



# Frontier research in Arts, Humanities, Sciences and Management.

*Original insights. Global impact.*

**2** Schools **1** Doctoral  
Ecosystem

PhD PROGRAMME 2026  
Full-time/Executive (Part-time)







**Format 1: Full-time, residential PhD programme**

**Format 2: Executive (Part-time)**

**Location: Sri City, Andhra Pradesh**

# A PhD *pathway to* **Pivotal Interwoven Research**

## **Research at Krea**

Research flourishes at Krea across its three schools and various research centres. Learning, teaching and research at Krea are interwoven with the aim to produce world-changing advancements and solutions for some of the toughest global challenges.

## Krea University

Krea University was established in 2018, backed by 55 years of strong history. Its sponsoring body, IFMR Society was set up in 1970 as a not-for-profit society focused on research, training and education in the areas of Macro and Microeconomics, Finance and Management. Conceptualised and developed by some of the finest minds from around the globe and the country, Krea University's distinct teaching method focuses on creating a new generation of adaptable, resilient and empathetic leaders, giving them critical thinking skills and the ethical grounding needed to forge ahead. Krea University currently houses three Schools - School of Interwoven Arts and Sciences (SIAS), IFMR Graduate School of Business (GSB) and Krea Doctoral College - with subjects across management, liberal arts and sciences, and provides strategic oversight to various Research Centres.

Research is core to Krea and drives everything we do at the University. Our work transcends disciplines and works across subjects, in deep collaboration. As the world faces enormous challenges, we understand that the solutions seek urgency and the collective efforts of academicians, breaking silos. It calls for extensive, interdisciplinary and interwoven thinking. The research vision at Krea is steered with the aim of solving complex challenges with impactful innovation through knowledge and research. Our resolute mission is to be a catalyst of change and create lasting value through change that is multi-dimensional. In line with this ethos, Krea is preparing research leaders who can tackle global challenges with knowledge, ingenuity, skills and empathy.

## Faculty Highlights

- **Mentorship depth:** Accomplished researchers with peer-reviewed impact and global collaborations across arts, humanities, sciences, and management.
- Nearly **100 peer-reviewed publications each year**, with faculty combining rigorous scholarship and industry-linked expertise to guide PhD research across disciplines.

## Global Paper Presentations

From research topic ideation to thesis defense stages — doctoral ideas here carry weight across continents. Yours could be next.



### ***A Bibliometric Study of the Literature on Advertising Ethics***

American Marketing Association (AMA)  
Winter Academic Conference 2025  
(Virtual)

**Jyothis Maria Franklin** (Current PhD Scholar) & **Dr Jayasankar Ramanathan**



### ***The Mitigating Impact of Technology at Crisis Times***

XIX International Conference on Public Policy and Management, 2025

**Utkarsh Choudhary** (Current PhD Scholar)

**55+** Years of Research Excellence

**150+** Faculty Mentors





## Message from the Dean



**PROFESSOR  
SIVAKUMAR  
SRINIVASAN,**  
*Dean of Research,  
Krea University*

The PhD programme at Krea has been designed to strengthen the creativity and scholarship of research scholars to engage in deep and impactful research. It adopts a comprehensive strategy by enhancing core knowledge through coursework and promoting critical thinking and innovation to make unique research contributions.

Scholars will be exposed to a wide range of fields and areas of interest, thanks to the broad research interests of our faculty members. Krea has established research facilities that include fully equipped laboratories, software and a well stocked library. These along with the research centres will provide an enriching experience to graduate students at Krea. It is an experiential programme that encourages scholars to engage with the world around them. All these features will positively reinforce scholarship and creativity that, in turn, will enable the Krea research community to contribute to the welfare of humanity through academia, research, and industry.

Counting on the strengths of our acclaimed faculty and upcoming high-end research facilities, we are confident that our PhD scholars will make significant contributions to further the horizons of knowledge in various disciplines.

I invite PhD aspirants to apply for the Doctoral Programme at Krea and emerge as scholarly, ethical, and responsible researchers.

## Why Krea University's PhD Programme?

**The PhD programme at Krea University transcends the interdisciplinary and dives into the interwoven, providing excellent opportunities for research and teaching to scholars.**

- Preparing scholars not just for a career in academics but also for the corporate world
- Research mentoring throughout the PhD journey
- Providing an excellent platform to showcase work at the annual research symposium
- Offering opportunities to work with Research Centres on various topics of applied research and public policy
- Strong PhD alumni network across academia and industry
- Access to a world-class digital library and latest databases on the world economy and corporate annual reports
- Networking opportunities with faculty from renowned international institutions
- Tuition fee waiver, accommodation support and a monthly fellowship
- Funding support for national and international conferences for full-time PhD students





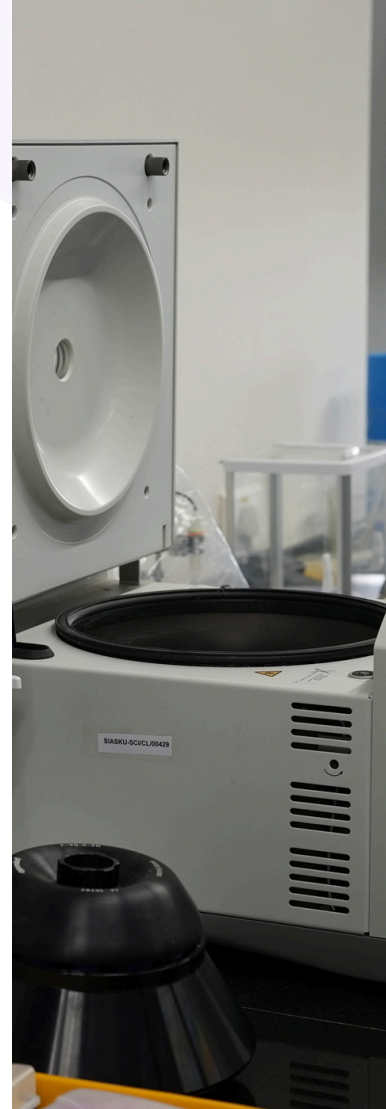
## Krea Ecosystem

Krea University houses three schools and provides strategic oversight to various research centres. It's a thriving ecosystem which enables a transformative and cutting-edge university experience.

### Schools



### Research Centres



## PhD Programme at Krea University

The PhD programme at Krea, spread across SIAS and IFMR GSB, is designed to strengthen the creativity and scholarship of research scholars who are expected to engage in deep and impactful research. The programme takes a holistic approach, strengthening foundational knowledge through coursework and encouraging critical thinking to produce original scholarship and new knowledge during the course of the doctoral programme.

The faculty members of Krea come from diverse research backgrounds, giving scholars access to mentorship across the breadth of disciplines and areas of interest. Combined with state-of-the-art facilities including a fully equipped library, laboratories, and research centres, the graduate experience at Krea prepares scholars to contribute to humanity through academia, research, and industry.

## Specialisations

PhD students may choose to work in one or more of the following specialisation(s):

### SIAS

- Biological Sciences
- Chemistry
- Computer Science
- Environmental Studies
- History
- Mathematics
- Physics
- Politics
- Psychology
- Sociology & Social Anthropology

### IFMR GSB

Management with specialisations in:

- Data-Science & Information Systems
- Economics
- Finance, Accounting and Quantitative Finance
- Marketing
- Operations
- Organizational Behaviour & HR
- Strategic Management

## Course Structure

The pedagogy is strategically designed across both schools to provide scholars with the best available theory, practice, and methodology for executing their research. An outline of research scholars' academic progression while at Krea is indicated below.

### SIAS

#### Year 1

- Coursework
- Assigning advisor(s)
- Formation of the Doctoral Committee (DC)

#### Year 2

- Formulation of research problem
- Inputs and approval from the Discipline-specific-Advisory Group (DAG)
- Basic training on relevant techniques/methodologies
- Detailed presentation to the DC for approval

#### Year 3,4,5

- Research/Field Work
- Presentations in conferences
- Publishing in Journals

### Important

- The Doctoral Committee will conduct a progress review for every candidate at the end of each academic year.
- For candidacy, scholars must complete the required coursework and get the necessary approvals on their research proposal within the time period stipulated by the DC.
- All full-time PhD scholars are required to work as Teaching Assistants for 2 courses every academic year, from the 2nd year onwards.





### Year 1, 2

- Combination of Core & Area level doctoral courses, MBA-level Courses
- Course of Independent Research Study
- End-of-Year 1 Examination
- Comprehensive Examination

### Year 3, 4 (for Full-time scholars) & Year 3, 4, 5, 6 (for Part-time scholars)

- Formation of Doctoral Committee
- Proposal Presentation
- Periodic progress report and Public Seminar
- Thesis Presentation
- Synopsis & Thesis submission
- External Review
- Viva Voce Examination
- Final Thesis Submission



## Eligibility

**Scholars need to meet the below criteria to be eligible to apply for the PhD programme of their choice.**

### SIAS

#### Full-time PhD Programme

- 30 years and below
- Postgraduate degree (MA/MSc/MPhil) and above, or a four year undergraduate degree in the respective discipline from a UGC recognised institution
- A minimum of 55% marks in HSC, Pre-University Exam (12th grade), UG and PG are essential

Please Note:

The age limit is applicable only for receiving a Krea PhD Fellowship and does not apply to candidates with existing/new fellowship from sources not affiliated to Krea University

A relaxation of 5% marks or equivalent will be given to candidates who belong to SC, ST, OBC (NCL), PwD, and EWS categories.

#### Part-time/ FIP\*

- 50 years and below
- Postgraduate degree (MA/MSc/MPhil) or above in the respective discipline(s) from UGC recognised institutions
- A minimum of 55% marks in HSC, Pre-University Exam (12th grade), UG and PG is essential.
- 3 years of work experience including probation (if any)
- NOC from Employer

\*They are not eligible to receive the Krea PhD Fellowship



Best paper award for the paper, *Caste and COVID-19: Exploring Variations in Health Expenditures among Different Caste Groups in India* at the Japan STI Conference, Centre for Society and Policy, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, India & Keio University, Japan in the 'sustainability impact' track.

**Mohammed Hashim,** (Current PhD Scholar)

## IFMR GSB

### Full-time PhD Programme

- 30 years and below\*
- 60% marks in the undergraduate degree
- Masters Degree or equivalent PG Diploma in any discipline, with 55%\* percent marks in the qualifying examinations

or

- Five-Year integrated Master's degree/Dual degree or equivalent in a relevant discipline with 55 percent marks in the qualifying examinations

or

- Professional Qualification like ACA/FAC/AICWAI/ACSI Qualifications of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India, Institute of Cost & Works Accountants of India and Institute of Company Secretaries of India
- Valid Scores of Standardised Tests (CAT, CMAT, GATE, GMAT, GRE, NET JRF, NMAT, XAT) – or pass an entrance test
- Graduates of full-time post-graduate degree course and candidates in the final year of the post-graduate degree are eligible to apply

### Part time PhD Programme

- MBA degree with 55 percent marks in the qualifying examinations
- Five years of Work Experience after MBA
- NOC from the employer

Students with Undergraduate and/or Postgraduate degrees from ODL (Open and Distance Learning) institutions are also eligible to apply as per the UGC policy and notification

\*Please Note: A relaxation of 5% marks or equivalent will be given to candidates who belong to SC, ST, OBC (NCL), PwD, and EWS categories.

## Future Pathways

Krea University's PhD alumni are working successfully in several prestigious and reputed academic institutions which include the following:

Faculty in prestigious academic institutions such as :

- Ashoka University
- Bengaluru B.R Ambedkar School of Economics
- BITS Pilani, Hyderabad Campus
- Center for Development Studies
- Great Lakes Institute of Management
- Gulati Institute of Finance and Taxation, Trivandrum
- IIM Amritsar
- IIM Indore
- IIM Indore
- IIM Kashipur
- IIM Shillong
- IRMA
- Madras School of Economics
- Mahindra University
- Rajagiri Business School
- The Loyola Institute of Business Administration
- OP Jindal Global University

Our alumni are also in significant roles in research institutes, think-tanks and corporates such as



**CRISIL**  
An S&P Global Company

**Deloitte.**



**ICICI Bank**



**SCOPE**



Best Paper Award  
(First Position) at  
the 6th  
International  
Conference on  
Financial Markets &  
Corporate Finance,  
IIT (ISM) Dhanbad

**Soumyabrata  
Basu,** (Current  
PhD Scholar)

Access research papers/articles written by PhD scholars  
[here](#)



## Faculty Snapshot

You will be learning from faculty members who come with a rich pedigree across academia, industry and specific areas of studies. Steering cutting-edge research, they are also instrumental in shaping the Indian business pedagogy and narratives that move the world of business and management.

### Few of our faculty members:

#### Accomplished Researchers



**Professor Lakshmi Kumar**  
Professor, Economics and Dean - IFMR GSB  
PhD, IIT Madras  
**Research veteran with 25+ years of academic experience**



**Dr Madhavilatha Maganti**  
Associate Professor, Psychology  
PhD, Osmania University  
**Developmental Psychology. Cognitive Science. Infancy and Early Childhood Development.**



**Professor Balasubramanian G**  
Senior Professor & Advisor, Finance, Accounting & Quantitative Finance  
PhD, Madras University  
**35+ years of experience in executive teaching and research**



**Professor Guha Dharmarajan**  
Professor, Biological Sciences  
PhD, Purdue University  
**Disease Ecologist. Researcher. Educator.**

#### Distinguished Scholars



**Professor Ramachandra Guha**  
Distinguished University Professor  
PhD, IIM Calcutta  
**Author. Historian. Researcher.**



**Professor Chandrakumar N**  
Distinguished Research Professor  
PhD, IIT Kanpur  
**Scientist. Innovator. Mentor.**



**Professor Mukund Padmanabhan**  
Distinguished Professor of Philosophy  
MPhil, Delhi University  
**Editor. Commentator. Curator.**



**Professor Sumantra Bose**  
Professor, International and Comparative Politics  
PhD, Columbia University  
**Political Scientist. Scholar. Author.**

#### Research Minds



**Dr Pallavi Pandey**  
Associate Professor, OB & HR  
PhD, IIT-ISM Dhanbad  
**Leads research in leadership styles and contemporary HR practices**



**Dr Sushant Raut**  
Assistant Professor, Physics, SIAS  
PhD, Indian Institute of Technology – Bombay  
**Particle physicist specialising in neutrino phenomenology and Beyond Standard Model physics.**



**Dr Jyoti Prasad Mukhopadhyay**  
Associate Professor, Economics and Chairperson - PhD Programme  
PhD, IFMR GSB & University of Madras  
**Sectoral expert in Development Economics, Applied Econometrics, and Behavioral Economics**



**Professor Vijayalakshmi C**  
Professor, OB & HR  
FPM, MDI Gurgaon  
**Expert in organisational behaviour, trainer of 1000+ executives**

#### Practitioners as Professors



**Sathyanarayanan Ramachandran**  
Sundram Fasteners Associate Professor,  
Marketing  
MBA, SCSVMV  
**Brand Management expert and advertising pundit**



**Sharon Buteau**  
Visiting Professor SIAS  
Executive Director, LEAD at Krea University  
**Researcher. Economist. Development Leader.**



**Dr Vasupradha Srikrishna**  
Assistant Professor, Communications  
PhD, Mudra Institute of Communication  
**Interdisciplinary communications consultant**



**Professor Sudip Roy**  
Adjunct Professor, Chemistry  
PhD, University of Saarland  
**Scientist. Innovator. Entrepreneur.**

#### Specialists, Authors, Grant Awardees



**Professor Chandrasekaran N**  
Professor , Operations and Strategy, Area Chair - Strategic Management & Chairperson - Executive MBA Programme  
PhD, University of Madras  
**Industry veteran, start-up specialist & author**



**Professor Govindarajan T R**  
Visiting Professor, Physics  
PhD, Madras University  
**Visiting Professor at University of Texas, Max Planck Institute, Sao Paulo University, Brazil & more.**



**Dr Debasish Mishra**  
Assistant Professor and Area Chair, Data Science and Information Systems  
PhD, IIT Kharagpur  
**AI and ML expert, author of Digital Twin – Fundamental Concepts to Applications in Advanced Manufacturing**



**Dr Jyoti Kumari**  
Assistant Professor, Finance, Accounting and Quantitative Finance  
PhD, IIT Kharagpur  
**ICSSR Major Research Projects Grant Awardee**

## Fellowship

Full-time PhD students reside on campus for the entire duration of the programme. This means that a student cannot take up alternate employment during their course of study. Krea University provides a monthly fellowship to full-time PhD students to support them in their studies. The details of monthly fellowship are as shown below and are subject to change every year:

S. No.	Year	Amount per month (INR)
1	First Year	50,000/-
2	Second Year	50,000/-
3	Third Year	52,000/-
4	Fourth Year	52,000/-
5	Fifth Year	52,000/-

Please note:

- The fellowship is offered for four years and may be extended to the fifth year based on recommendation from the Doctoral Committee and approval from the PhD Chair and Dean of Research.
- A candidate can take up to 8 years to complete their PhD. However, the above-mentioned benefits such as fellowship and permission to stay on-campus will not be extended beyond the 5th year of the PhD programme.

## Accommodation

Full-time PhD scholars are required to stay on campus. Krea will provide hostel rooms (sharing type) with (double occupancy) on campus. for a monthly fee. However, if accommodation is not available on campus, students have to make their own arrangements outside campus. Students who stay outside the Krea campus need not pay monthly room rent to Krea.

## Additional Support

All full-time PhD students are covered by health insurance. They are also provided financial support to attend domestic and international conferences and present their research papers.monthly room rent to Krea.

## Fee Structure

Details	Fees
Application Fee	Rs 500/-
Acceptance Fee	Rs 5,000/- (adjusted against caution deposit)
Caution Deposit	Rs 25,000/-
Annual Fee for full-time	Rs. 6000/-
Annual Fee for part-time	Rs 100,000/-
Term Fee (6th year onwards of PhD Registration)	Rs 10,000/-
Hostel Fee (subject to revision) for full-time	Rs. 7,500/- per month
Hostel Fee (subject to revision) for part-time	Rs 10,000/- per month
Dining Fee*	At rates prevailing at the time of admission
Medical Insurance	At rates prevailing at the time of admission
Dissertation Submission Fee	Rs 5,000/-



Best Paper Award in Economics Track at IIM Kashipur Conference, 2023 for the paper titled ‘Definition, Measurement and Determinants of Energy Poverty: Empirical Evidence from Indian Households’ co-authored with Dr Jyoti Prasad Mukhopadhyay  
**Manasi B.**, (Current PhD Scholar)



## Your Campus your home

- Infrastructure strategically built for a B-School experience such as the virtual trading floor
- Study and live on a vibrant 40-acre green campus in Sri City, just 70 km from Chennai
- Learn in tech-enabled classrooms, trading floor and cutting-edge labs
- Enjoy delicious, multi-cuisine meals across several dining spots
- Live comfortably in spacious 9 residential towers with plenty of spaces to hang out and unwind
- Play your favourite sports with courts and fields for badminton, basketball, cricket, football, and more
- Breathe easy surrounded by 700+ native trees, butterfly gardens, fruit orchards, in solar powered premises
- Dive into knowledge with a library housing 30,000+ books and 60,000+ e-journals at your fingertips
- Access essential support at the medical centre, unwind in welcoming student lounges, and conveniently purchase daily necessities from the on-campus store
- Sri City is home to over 200 companies from 28 countries including multinationals like Kellogg's, Isuzu, Mondelez, Pepsi, Panasonic, Daikin, Kimberly Clark, Alstom, Kobelco, Foxconn, Danieli



Scan QR code to  
explore Krea's campus







### Contact Us

For any queries, write to [phd.admissions@krea.edu.in](mailto:phd.admissions@krea.edu.in)

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