

Visiting Writing Faculty Positions, Young India Fellowship (YIF), Ashoka University

Position: Visiting Writing Faculty, Critical Writing (CW) Programme

For: The Young India Fellowship (YIF), Ashoka University

Under the supervision of: The Assistant Director, YIF CW

Minimum Eligibility: A Master's degree, along with at least one year of teaching/tutoring/teaching assistantship experience is a must.

Note: If a candidate is a YIF alumnus, they must indicate that by submitting their YIF transcript as part of the required documents (see FAQs below).

The Young India Fellowship at Ashoka University, a Liberal Arts university in Delhi NCR, invites applications for the Writing Faculty position for the YIF Critical Writing programme.

How to Apply?

In order to apply for this position, go to <https://facultypositions.ashoka.edu.in/> and complete your application latest by **15 May 2021**. **Please read the FAQs at the end of this document carefully for details on the kind of documents that you need to upload, as well as for other queries.** If your query is not addressed anywhere on this page, you could write to yifcw@ashoka.edu.in.

What is the YIF?

The Young India Fellowship (YIF) is a one year multidisciplinary postgraduate diploma programme in Liberal Studies. The Fellowship brings together a group of bright young individuals who show exceptional intellectual ability and leadership potential from across the country, and trains them to become socially committed agents of change. The YIF exposes them to a diverse set of subjects and perspectives, delivered by some of the finest teachers and practitioners from India and around the world. The aim is to help Fellows become well-rounded individuals who are able to think critically from multiple perspectives, communicate effectively, and become leaders with a commitment to public service.

What is the YIF Critical Writing Programme?

The Critical Writing Programme is an integral part of the Young India Fellowship. Over a span of 10 months, this course aims to develop critical reading, thinking, and writing skills that help Fellows engage with the world of ideas, and enable them to develop and express their own ideas in a well-reasoned, lucid, and engaging manner. These skills act as building blocks for the multi-disciplinary Liberal Arts education that they receive during the course of their Fellowship, and enhance their abilities to navigate the academic, professional, and social spheres around them. You can read more about our pedagogy here: <https://www.ashoka.edu.in/page/yif-writing-134>.

Who are we looking for?

Candidates who have at least a Master's degree, along with extensive experience in academic and/or journalistic writing, and at least one year of teaching/tutoring/teaching assistantship experience will be good fits for this position. We are keen to recruit dynamic scholars from a range of subjects, including, but not limited to, history, sociology, anthropology, literature, journalism, linguistics, education, economics,

and political science, who have strong academic writing and communication skills, and are passionate about teaching. Being a YIF alum, while not mandatory, would be an advantage.

Prospective applicants should be keen to work closely with students, collaborate with colleagues from a range of disciplines, and help the YIF Critical Writing programme grow.

Successful applicants will:

1. Synthesise their academic training with scholarship from writing studies to teach a cohort of ~30 Young India Fellows to think, read, and write critically.
2. Conduct a total of 4 classes every week, each of ~1.5 hours in duration (2 classes per section, each section consisting of ~15 students).
3. Design syllabi, assignment sheets, pedagogic resources, class exercises etc. and develop effective pedagogic practices that help achieve the learning outcomes of YIF CW. If a situation arises that requires classes to be shifted online, Writing Faculty are expected to be equipped to do so.
4. Conduct office hours to mentor their students' writing in a personalized and empathetic manner. Each Writing Faculty should meet each of their students for at least one office hour every month.
5. Give weekly feedback to students on their writing and submit grades and other evaluative data at two points in the teaching period to the YIF Programme Team.
6. Be physically present on Ashoka's Sonapat campus for a minimum of three days every teaching week—an engagement that may extend to four days during weeks when the workload increases. Writing faculty are contracted to the programme for durations preceding and extending well beyond the teaching period. They are expected to use this time to prepare for their courses and once they are over, contribute to other activities for the development of the Critical Writing or YIF at large. (These contributions will be subject to discussions between the Writing faculty and Programme Team in the course of the year).
7. Report to the Assistant Director (YIF CW), conduct day-to-day administrative tasks of the writing programme, and participate in weekly meetings to develop the existing curriculum, pedagogic practices, and policies, in line with the needs of the YIF.
8. Participate in and help organize Writing Faculty training workshops, student workshops, CW related events and other activities that help in the growth and development of the writing programme.
9. Mentor students to apply to colleges, publish and/or present their work at appropriate avenues and maintain a record of the same.
10. Reflect on their experiences of teaching writing, and possibly publish something in the discipline of writing studies.

Start Date: July 15, 2021

Duration: 11 months; can be renewed further based on University's needs and candidate's performance.

Remuneration: As per University norms

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) about the Application Process

Q1. What do I need to select under "Position" in the form?

A1. Please select "Young India Fellowship: Critical Writing".

Q2. What do I need to select under "Desired Opening"? Please select "YIF Writing Faculty".

Q3. If I do not have a PhD, what do I enter under "PhD Subject" in the Academic History section?

A3. Please write the name of the discipline in which you have your highest degree.

Q4. What all documents do I need to upload in the "Documents" section?

A4.

1. Please upload pdf files only.
2. Leave the "Cover Letter" section blank. We do not require this.
3. Upload a detailed CV.
4. Under "Statement of Teaching Philosophy", upload a 1-2 page statement that answers the following three questions:
 - a. What do you understand by critical reading, writing, and thinking abilities?
 - b. What approach will you use to teach these to a group as diverse as the YIF?
 - c. If your course needs to be shifted online, what will you do to ensure an engaging and impactful learning experience for your class?
5. In case you are a YIF alum, then under the "Research Statement" section, upload your YIF transcript. If you are not a YIF alum, then leave this section blank.
6. Under the "Research/Writing Sample" category, upload an academic/journalistic writing sample (minimum 1500 words, maximum 3000 words).
7. Under "Additional Document #1", please provide evidence of your teaching/tutoring experience in the form of either student feedback data, or syllabi/exercises/lesson plans that you might have designed, or a 1-2 page reflective essay on your prior teaching experiences etc.
8. Finally, in the "Additional document #2" section, prepare and upload a 1-2 page sample lesson plan that demonstrates how you will apply your teaching philosophy to teach students how to write an argument for an opinion editorial. This should include:
 - a. a list of readings that you will use in class;
 - b. lecture notes that demonstrate how you will engage with these readings in class;
 - c. sample writing exercises that you will give to students to make them write an opinion editorial using these readings.