



O.P. JINDAL GLOBAL
[INSTITUTION OF EMINENCE DEEMED TO BE]
UNIVERSITY
A Private University Promoting Public Service



MJAS
MOTWANI JADEJA
INSTITUTE FOR AMERICAN STUDIES
AT
O.P. JINDAL GLOBAL UNIVERSITY

MOTWANI JADEJA FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM



About O.P. Jindal Global University

O.P. Jindal Global University (JGU) is a non-profit, multi-disciplinary and research-oriented university founded in 2009. JGU was established as a philanthropic initiative of its Founding Chancellor, Mr. Naveen Jindal, in the memory of his father, Mr. O.P. Jindal.

JGU has 16,000+ students, 1100+ full-time faculty members, and 2900+ administrative staff in its fully residential campus. JGU's twelve schools focus on Law, Business & Management, International Affairs, Public Policy, Liberal Arts & Humanities, Journalism, Art & Architecture, Banking & Finance, Environment & Sustainability, Psychology & Counselling, Languages & Literature, and Public Health & Human Development. Over the last decade, JGU has grown into an institution that brings full-time faculty from 50+ countries in the world and students from 100+ countries. It has collaborated with 575+ leading institutions in 80+ countries, which makes the learning experience truly international.

JGU is ranked Number 1 in the world with the highest overall score amongst all universities and awarded 'Gold' by the Times Higher Education (THE) Online Learning Rankings 2024. JGU has been ranked as India's Number 1 Private University for three years in a row by the prestigious QS World University Rankings 2023. JGU has been recognised among the Top 150 universities globally under the age of 50 years by the QS Young University Rankings. JGU has also been recognised in the Top 500 Universities as per the QS Graduate Employability Rankings 2022.

The Jindal Global Law School has retained its number one rank in India for six consecutive years and remains the only Indian law school listed in the Global Top 100 by the QS World University Rankings by Subject 2025. Furthermore, JGU holds the distinction of being India's top private university for Arts & Humanities and Politics & International Studies (within the Top 201-250 globally). It ranks among the top two private universities in India for Economics & Econometrics, among the top three private universities in India (Top 274 in the world) for Social Sciences & Management, and among the top six private universities in India for Business & Management Studies (Top 500 in the world) as per the QS World University Rankings by Subject 2025. In 2020, JGU was recognised as an 'Institution of Eminence' by the Ministry of Education, Government of India.



**PROFESSOR (DR.)
C. RAJ KUMAR**
President, MJIAS &
Founding Vice Chancellor
O.P. Jindal Global University

From the Desk of the President

"The Motwani Jadeja Fellowship Program is more than a fellowship – it is a bridge between two great democracies, India and the United States. By welcoming outstanding scholars, writers, and policy thinkers to our campus, we aspire to foster deeper mutual understanding, shared learning, and collaborative leadership. At JGU, we believe that true global education emerges when ideas and perspectives travel freely across borders. This Fellowship Program will nurture a new generation of thought leaders who will strengthen India-US relations and enrich the global discourse."



**PROFESSOR (DR.)
MOHAN KUMAR**
Director General, MJIAS
Dean, Strategic & International
Initiatives, Office of the
Vice Chancellor, JGU

Word from the Director General

"The Motwani Jadeja Fellowship is a fully-funded research program aimed at creating a body of American scholars with a deep understanding of India and its ties with the US. It will be a game changer and fulfils a long-felt need for serious scholarship about India among American writers, academics, journalists, and policy makers."

About Motwani Jadeja Institute for American Studies (MJIAS)

The Motwani Jadeja Institute for American Studies (MJIAS) is a premier interdisciplinary institute at O.P. Jindal Global University (JGU), dedicated to advancing scholarly research, education, dialogue, and policy engagement on the United States of America (USA). The Institute is made possible through a generous grant from the Motwani Jadeja Family Foundation, in honour of the late Professor Rajeev Motwani, whose contributions to technology, entrepreneurship, and scholarship continue to inspire generations.

MJIAS reflects the visionary philanthropy of Ms. Asha Jadeja Motwani, whose leadership in empowering academic institutions, civic engagement, and cross-border collaborations has been instrumental in shaping intellectual landscapes globally. Her foundation has played a pivotal role in building bridges between India and the USA by investing in innovation, market-based solutions, education, and the arts across both countries. Her commitment to open knowledge systems, women's leadership, and civic engagement has led to transformational change. The MJIAS embodies her vision to create lasting institutions that promote dialogue, collaboration, and mutual understanding between India and the USA.

The MJIAS mission includes promoting interdisciplinary research on US politics, law, economy, culture, and technology; facilitating collaboration between Indian and American academic institutions, think-tanks, and civil society; enhancing public understanding of US global leadership and innovation ecosystems; supporting comparative legal and constitutional scholarship; and fostering faculty and student exchanges and cultivating future leaders in India-US affairs.



Motwani Jadeja Fellowship Program

The Motwani Jadeja Fellowship Program is a fully funded, four-week residency at JGU's vibrant residential campus, running from mid-December to the end of January.

The program will support 25 fellows each year—writers, academics, journalists, and policy thinkers—whose work advances understanding of the United States, India, and the relationship between them.

Vision of Motwani Jadeja Fellowship Program

The Fellowship is anchored in the conviction that U.S.–India ties must be built on two-way intellectual exchange. While hundreds of thousands of Indian students study in the United States each year, only a small number of Americans have the chance to live and study in India. This imbalance has created a missed opportunity to nurture future U.S. leaders who understand India from within. Contemporary India offers a rare vantage point—where fellows can engage with both ancient wisdom and cutting-edge innovation, from Gandhian thought to generative AI, within the same campus.

The Motwani Jadeja Fellowship Program aspires to:

Foster two-way intellectual flows
between India and the United States.

Position India as a top academic
destination for American students.

Cultivate cross-cultural leadership
and global problem-solvers.

Reinforce democratic values
and freedom through education.

Core Themes

Projects may address any area relevant to the U.S., India, or U.S.-India relations, including:

International Relations & Public Policy

Public Health & Psychology

Business & Finance

Culture & Area Studies

What We Offer



Room and board on JGU's fully residential campus



Economy-class round-trip airfare and health insurance



A stipend of \$1000 to support research and writing during the fellowship period. For senior professors, outstanding scholars, and practitioners with more than two decades of experience, we will offer a stipend of \$2000.



Mentorship and academic support from senior JGU faculty



Access to JGU's library and research facilities



Support for research-related travel within India (with prior agreement)

Deliverables

- At least one public lecture during the residency
- At least two short-form pieces (op-eds, policy briefs, full-length podcasts)

Eligibility

- U.S. citizens (no age limit).
- Applicants who hold at least a Master's degree in any discipline.
- Early and mid-career scholars, journalists, writers, and professionals working on U.S.-India themes or related global concerns.
- Applicants with a demonstrated track record of research, writing, or public engagement.

Timelines

- **Applications Open:** January 27, 2026
- **Deadline:** September 15, 2026
- **Apply Online:**
<https://forms.office.com/r/phv3ycDVtK>
- **Selection:** Fellows will be announced by September 30, 2026
- **Residency:** Fellows must spend January 4 - January 29, 2027 in residence at JGU.
- **Research Travel:** Short research trips within India may be permitted with prior approval.

Application Materials

- **A statement of interest (max. 500 words)**
- **A CV or résumé of up to 4 pages**
- **One sample of writing (academic or public-facing)**

The statement of interest should clearly include:

- Proposed research project
- Any research-related travel
- Relevance of the project to Fellowship themes
- Ideas for public engagement (lecture topics, op-eds, or essays) and evidence of previous public-facing work
- Career plans after the Fellowship, and how the experience will support these



Professor (Dr.) Sriparna Pathak

Associate Director, MJIAS
Professor
Jindal School of International Affairs
O.P. Jindal Global University



Professor (Dr.) Ram B. Ramachandran

Associate Director, MJIAS
Professor & Vice Dean
Jindal School of Banking & Finance
O.P. Jindal Global University



Dr. Reed H. Chervin

Associate Director
MJIAS
O.P. Jindal Global University



Dr. Gitanjali Sinha Roy

Assistant Director, MJIAS and
Assistant Professor
Jindal School of International Affairs
O.P. Jindal Global University



Dr. Swati Chawla

Director, Motwani Jadeja Fellowship
Program, MJIAS & Associate Professor,
Jindal School of Liberal Arts & Humanities
O.P. Jindal Global University



Ms. Mallika Singh

Assistant Lecturer
MJIAS
O.P. Jindal Global University

Queries about the Fellowship may be directed to schawla@jgu.edu.in.