



**MANIPAL
UNIVERSITY**



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**Centre for Foreign Languages
Department of European Studies**



Department of European Studies

The Department of European Studies (DES), since its inception in 2009 with a funding from the Delegation of European Union to India, has become a centre of excellence for European Studies in India. It offers a multidisciplinary platform for studies in history and international relations, European society and culture, European languages, and European business and economics. In addition to its two-year Master programme in European Studies, DES proposes a range of courses and workshops via its centres of activity: Centre for Foreign Languages, Centre for Intercultural Studies and Dialogue, and the Dvaita Philosophy and Resource Centre.

Centre for Foreign Languages

In an ever globalizing world, the importance of learning a foreign language can hardly be exaggerated. With this in mind, since 2011 the Department of European Studies has expanded the opportunities of learning foreign languages both to the student body of Manipal University and to the general public through the establishment of the Centre for Foreign Languages (CFL). The Centre has the vision of developing quality learning programmes in foreign languages within the higher education landscape of India. It also aims to integrate a strong research component with regards to the teaching and learning of foreign languages in the Indian context and ensure a strong focus on cultural activities, so as to foster intercultural exchange and knowledge sharing.

Current Activities

- Certificate courses in German, French, Spanish, Italian, Japanese and Mandarin
- Courses are aligned along international teaching and learning frameworks such as the CEFR, JLPT, or TOCFL
- About 1500 students have acquired varying levels of foreign language proficiency (A1-B1 levels)
- Provides exciting opportunities to young native speakers interested in foreign language teaching in India
- Cultural activities: Weekly film screenings, language workshops, annual Kinotheka (European Film Festival)

Partnerships and Collaborations

Since 2010, DES shares a unique partnership with the Alliance Française de Bangalore, which has a full-fledged in-house annex (Chapter) within the Department and assures French language courses and cultural activities across different institutions at Manipal University, making Manipal University the only place in India with such an institutional collaboration. Other partners involved in the Centre's activities include University of Salzburg, University of Castilla-La-Mancha, University of Milano, and the National Tsing Hua University (Taiwan). The Centre is keen to provide various opportunities for collaboration and partnership with language centres, cultural institutes, and universities, both in India and abroad.

Future Projects

The following projects are significant with regards to the Centre's future activities:

- BA programme in Foreign Languages and Intercultural Studies, starting 2017
- Cultural Centre: hosting artistes, organization of regular events (concerts, film/literature festivals, workshops etc.)
- Research Unit to enhance the knowledge base of foreign language teaching and learning in India
- Translation and Interpretation services
- Comprehensive Documentation Centre and Higher Education Information Services

