

“A GENUINELY GLOBAL UNIVERSITY”

Southampton meets Delhi



“A genuinely global university”

With a foundation of trusted relationships, and a vision to bring a Southampton presence to this strategic location, the team behind the Delhi campus were ready on the starting blocks when the Indian government published new regulations in 2023 allowing international universities to open campuses in the country.



Associate Professor Dr Sagaya Amalathas



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The Food Court within the Delhi campus

Relationships were a key component in Southampton being the first international university to be granted a licence by the Indian government, explained Professor Andrew Atherton. “We were in conversation with the University Grants Commission before the regulations came out, so we knew what to expect – and were able to move quickly to submit our proposal.”

“There were certainly challenges that came with being the first university to go through this process!” said Zoë Marlow, Director of Transnational Education. “But we had some important lessons from Southampton’s previous experiences of offshore delivery – including the need for a partner [Oxford International] to lead the operation of the campus, and the importance of bringing the whole University community on board through a broad engagement strategy.”

With an initial offer of six programmes (BScs in Accounting and Finance, Business Management, Computer Science and Economics, and MScs in Finance and International Management), and a planned first intake of 140 students to start in September 2025, the Delhi campus is set to quickly expand. “We’ll be growing numbers to around 5,400 students by year ten, with new courses launched each year,” said Andrew.

Associate Professor Dr Sagaya Amalathas, formerly Head of Electronics and Computer Science at Southampton’s Malaysia campus and now Director of Learning and Teaching for the Delhi campus, is focused on “ensuring that Southampton’s best educational practises are being carried out in all the programmes at the Delhi campus.

“At Southampton, we’re well-known for the strong engagement we create with students, through our academic teaching practice and by nurturing students to grow in an environment where that happens alongside research and enterprise. Our students will get the same world-class experience whether they’re studying in Southampton or Delhi.”



Professor Andrew Atherton

When it comes to employability, Academic Provost Professor Eloise Phillips commented, “The location of our Delhi campus, in the Gurgaon Tech Park where there are over 20 companies at the last count, puts us in a strong position to build partnerships for our students’ future careers.”

The Delhi campus promises to translate the University’s core offer to a new cultural context. “We want to deliver a recognisably ‘Southampton’ experience, whilst also ensuring it’s culturally resonant for Indian students,” said Kieron Broadhead, Deputy Vice-President (Operations). “We can bring the best of Southampton, put it with the best of India, and come up with something that’s a genuine third way.”

“I know from experience how important it is to localise the curriculum,” said Eloise, who has come from a key role establishing the University of Birmingham’s flagship campus in Dubai. “We will be working collaboratively with our locally appointed staff to ensure the course material has maximum relevance.”

David Winstanley, Executive Director of Student Life, has been seconded to the Delhi campus for six months as Executive Director India Implementation. “A key part of my role is to ensure that what we deliver in India is truly ‘the University of Southampton’.



The new Delhi
campus building

Find out more:
www.delhi.southampton.ac.uk



Professor Eloise Phillips

That's about everything from brand identity to student experience to the quality of education, which of course includes our Triple Helix approach – intertwining education, research and knowledge exchange and enterprise activities.

“This first cohort of students are real pioneers! It's so exciting that they'll be able to say they were in the first year of the first foreign University in India,” he commented. David is excited to see the campus grow from this bespoke cohort to a “big, broad, comprehensive institution with its own research environment and culture, and its own entrepreneurial context.”

Ultimately, he continued, having an international presence is about the University fulfilling its mission to make an impact in the world. “This is how, as thought-leaders, we want to approach the global challenges we're trying to tackle: not just in a UK-focused way, but with a much broader spectrum of insights.”

“We are becoming a genuinely global university, which from an academic and institutional perspective is fantastic,” concurred Andrew. “We are changing the paradigm for international higher education – instead of mainly expecting students to come to us, we're also going to them.”



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Zoë Marlow



David Winstanley



Kieron Broadhead