based methodologies. Students are encouraged to engage with real-world geographical issues such as climate change, environmental degradation, urbanization, resource management, disaster risk reduction, and regional development, particularly with reference to India and the developing world.

The M.A. Geography programme also aims to nurture critical thinking, ethical awareness, scientific temperament, and policy-oriented perspectives, enabling graduates to contribute meaningfully to government services, planning agencies, research organizations, NGOs, environmental consultancies, disaster management authorities, tourism departments, educational institutions, and entrepreneurial ventures. Furthermore, the programme provides a strong academic foundation for students aspiring to pursue doctoral research, teaching, and higher studies in geography and allied disciplines.

Through its NEP-compliant multiple entry-exit options, credit-based evaluation system, continuous internal assessment, and emphasis on multidisciplinary learning, the M.A.

Geography programme at Guru Jambheshwar University, Moradabad seeks to produce competent geographers, skilled professionals, responsible citizens, and future leaders capable of addressing contemporary spatial, environmental, and socio-economic challenges at local, national, and global levels.

2. Program Rationale

The geographical, environmental, and socio-economic landscape of Western Uttar Pradesh, particularly the Moradabad region, offers a highly relevant and dynamic context for advanced education in geography. The region is characterized by rapid urban expansion, industrial growth, agricultural transformation, riverine systems, flood and disaster vulnerability, population pressure, environmental degradation, tourism potential, and regional planning challenges. These complex spatial and environmental dynamics create a strong demand for professionally trained geographers who can analyze, plan, and manage space, resources, and development in a sustainable manner.

Moradabad and its surrounding areas are influenced by urban-rural interactions, industrial clusters, transportation networks, land-use change, climate variability, and socio-economic disparities, making the region an ideal living laboratory for applied geographical studies. Government agencies, planning departments, disaster management authorities, environmental organizations, NGOs, academic institutions, and private geospatial firms increasingly require professionals with expertise in GIS, Remote Sensing, spatial analysis, field-based research, environmental impact assessment, and policy-oriented geographical planning.

The M.A. Geography Programme at Guru Jambheshwar University, Moradabad is designed to bridge the gap between traditional theoretical geography and contemporary applied and professional requirements, in line with NEP 2020 and UGC postgraduate guidelines. The programme emphasizes the application of geographical knowledge to real-world problems, especially those relevant to regional development and sustainability in Western Uttar Pradesh and India as a whole.

This programme addresses these needs through:

Fieldwork-Integrated Learning:

Systematic field surveys, village and urban studies, environmental assessments, and regional analysis to strengthen empirical understanding and data collection skills.

GIS, Remote Sensing & Geospatial Training:

Hands-on exposure to GIS software, Remote Sensing techniques, GPS, cartography, spatial statistics, and geospatial data interpretation for practical problem-solving and employability.

Disaster Management & Environmental Studies:

Focus on flood management, climate change, environmental conservation, and disaster risk reduction relevant to river basins and urban settlements of the region.

Project-Based and Case Study Pedagogy:

Analysis of real-world geographical issues such as land-use change, urban growth, tourism development, population dynamics, and resource management through case studies and applied projects.

Internship and Community Engagement:

Opportunities for internships and collaborative work with local planning bodies, environmental agencies, NGOs, tourism departments, disaster management authorities, and geospatial organizations.

Research Orientation and Academic Skill Development:

Training in research methodology, quantitative and qualitative techniques, data analysis, report writing, and academic ethics to prepare students for higher studies and doctoral research.

Continuous Evaluation and Mentorship:

Outcome-based assessment through presentations, field reports, lab work, projects, and seminars, supported by academic mentoring and career guidance.

Through this comprehensive and region-sensitive approach, the M.A. Geography programme aims to produce professionally competent geographers capable of contributing to sustainable regional development, spatial planning, environmental management, disaster mitigation, academic research, and policy formulation, while also enhancing employability in both public and private sectors.

3. Alignment with NEP 2020 Framework

NEP 2020 Guideline	Programme Implementation (M.A. Geography)
Multiple Entry and Exit	Exit after 1 year (2 semesters) with Postgraduate Diploma in Geography (40 credits). Re-entry permitted through Academic Bank of Credits (ABC) to complete the M.A. degree.
Credit Framework	Total of 80 credits distributed over four semesters with balanced theory, practical, fieldwork, project, and research components as per UGC norms.
Academic Bank of Credits (ABC)	Full compliance with UGC (Establishment and Operation of Academic Bank of Credits) Regulations, 2021. Credits are digitally stored for transfer, accumulation, and academic mobility.
Choice Based Credit System (CBCS)	Core courses in Physical, Human, Regional, and Applied Geography; Discipline-specific electives including GIS & Remote Sensing, Disaster Management, Urban and Tourism Geography; Open Electives and Skill Enhancement Courses.
Experiential Learning	20-25% of credits earned through field surveys, GIS and Remote Sensing labs, urban-rural fieldwork, environmental assessments, internships, and project work.
Interdisciplinary Exposure	Electives offered from Economics, Environmental Studies, Sociology, Political Science, Public Administration, IT, and Data Science for integrated spatial understanding.
Skill Development	Hands-on training in GIS, Remote Sensing, GPS, cartography, spatial statistics, research methodology, field survey techniques, report writing, and presentation skills.
Digital Learning	One course (2 credits) offered through SWAYAM/NPTEL. Use of digital maps, satellite imagery, virtual labs, and LMS-based learning.
Holistic and Continuous Evaluation	Continuous Internal Assessment (60%) through assignments, lab work, field reports, seminars, and projects; End-Semester Examination (40%).

4. Programme Objectives

1. To provide advanced and in-depth knowledge of Physical Geography, Human Geography, Regional Geography, Environmental Geography, Economic and Population Geography, along with

emerging areas such as climate change, urban studies, tourism geography, and resource management.

2. To integrate theoretical foundations with practical and field-based learning through field surveys, laboratory work, GIS and Remote Sensing training, project work, internships, and regional case studies.

3. To develop geospatial, analytical, and technical competencies in GIS, Remote Sensing, GPS, cartography, spatial statistics, quantitative and qualitative analysis, and geospatial data interpretation.

4. To promote research aptitude and critical thinking by training students in research methodology, data collection, analysis, interpretation, academic writing, and ethical research practices.

5. To prepare graduates for diverse career opportunities in government services, urban and regional planning agencies, disaster management authorities, environmental organizations, NGOs, geospatial firms, tourism departments, academic institutions, and consultancy services.

6. To foster interdisciplinary and policy-oriented perspectives by highlighting linkages between geography, economics, environment, sociology, public policy, and technology for sustainable development.

7. To instill ethical values, environmental awareness, sustainability principles, and social responsibility to address challenges such as climate change, disaster risk, and resource management.

8. To develop communication, leadership, teamwork, and lifelong learning skills required for professional growth and societal contribution.

5. Program Outcomes (POs)

Upon completion of the Master of Arts (M.A.) in Geography, graduates will be able to:

Apply advanced geographical concepts and spatial theories to analyze physical, human, and environmental problems at local, regional, and global scales.

Utilize modern geographical tools and techniques such as GIS, Remote Sensing, GPS, cartographic methods, and basic statistical software for spatial analysis and decision-making.

Conduct field-based and applied geographical research, including data collection, analysis, interpretation, and effective communication of findings through reports, maps, and presentations.

Demonstrate professional skills, teamwork, leadership, and ethical responsibility while addressing issues related to sustainable development, disaster management, and environmental conservation.

Engage in lifelong learning by adopting emerging geospatial technologies, interdisciplinary approaches, online learning platforms, and research-oriented academic or professional careers.

6. Eligibility Criteria

Bachelor's Degree in Geography or any allied discipline (Arts/Science stream) or equivalent (10+2+3 system) with minimum 45% marks or as per University norms.

Admissions shall be made through the University Admission Process / CUET-PG (as applicable and notified by the University).

7. Program Duration and Credit Structure

Award	Duration	Credits	Exit Option
M.A. Geography	2 Years (4 Semesters)	80	Final Award
PG Diploma in Geography	1 Year (2 Semesters)	40	Exit after 2 Semesters

Each semester carries 20 credits, structured in accordance with the UGC's four-semester Postgraduate model under NEP-2020.

8. Program Structure (Semester-wise Distribution)

M.A. Geography Programme Structure (NEP 2020)

SEMESTER I (22 CREDITS)

GJUGEO101 Geomorphology of World and India - 4
GJUGEO103 Geography of India / Advanced Geography of UP - 4
GJUGEO105 Anthropogeography: Evolution of Human and World - 4
GJUGEO107 Climatology and Biogeography - 4
GJUGEO151 Practical: Assignment, Seminar & Digital Mapping - 4
Skill Development Based-I - 2

SEMESTER II (22 CREDITS)

GJUGEO201 Industrial Geography - 4
GJUGEO202 Environmental Geography / Global Environmental Issues - 4
GJUGEO203 Hydrology / Oceanography / IWRM - 4
GJUGEO204 Remote Sensing and GIS (Theory) - 4
GJUGEO252 Practical: RS & GIS - 4
Skill Development Based-II - 2

PROFESSIONAL ENGAGEMENT

Industrial / Summer Training (6-8 Weeks) - 4 Credits

SEMESTER III (20 CREDITS)

MAGEO301 Regional Geography of the World - 4
MAGEO302 Agricultural Geography - 4
MAGEO303 Social, Political & Population Geography - 4
MAGEO304 Emerging Geographical Thought and Research Methodology- 4
MAGEO351 Practical: Field Survey & Tour Report - 4

SEMESTER IV (20 CREDITS)

GJUMGEO262 Industrial Training / Project / Dissertation - 16

MOOCs / NPTEL Course - 4

9. Internship and Professional Practice

Short Internship: After Semester II (6-8 weeks, 4 credits).

Industry Consultancy Project: Semester III (4 credits).

Major Internship/Dissertation: Semester IV (10 credits).

Each internship governed by a Learning Agreement signed by the student, industry mentor, and faculty guide.

Evaluation (Joint): Industry (40%) + Faculty (40%) + Viva (20%).

10. Assessment and Evaluation

Component	Weightage
Continuous Internal Assessment (Assignments, Case Studies, Presentations, Practicals)	60%
End Semester Examination / Viva	40%
Internship/Project Evaluation	As per joint
Component	Weightage
	assessment policy
	40% aggregate per course
Minimum Passing Grade	

11. Pedagogical Approach

- Experiential Learning: Field surveys, geographical excursions, map work, case studies, and hands-on exposure to physical and human landscapes.
 - Industry & Institutional Integration: Guest lectures and interactions with geographers, urban planners, GIS professionals, disaster management experts, environmental consultants, and government officials.
 - Research-Linked Learning: Mini-research projects, field-based studies, data collection and analysis, and dissertation work on contemporary geographical issues.
 - ICT-Enabled Classes: Blended learning through Learning Management Systems (LMS), digital maps, remote sensing software, virtual labs, and SWAYAM/MOOCs in Geography and allied disciplines.
 - Skill & GIS Labs: Practical training in cartography, GIS & Remote Sensing, spatial analysis, statistical techniques, report writing, field survey methods, and environmental impact assessment.
- Bottom of Form

12. Faculty and Infrastructure Requirements

Category	Requirement
Faculty	Ph.D. / NET / SET qualified faculty in Geography or allied disciplines with teaching, fieldwork, GIS/Remote Sensing, or research exposure.
Labs	Geography & GIS Lab with GIS software (ArcGIS/QGIS), Remote Sensing tools, GPS instruments, cartography and map interpretation facilities.
Library	Access to geography books, atlases, topographical sheets, e-resources, research journals, census and planning databases.
Facilities	Smart classrooms, seminar halls, map rooms, field survey equipment, and internet-enabled computer terminals.
Industry / Field Partners	Survey of India, Remote Sensing Centres, Urban Planning Departments, Disaster Management Authorities, Environmental NGOs, research institutions.

13. Quality Assurance & Monitoring

Continuous review through Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC).

Industry-academia board for internship supervision.

Semester-end feedback from students and mentors.

Learning Outcome evaluation through OBE framework and CO-PO mapping.

14.SWOT Analysis

Strengths	Weaknesses
Strong regional relevance with emphasis on physical, human, and applied geography; fieldwork-oriented curriculum; NEP 2020 compliance	Faculty upskilling required in advanced GIS, Remote Sensing, geospatial technologies, and digital analytical tools
Opportunities	Threats
Collaboration with urban planning agencies, disaster management authorities, environmental NGOs, GIS and geospatial firms; scope for consultancy, surveys, and research projects	Limited availability of specialized geospatial industry mentors and advanced infrastructure during initial years

15.Approval and Implementation

Effective Session: 2025-26

Offered by: *School of Geography*, Guru Jambheshwar University, Moradabad

Mode: Regular / Full-Time

Intake Capacity: 30 (modifiable as per BoS decision)

Medium of Instruction: English / Hindi (bilingual)

Credit Registration: Through Academic Bank of Credits (ABC)

16.Annexures (for submission)

I- Detailed Course Outcomes (COs) & CO-PO Matrix (descriptive format)

II- Internship Policy Document

- Learning Agreement
- Evaluation & assessment templates

III- Sample Industry / Institutional MoUs

(Urban bodies, Disaster Management, GIS firms, NGOs, Research agencies)

IV- Faculty Qualification Data Sheet (UGC-compliant)

V- Model Time Table & Evaluation Scheme

(Theory, practicals, GIS lab, fieldwork, dissertation)

Submitted for consideration and approval by the Board of Studies and Academic Council.
(As per Clause ... of *Guru Jambheshwar University Statutes on Program Approval.*)

Prepared by:

Faculty of Arts (Geography)

Guru Jambheshwar University, Moradabad

Coordinator: __ Date: _____

Approved by:

Dean (Academic Affairs) _____ Vice Chancellor _____

