

₹FREE.99

Watch Out!

FRESHMEN GUIDE



WE
KNOW
ITS LATE
BUT ITS
OKAY

ROORKEE'S
COMMANDMENTS
FESTS
PLACES OF
INTEREST

ROORKEE EDITION
DECEMBER 2021



CONTENTS



3 Don't PANIC



4 Introduction



5 FAQs

6 Academics

7 Online semester

8 Campus Rules

9 Roorkee Commandments



10 Research

11 Intern



12 Placements

13 Sports

14 Campus Politics



15 Hostel life

16 Fests

17 Lingo



18 Campus Facilities

19 Places to eat

20 Places of Interest

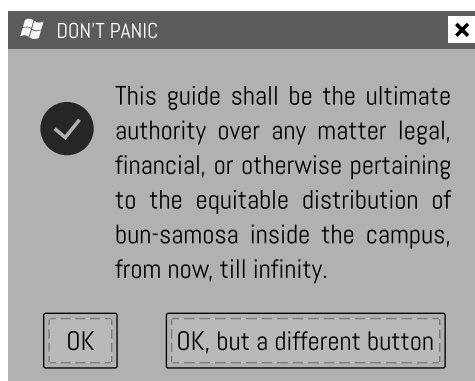
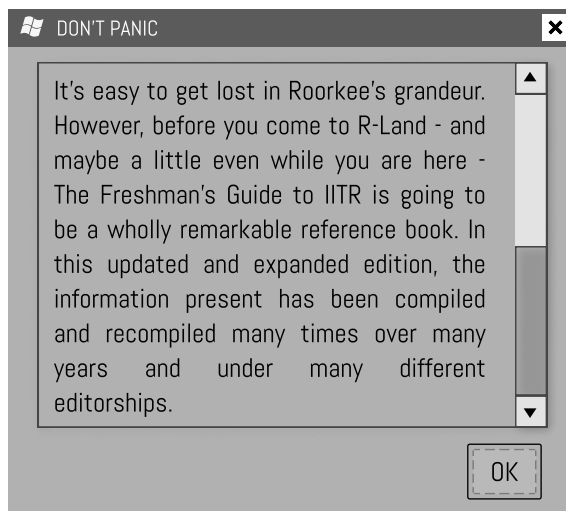
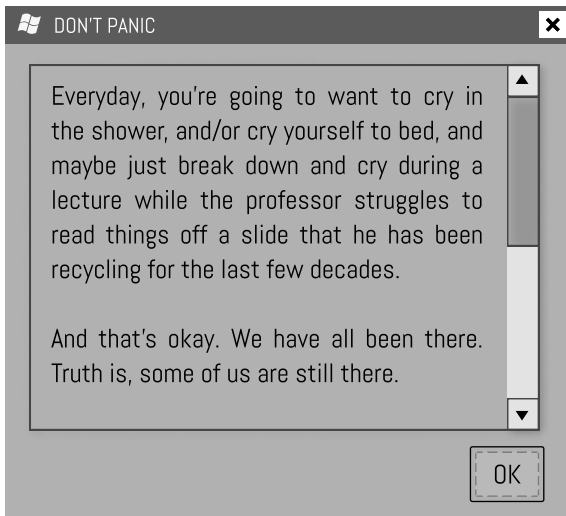
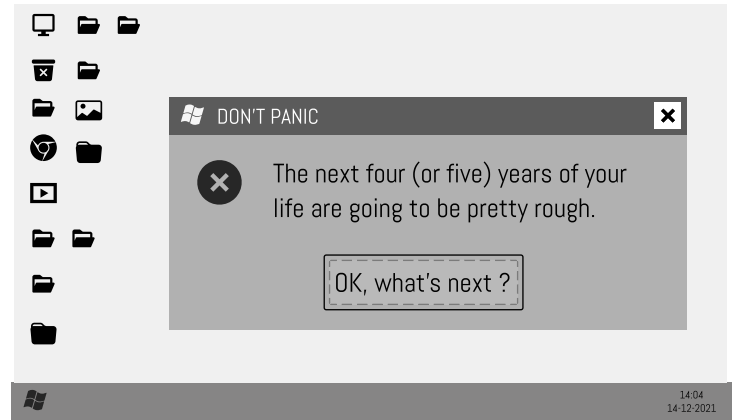
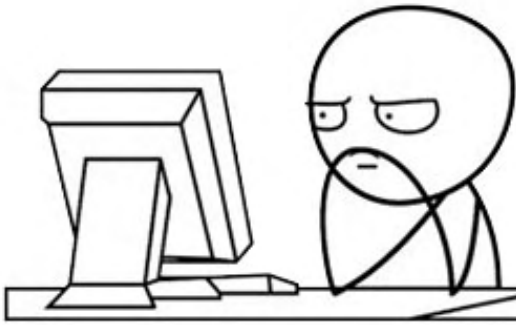


21 Off campus tourism

22 Forget all about the
pressure of days



23 From Watch Out!



Don't PANIC !!!

Even though Watch Out ! is proud to be associated with this guide and for bringing it to its final shape, the exact authorship of this guide remains a mystery. While some believe that this guide is as old as the institute itself, others argue that it originated sometime in 1993 when a slithering reptile was observed in Govind Bhawan.

However, Watch Out ! knows that none of these speculations are true at all. In fact, no piece of information about the origin of this guide will ever be completely correct, because this guide doesn't exist at all. It is merely a twisted fabric of space and time which has temporarily suspended your grasp on reality. At this very moment, you are experiencing vivid hallucinations which involve faint visions of this guide. Slowly but steadily, words are taking shape exactly the way you want them to take shape. This guide shall tell you only what you need to hear about your new institute- nothing more, nothing less. The entrails of this book shall be debated, argued upon and updated from time to time, but none of this shall ever physically exist anywhere. Even if you ever happen to chance upon a rare copy, it is probably your mind that has gone bonkers.





CHAPTER 1

Introduction

IITR is big. Not as big as you might have thought. But it's big enough to deter you from attending boring lectures at 8am. Nay, 8am lectures in general. Along with other benefits, we can assure you that the campus will always be more happening than the city outside. Well, probably because there is no city outside. But don't let that worry you; big cities are merely filled with dance and fun - things that no college student would want anyway.

The mind bogglingly stupendous institute of IITR was established somewhere around the middle of the 19th century. Although the exact year is mentioned somewhere in the depths of the official website, many archaeologists, historians and marketing analysts claim that the institute is as old as the Indus Valley Civilization. This claim has been rubbished many times by the Archaeological Survey of India but uncertainty remains in the minds of ECE undergraduates who visit the Digital Hardware Laboratory every semester.

The institute finds its roots way back in 1845. It was the time when speaking in a British accent did not make you effeminate and top hats were very much in fashion, so much so that people dressed up in 3-piece suits just to go have dinner in the Bhawan messes (where they were served in silverware by turbaned waiters). In 1847 the institute was officially established. It was renamed as the Thomason College of Civil Engineering in 1854 in honour of its founder, Sir James Thomason, lieutenant governor of the then Northwestern Provinces. Roorkee graduates played a role in maintenance of the Ganges canal, construction of dam and irrigation projects like Bhakra Nangal, the Rajasthan canal, the Aswan dam on the Nile in Egypt, and the construction of Chandigarh. Apart from all of these creations it is rumored that the engineers of IITR also built the Eiffel Tower, Leaning Tower of Pisa, Great Wall of China and Pyramids of Giza. The number of pictures people upload on their facebook profiles during their foreign internships every year substantiate this rumor.

This guidebook aims at presenting an almost unbiased, unadulterated and unprejudiced picture of IITR to the incoming freshmen. You can use this guidebook as follows:

1. Read through all the chapters one by one.
2. As a reference.
3. As an icebreaker in parties when trying to chat with the opposite sex.

You must not use it as:

1. A textbook.
2. Definitely not a textbook.
3. Something that you'd want your parents to read.

So buckle up! And get ready to experience firsthand what it is like to be a freshman at IITR.

Sometime (read anytime) after admission

Hi everyone 🙋 11:31 AM ✓

Thanks for agreeing to help me 😊 11:31 AM ✓

I had a lot of questions so I thought it's better to make a group 11:31 AM ✓

Hail the CR
Reminded me of my first year lol 11:46 AM

Aspiring poet
Get started.... 11:46 AM

Let's start, oddly enough, from the beginning.
How do I get to Roorkee? 11:31 AM ✓

Mr. I Know Everything
Well, the nearest airhead to Roorkee is Dehradun, around 70km away, but we usually find Delhi a more convenient airport. Delhi is about 180km away. The best way, especially if you're coming from a long distance away is to get here from Delhi.

You can come either by road or by rail. There are regular buses from Delhi- most buses that go to Dehradun pass through Roorkee. Buses can be obtained either from I.S.B.T. Kashmere Gate, Delhi or from I.S.B.T. Anand Vihar Ghaziabad.

A taxi is also an option of course, but you should be warned that the road isn't exactly an expressway. Trains also run regularly from Delhi - both the regular Shatabdi and the JanShatabdi trains go all the way to Dehradun, passing through Roorkee. The journey should take around 4 hours by Shatabdi and a little more by other trains 11:46 AM

Some random senior
OP Sir 🔥🔥🔥 11:46 AM

What about once I reach? 11:31 AM ✓

Will there be accommodation for my parents and me? 11:31 AM ✓

'I stay in my room all day' senior
The hostel room is made available to the students on their arrival. 11:46 AM

Hail the CR
Parents have to make their own stay arrangements and they are not allowed to stay with their wards in the hostel. Very limited accommodation is available in IIT Roorkee guest houses for the parents. For the same the guest houses are to be contacted directly in advance 11:46 AM

What will be there in my hostel room?
What should I bring 11:31 AM ✓

'I stay in my room all day' senior
You'll have a cupboard, a table, a bed and electrical fittings like a fan, already provided to you. You need to bring bedding yourself (you can buy it in Roorkee of course). 11:46 AM

Hail the BR too
As for the rest, what you bring is up to you. 11:46 AM

Alright, let me ask you this :
what do I not bring? 11:31 AM ✓

Some random senior
Lol 11:46 AM

Aubrey Product
That is the first good question you've asked us. 11:46 AM

Aubrey Product
Well, we've already told you what you'll find once you step into your humble abode. To start with the obvious, you most certainly don't need to bring buckets, mugs, or anything of the sort - Roorkee has a shopping boulevard that caters to all of your needs. This magical land is called Civil Lines. A flea market sale also occurs on the day of your registration, right inside your bhawan - you'll get everything you need there. 11:46 AM

Some random senior
🔥🔥🔥🔥 11:46 AM

Aubrey Product
OP senior has joined us now...We'll take our leave sir 11:46 AM

Aubrey Product
You're probably inclined to think of Roorkee as an icy cold land - the place lies at the foothills of the Himalayas after all. We hate to ruin it for you, but that is a bunch of baloney. It does get cold enough to freeze your innards, however that is only true for the period : mid November to mid February. You will get a chance to go home once or twice before Roorkee turns into Siberia - so don't bring your winter clothes now. It is understandable to want to make your room feel like home. 11:46 AM

Aubrey Product
If you're thinking of bringing along decorative items like wallpapers, we must let you know of the existence of a poster printing shop (in Civil Lines) and of course, the previously mentioned magical land (again Civil Lines). You definitely can (and probably should) bring a few things reminiscent of home - we cannot exaggerate the significance of happy reminiscing in college. 11:46 AM

Aubrey Product
Pack light though. 11:46 AM

Aubrey Product
Oh and as you're probably aware by now, Roorkee, has no fancy places to dress up for. If you're planning on charming the populace with your extravagant clothes - think again. 11:46 AM

Aubrey Product
That is not to say, we don't have parties, 11:46 AM

Mr. I Know Everything
Most importantly though, don't bring along a ginormous and rigid sense of pride, or in other words, an ego. This campus may fail to educate you, may fail to make you happy and may fail to give you any sense of direction in life - but it will not fail to humble you. Whatever you think you're good at - you'll find people who do it better. You'll find prodigies, hard-workers and geniuses all around you. Nothing to be afraid of though. If you're willing to learn, this campus will not fail to educate 11:46 AM

Some random senior
🔥 11:46 AM

🤔 11:31 AM ✓

Wait a minute...what about the banks? 11:31 AM ✓

Give me some details !!! 11:31 AM ✓

Aubrey Product
Okay, there are 2 major banks on campus: Punjab National Bank and State Bank of India. You have to open an account with one or the other. They both have A.T.M.s on campus. With your account you'll also get online banking and A.T.M. cards 11:46 AM

What's the campus like? 11:31 AM ✓

How's the campus life?? 11:31 AM ✓

Aspiring poet
What are you, a poet? Anyway, the campus is lush green, calm and serene and is well maintained throughout the year. Campus life here is sure to have you involved in many things at all points of time. Overall personality development is given a lot of importance, and student groups are extremely active here. Everything that happens in the campus has student participation behind it. In other words, it's your campus, have fun! 11:46 AM

Aubrey Product
In other words, it's your campus, have fun! 11:46 AM

Some random senior
Eggzactly 11:46 AM

What about the recreational and sports facilities? 11:31 AM ✓

Sports Enthusiast 1
Well-maintained stadiums and courts for each and every sport are available. Cricket, football, basketball, athletics - you name it. 11:46 AM

Sports Enthusiast 2
We have a Students' Club dedicated to recreation, which has table tennis Billiards, Snooker, Pool and Foosball tables, a lounge, and so on. 11:46 AM

How about other extra-curricular activities? 11:31 AM ✓

Some random senior
Time to flex about our groups guys 😂 11:46 AM

Aspiring poet
You could be a part of news and literary magazines if you've a flair for writing. 11:46 AM

THE Nerd
If you happen to know the capital of Bolivia, join the Literary Section of the Cultural Society and quiz with like-minded people 11:46 AM

Aubrey Product
Or if you fancy singing, or flailing your arms as though they were independent of your body, well, you guessed it, sections exist for that, too. 11:46 AM

Some random senior
Lol....nice description 😂 11:46 AM

Aubrey Product
If none of these strike you as your can of coke, don't worry, you'll always find something for yourself here 11:46 AM

Sounds great 11:31 AM ✓

Btw Will I have net connectivity in my room 11:31 AM ✓

Aubrey Product
All the hostels are Wi-Fi connected 11:46 AM

Aubrey Product
...that is, wireless internet permeates your space 11:46 AM

Aubrey Product
Very dramatic I must say 11:46 AM

Aubrey Product
Apart from that you have the Institute Computer Centre and Bhawan Computer Centres, you'll also be connected by Wireless LANs, to other computers in your hostel, through WIFI 11:46 AM

Awesome...and what about the climate? 11:31 AM ✓

THE Nerd
You'll see a continental, read (extreme) climate 11:46 AM

??? 11:31 AM ✓

Aubrey Product
This means that it starts getting cold in about November 11:46 AM

Oh okay 11:31 AM ✓

Thanks 🙌 11:31 AM ✓

Some random senior
Great...bye 11:46 AM

Aubrey Product
Bon Voyage !!!! 11:46 AM

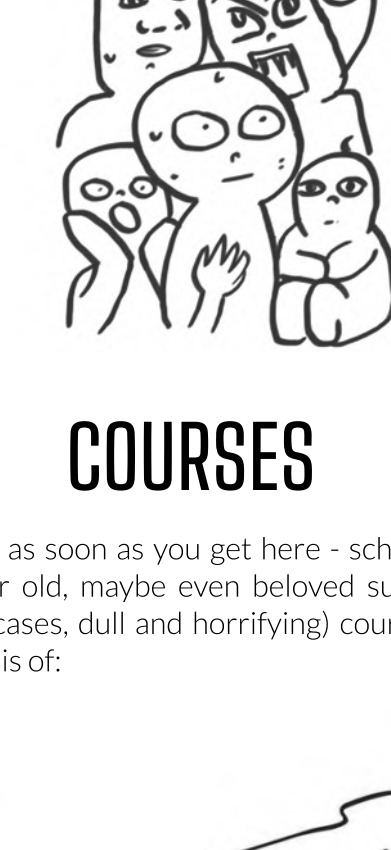
Aubrey Product
Hasta la Vista 11:46 AM

What, that's it?!! 11:31 AM ✓

I still have questions !!!!!!! 11:31 AM ✓

Mr. I Know Everything
Read the Freshers' Guide duh ! 11:46 AM

In the 4 or 5 long years of your stay in Roorkee, academics will undoubtedly act as the centre of gravity of your life. Though the power of the gravitational field varies from person to person, it acts as an innocuous motivation to attend the lectures (along with the 75% attendance rule). The academic structure in IITR, like its sister IITs, involves a credit based approach towards the ultimate CG calculation. There are many intricacies in this system, so without bothering you with too many details, we present a readable and not-so-boring intro to the Academic System. For lack of a better title, we christen it ACAD-101.



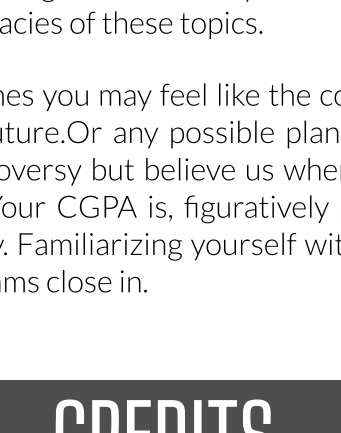
BRANCHES

Perhaps the first thing you'd like to know more about would be your branch. Knowing what courses your department offers, the scope of the field, what you can do in various other departments etcetera will be pivotal information throughout your stay at IITR. We present to you, dear reader, a link to a painstakingly curated pdf file that serves as an introduction to all the branches: [Branch guide](#) (updated version soon)

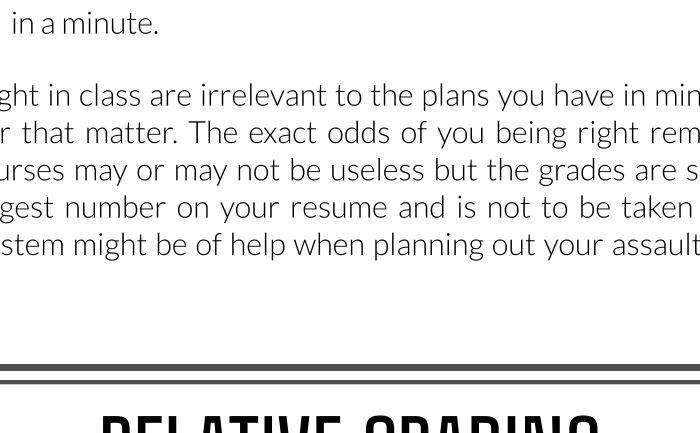
[Architectures @ IITR](#)

COURSES

You'd do well to accept a bitter truth as soon as you get here - school is over. We realise, of course, that everyone learns it the hard way. Your old, maybe even beloved subjects will now be replaced by more exciting and challenging (or in some cases, dull and horrifying) courses. Every department has numerous courses. They are classified on the basis of:



Year: The core courses of your department (exclusive of your branch) are in the order of increasing technicality and degree of intensiveness. Generally speaking, in the initial two years the courses aim to cover the breadth of all topics in your field. Later on, courses are designed to deepen your knowledge, and teach you the various intricacies of these topics.



Type: There are many courses that are made compulsory for all branches. These are more common in the first year, and are usually general courses that everyone must complete. These include courses like 'Advanced Engineering Mathematics', 'Environmental Sciences', 'Ethics' etc. These compulsory courses generally aim to shape you as a more well-rounded, informed and responsible human being. They terribly fail in doing so. You will also encounter Elective Courses, but more on that in a minute.

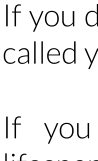
At times you may feel like the courses being taught in class are irrelevant to the plans you have in mind for the future. Or any possible plans whatsoever for that matter. The exact odds of you being right remain a controversy but believe us when we say, the courses may or may not be useless but the grades are surely not. Your CGPA is, figuratively speaking, the biggest number on your resume and is not to be taken (too) lightly. Familiarizing yourself with the grading system might be of help when planning out your assault plan as exams close in.

CREDITS

In layman's terms, the credit of a course is its weight in comparison to other courses. To put it in a slightly more complicated manner, credits have something to do with your GPA. For example, a 4 credit course will have twice the bearing on your CGPA than a 2 credit one.

Suppose you got four A(10)s (each of which is for say 4 credits) and one B+ (9) in the 5 courses of the semester and everybody wants your guts for breakfast, your S.G.P.A would be either 9.8 (if the 5th is for 4 credits) or 9.89 (if the 5th is for 2 credits).

The credit of each course depends upon its relevance to the student's branch, and on how much time would be spent procrastinating while studying the course during the end sems. Loosely translated to 'kodi' in Hindi, the term makes for some very catchy phrases which you shall witness in the future.



GPA



GPA or Grade Point Average is a rating that is used to judge your academic performance. You are given a grade in each course after completion. You multiply the grades' values with the corresponding courses' credit and add all of them up. Now you divide it by the sum of credits, and you get your grade point average.

If you do it for one semester, it is called your SGPA or SG.

If you do it for your entire lifespan at IITR (uptil the moment you get reminded about your CGPA by an enthusiastic faculty), it is called your CGPA.

Whatever your immediate seniors may claim, your CG is one of the things that sticks onto your resume for the initial years. Vital for foreign internships, research prospects and fat paychecks, the authors of this guide would recommend that you keep more than just an eye on it.

RELATIVE GRADING

The world of IITR is governed by the laws of a) physics and b) relative grading. However, only one of these sets is invariant and reliable enough to bet on.

Relative grading is basically the education equivalent of second century gladiator fights, and is one of the most esoteric traits to grace the IITR academia. Instead of being pitted against the syllabus as you're used to, you now also have to fight it out with your classmates - you are judged and graded based on how you perform in comparison to everyone else who took the course with you. The general formula for calculating grades according to this system, goes something like this:

- X > Mean (μ) + 1.5 * Standard Deviation => **A** (10)
- Mean (μ) + 1 * S.D. < X < Mean (μ) + 1.5 * Standard Deviation => **B** (9)
- Mean (μ) < X < Mean (μ) + 1 * Standard Deviation => **B** (8)
- Mean (μ) < X < Mean (μ) + 0.5 * Standard Deviation => **C** (7)
- Mean (μ) - 0.5 * S.D. < X < Mean (μ) => **C** (6)
- Mean (μ) - 1.0 * S.D. < X < Mean (μ) - 0.5 * S.D. => **D** (5)
- Mean (μ) - 1.5 * S.D. < X < Mean (μ) - 1.0 * S.D. => **D** (4)
- X < Mean (μ) - 1.5 * S.D. => **F** (teri back laq qauj)

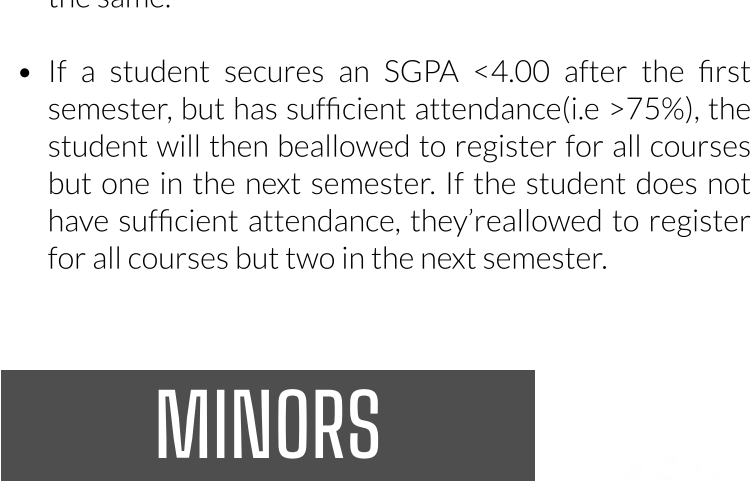
However, whether or not this convention is actually followed is entirely up to the professor's discretion. They may resort to absolute grading, follow this, or come up with something entirely new. A popular practice among many professors is to award A to a certain number of students at the top and then work their way backwards from there.

This may seem cruel at first, but on the upside, the "It's not just me, everyone performed badly" excuse actually makes sense now.

ELECTIVES

In the off chance you find your departmental courses too easy to incite any stress or anxiety, the institute also allows students to opt for electives in each semester starting from the third. These are optional courses including those from departments other than your own. In addition to facilitating holistic learning and familiarization with other departments.

Elective courses can be anything from film appreciation to quantum computing, giving you total control over 2-3 credits of your program each semester. They are roughly divided into two basic categories viz. Humanities, Social Sciences and Management Courses (HSSMEC) and Open Elective Courses (OEC). You also have Department Electives. Here, you get to choose between various specialisations in tandem with your field of study. These become excessively important in your final year.



BACKS

Short attendance: Most courses require you to have an attendance of more than 75%, and regardless of what your professors say to you, it's always a good idea to maintain 75% attendance. If a student has less than 75% attendance by the end of the semester, he/she will have to repeat the course the next time it is offered. The departments usually release a list of defaulters one week before the end sems

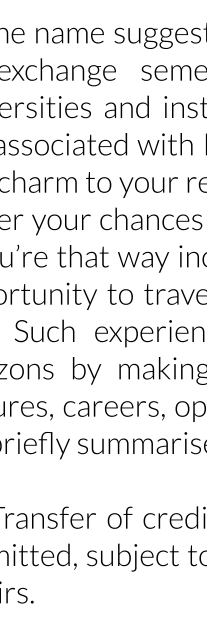
Re-examination: If a student is awarded an F grade in a course, they are deemed 'fail', and are required to give a re-examination for the same. This happens before the next semester begins and a student is awarded a grade lower than what they would have been awarded normally.

Academic Slow Pace Programme: A student shall be put on academic probation by Dean Academics, after each semester to monitor their academic progress under one of the following conditions:

- Their SGPA becomes lesser than or equal to 4.00.
- Their SGPA is below that of the previous semester by two points or more (eg. if you get a 7.5 in your third semester, followed by a 5.0 in the next semester, you will be put on academic probation).
- The credits earned in the semester are less than 12.
- The grades of NSS/NSO/NCC are not considered for the same.
- If a student secures an SGPA <4.00 after the first semester, but has sufficient attendance (i.e. >75%), the student will then be allowed to register for all courses but one in the next semester. If the student does not have sufficient attendance, they'll be allowed to register for all courses but two in the next semester.

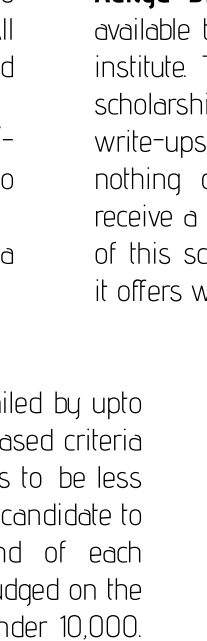
MINORS

Your Major is your dedicated area of study and makes up most of your coursework. It's the branch you were admitted to when you joined the institute, unless of course, you manage to get a switcharoo after your first semester. A minor is basically volunteering to take around 20 credits worth of courses from another discipline at the end of your second year, given you meet the C.G.P.A criteria (7.5 or more) in order to have an extra clause in your degree that says you have a "Minor specialization in X". X being whatever your second love happens to be. A Minor may be handy if you plan to pursue a career that is core to a department other than yours.



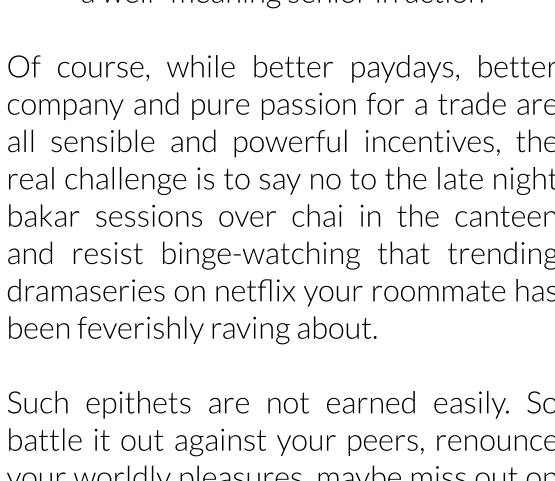
DEPARTMENTAL HONORS

Departmental honours is pretty similar to a minor, except you have to choose courses from your own department's electives to meet the 18 credit quota. Also requires you to have a C.G.P.A of more than 7.5 at the end of your 5th semester. An honours implies a higher level of familiarization with your core curriculum and is quite beneficial if you plan to pursue something along those lines.



END TERM EXAMS

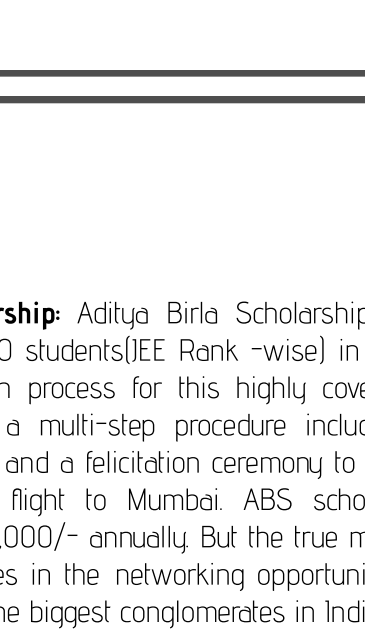
The months of November and April witness the migration of hoards of clueless students from Georgia and SBCBC (Shree Balaji Cautley Bhawan Cafe - a social adhesive of sorts) to the murky corridors of MGCL (Mahatma Gandhi Central Library). Derelict books are dusted off. Gigabytes of study material change hands. Ghissus are stalked for their impeccable notes. This time is characterised by many symptoms, which include sleep deprivation, prolonged pointless hours on facebook and reddit, excessive yearning for food (which requires you to leave your table) and an unavoidable lust for funny youtube videos. The authors of this guide have often found brilliant articles, videos, movies and music during these unholy months.



BRANCH CHANGE

So maybe your JEE rank landed you in Biotech, but while your professor raves on about enzymes and cell membranes, you dream of towering scrapers and the intricacies involved in the design and construction of such modern marvels. Maybe you find the diesel engines in your mechanical department a tad bit too noisily or maybe you just hold a mild resentment towards your classmates... whatever be your reasons for wanting a new branch, prepare to play the Game of Grades.

The rules are subject to frequent changes. Last year the applicants could fill in only up to a maximum of 3 branches of their choice. Also, there is no special reservation of seats associated with branch change. Your grades are your only saving grace in this rat-race for the holy grail of the academic world at IITR - blood shall be pitted against each other, ghissus will be shed, and the victorious ones shall emerge from the ashes, to (maybe) step into a better world. In addition, only 10% of the total seats of any branch are open for the incoming branch changers, not to mention that the strength of any branch should not fall below by more than 25% due to the outgoing BCs. The rules also (obviously) disallow a potential BC from falling any course, and from committing any acts of indiscipline. Oh, and if you're a B.Arch student, sorry, but you're not eligible.



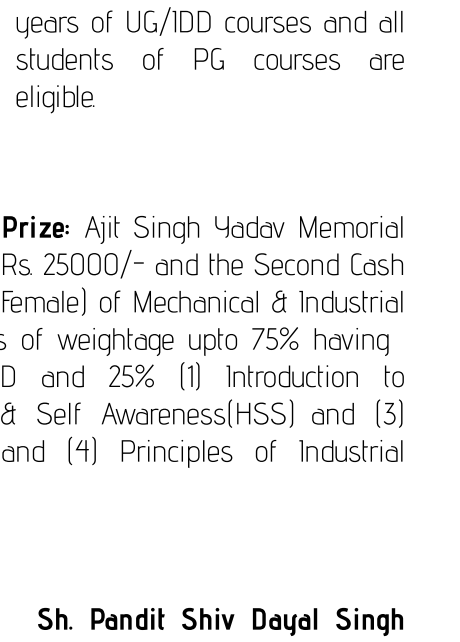
a well-meaning senior in action

Of course, while better paydays, better company and pure passion for a trade are all sensible and powerful incentives, the real challenge is to say no to the late night bakar sessions over chai in the canteen and resist binge-watching that trending dramaseries on Netflix your roommate has been feverishly raving about.

Such epithets are not earned easily. So battle it out against your peers, renounce your worldly pleasures, maybe miss out on a few chapos in order to get branded as the infamous "BC".

*Any resemblance that this acronym bears with that of a rather infamous Hindi swear word is sworn to be nothing more than an innocuous coincidence.

For further reading, check out : [Branch guide](#)



AUDIT

Audits are another 8 credits worth of courses one can take up in their third year. Unlike most other courses however, you are not graded for these, save a binary Pass-Fail quotient. Regardless, all other rules like attendance requirements and such still hold as they would for any other course. Although it may seem pointless at first, these courses can still be used to grace your resume.

SPECIAL CLASSIFICATION

Social strata in Planet R can be taxonomically divided into 2 kingdoms - Ghissus and non-Ghissus. Further phyla include productive and non-productive Ghissus. Non-Ghissus thrive on the top rung of the social ladder, and Ghissus triumph academically. The Ghissus account for 50% of the occupancy of MGCL on normal non-exam days. The other 50% is made up of young couples looking for a quiet corner to canoodle.

PROJECTS

It is considered fashionable to adorn your resume with tons of cleverly worded academic projects, other than the compulsory B.Tech project one is required to do in one's final year. Besides being a niche resume point, a project also allows one to specialise in a topic, only to realise ultimately that research is not everyone's cup of tea.

Along with projects from their home departments, students often take up projects from the Department of Management Studies in fields such as Finance, Marketing, Supply Chain Management and the whole hog on. To be gifted with the dubious honour of working on a project, one needs to diligently follow the given procedure:

1. Knock on a professor's office and try to convince him/her that you are absolutely the one he needs to work with, and that you definitely won't abandon his project halfway.
2. Fail and repeat Step 1.

The campus also provides a provision for a foreign BTP, details of which can be found in the UG Academic Booklet.

SEMESTER EXCHANGE

As the name suggests, this is when you opt - and are selected - for an exchange semester. You get to spend the semester in universities and institutes across the world - but only those that are associated with IITR (the ones with MOUs). Not only does this add charm to your resume and increase your eventual paycheck (or better your chances of landing at a good university as a researcher, if you're that way inclined), a semester abroad is also an incredible opportunity to travel and experience a life previously not privy to you. Such experiences are known to expand your intellectual horizons by making you aware and receptive of a plethora of cultures, careers, opinions, cuisines etc. Be sure to aim for it. Here we briefly summarise the guidelines regarding the same :

- (1) Transfer of credits earned by the students from institutions is permitted, subject to approval of DAPC, HOD and Dean, Academic Affairs.
- (4) The credits earned in other institute will be considered for awarding the degree.
- (5) The maximum permissible limit for transfer of credits will be 24.
- (6) The subjects and grades earned will be indicated in the consolidated grade sheet/transcripts with the remark that the grades have been awarded by the host institution.
- (7) Credits earned and grades will not be considered towards calculation of SGPA/CGPA.
- (8) Grades earned in host institutions will not be considered for any award/prize at the Institute.

Want to know more: Check out: [tricks-of-the-trade](#)

SCHOLARSHIPS

James Thomson Scholarship: James Thomson facilitates students with an 'All India Rank under 250 in JEE Advanced, found exclusively in the Computer Science department, to avail an amount of 25,000/- every month, provided they manage to maintain a CGPA of more than 8.0 at the end of each academic year (Which may be a bit harder than you imagine).

Aditya Birla Scholarship: Aditya Birla Scholarship is available to the top 20 students (JEE Rank-wise) in the institute. The selection process for this highly coveted scholarship involves a multi-step procedure including write-ups, interviews and a felicitation ceremony to say nothing of the free flight to Mumbai. ABS scholars receive a sum of 100,000/- annually. But the true merit of this scholarship lies in the networking opportunities it offers with one of the biggest conglomerates in India.

Inspire: Inspire is offered exclusively to students enrolled in basic science streams aka Integrated MSc courses with a 4 digit JEE AIR or less. Eligible candidates may avail 80,000/- every year. Not to mention, Inspire is also quite a valuable epithet and is a crucial requisite for Inspire Fellowship, one of the major grants offered to research scholars in India.

Merit-cum-Means Scholarship: Can be availed by upto 25% students in each branch. The means based criteria specifies that the student's family income is to be less than 5 lpa while the merit part requires the candidate to maintain a CGPA above 7.5 at the end of each academic year. First yearites however, are judged on the basis of their JEE rank, which has to be under 10,000. Eligible candidates have the entirety of their tuition fee waived off.

Tarachand Scholarship: Tara Chand Kanti Devi Memorial Cash Prize of Rs. 2500/- to the student scoring highest CGPA in B.Tech Civil 3rd Year.

Rai Bahadur Khushi Ram Sud & Smt. Durga Devi Sud Memorial Cash Prize: Rai Bahadur Khushi Ram Sud & Smt. Durga Devi Sud Memorial Cash Prize of Rs. 5000/- for obtaining highest CGPA in B.Tech. (Civil), II Year class.

Lt. Gen. Ram Adhar Loomba Cash Prize (F): Lt. Gen. Ram Adhar Loomba Cash Prize of Rs. 5000/- for the student who obtains highest CGPA in B.Tech. (Civil) III Year (among female students).

Kaustubh Roy Memorial Cash Prize: Kaustubh Roy Memorial Cash Prize of Rs. 6000/- for obtaining highest CGPA up to B.Tech. Mech/Engg III year.

Prof P Mukhopadhyay Cash Prize: Prof P Mukhopadhyay Cash Prize of Rs. 2000/- for obtaining highest CGPA in B.Tech. (Elect.) III year.

Rai Singh Jain & Mrs. Shakuntla Devi Jain Cash Prize: Rai Singh Jain & Mrs. Shakuntla Devi Jain Cash Prize of Rs. 3000/- for the student (Male or Female) obtaining highest CGPA in B.Tech. (CSE/E&C/Elect.) III and IIIRD Year.

Shri Raghuraj Behari Mather Cash Prize: Shri Raghuraj Behari Mather Cash Prize of Rs. 20,000/- for a male and a female student who have obtained highest CGPA amongst male and female students respectively in B.Tech. Civil I year.

Air Cmdr Shyam Chand Mehra : Air Cmdr Shyam Chand Mehra Scholarship* of Rs. 10,000/- to girl students of B.Tech Ist, IInd and IIIRD year for obtaining highest CGPA in B.Tech. Electrical Engg in their respective batches.

"1988 Batch Award" Cash Award: "1988 Batch Award" Cash Award of Rs. 12000/- to a student of all UG Programmes in Engineering for each year respectively on the basis of Academics Performance of Autumn Semester.

EC-72 Batch" Cash Award: EC-72 Batch" Cash Award of Rs. 10,000/- for the student of 3rd year B.Tech. (E & CE) based upon performance of the student up to 2nd year.

Nayyar Award for Excellence in Communication: Nayyar Award three prizes of Rs. 50,000, Rs. 30,000 and Rs. 20,000 for students in 3rd, 4th and 5th years of UG/IDD courses and all students of PG courses are eligible.

Gauri Shanker - Malti Prize: Gauri Shanker - Malti Prize of Rs. 10,000/- for the student who obtains highest CGPA in B.Tech. (Civil) III Year.

Ajit Singh Yadav Memorial Proficiency Prize: Ajit Singh Yadav Memorial Proficiency Prize* the First Cash Prize of Rs. 25000/- and the Second Cash Prize of Rs. 15000/- to a student (Male/Female) of Mechanical & Industrial Engineering Deptt. 4th year on the basis of weightage upto 75% having highest CGPA upto 3rd year in MED and 25% (1) Introduction to Environmental Studies (CE) (2) Ethics & Self Awareness (HSS) and (3) Engineering Analysis & Design (ME) and (4) Principles of Industrial Engineering (ME).

Sh. Pandit Shiv Dajal Singh Memorial Award for Excellence in Social Service: Award will consist of Rs. 20,000 Cash Prize, a Certificate and a Gold-plated Medal. The award will be given to the student during third year of his/her studies.

Manoj Jain Award for Human Values: Manoj Jain Awards of Rs. 50,000/- plus Shield & certificate of Final years students of B.Tech., B.Arch and Dual degree engineering Bachelor course students (Male and Female).

Bhagwan Devalma Award for Excellence in Social Service: Award will consist of Rs. 20,000 Cash Prize, a Certificate and a Gold-plated Medal. The award will be given to the student during third year of his/her studies.

Sh. Pandit Shiv Dajal Singh Memorial Award for Excellence in Social Service: Award will consist of Rs. 20,000 Cash Prize, a Certificate and a Gold-plated Medal. The award will be given to the student during third year of his/her studies.

W
O

Introduction

Frequently Asked Questions

May not be applicable next year but anyways

Online Semester

Well, who knew that one guy eating a bat would put us in this situation. ¹ Sadly, your first semester on campus is (for now anyway) online. So, instead of attending classes in the LHC², you'll soon be making acquaintances with virtual entities like Microsoft Teams, Cisco Webex and good ol' Google Meet. Now, you're probably wondering how those fabled lectures of IIT R will be conducted - and what the new experience will be like. Our professors use different software to teach us- we've listed and described some of them here..

Microsoft Teams is the default platform that helps you keep track of not only your courses but also assignments and resources related to the course. Other platforms like Cisco Webex and Google Meet might also be used- based on the preferences of the professor.

1- This statement may or may not reference an actual event

2- Lecture Hall Complex

FAQs

What are the requirements for online classes?

All you need is a good internet connection and a device (with a webcam) that can run the necessary programs - Microsoft Teams, Cisco Webex, Google Meet etc. We also recommend a pair of earphones/headphones that come with microphones. Be prepared for eight hour sessions, and the exhaustion that follows.

How will I communicate with the professors?

On registration, each student receives an institute email ID which serves as the primary mode of communication between students and the institute. Many important notices are floated here, including but not limited to information regarding courses and classes.

Aside from mail, students tend to make branch-wise WhatsApp groups, where representatives are chosen, who maintain contact with professors on class-wise or batch-wise levels and relay the information to students.

What about the tutorials you guys mentioned before?

While practicals for most courses have been postponed to the (hopefully) upcoming offline semesters, tutorials still continue to haunt the junta.

Tutorials are also conducted via Teams, which has an integrated assignment feature for each course. Professors or TAs give assignments with a set deadline. One must solve the assignment within that deadline. Submissions are made usually by scanned PDFs of written solutions. Do not, at any costs, forget to hand in your assignment once your submission is uploaded.

How can I study outside of lectures?

Feeling brave, are we? Professors usually provide study material to students via mail or via class representatives. You will also be given electronic access to the Central Library for other references. Some lectures can also be accessed via NPTEL, a digital platform where courses from various IITs are available.

THE INANE CAMPUS RULES

BY
ADMINISTRATION OF IIT ROORKEE

So you think only the highly intellectual can be eccentric?
Check out the weird rules the administration has put up at
IIT R.

01

Stepping on the main-building lawns is strictly prohibited. You might get shot at sight, or worse, be exposed to two and a half hours of Gunda. There are exceptions of course; like if it's your convo, or during Cogni and Thomso.



Conversing/Looking at/Walking with the females in front of KB or SB is banned. The concerned security guards never fail to make situations awkward either.

02

03

For some weird reason, attendance at NSO is taken more seriously than in the lectures. No wonder students running for their NSO practice initially, are, in the later parts of the year, found running from practice.



But attendance in lectures is important too. You can see the administration putting out short attendance notices, sometimes after the exam has been conducted.

04

05

There is no way you should attempt or even think about attempting your tutorials on your own. It might result in epileptic seizures, social ridicule or in the worst case, horrific grades.



Sleeping in the library is prohibited. You'd think it obvious, but wait till you open a textbook or two in the library. The induced sleep can knock you out in seconds. The comfy-sofa section is under CCTV surveillance and is carefully patrolled by guards. On the other hand, watching TV shows and indulging in PDA with your beloved in the journal section, is completely fine. Certain people experience intense emotional anguish though, and so, we do not recommend indulging in PDA.

06

07

Under no circumstances should you send cheeky messages to, or poke, the better looking females of the institute on social media without knowing them personally. It might result in you getting blocked, reported, or both.



Asking a fellow fresher his JEE rank is fine. As long as you don't offer yours in response. It is forbidden to distract mess workers by using old sweet coupons and smuggling extra ice-cream. Regardless, the extra sweets will only attract unwanted attention from your fellow peers.

08

09

Creation of fake FB profiles under the guise of humour is prohibited. Everyone knows they serve the purposes of only very desperate stalkers.



Wearing "bathroom slippers" to lectures is strictly not allowed. Doing so may result in you being expelled from the classroom and consequently missing out on the tremendously important knowledge being delivered by the omniscient profs. Oh, and also attendance.

10

11

Consumption of a certain particularly bitter liquid, in small, large or Patiala proportions, is strictly prohibited. If, however, you find yourself "accidentally" (since you're a harmless angel) under the "mild" influence of this bitter liquid, be sure to not text your ex, the woman you're currently in love with but can't make a move on since she's (obviously) with a better man, your parents and your profs. Letting your homies know how much you love them, though, is considered ritualistic and is expected without fail.



ROORKEE'S COMMANDMENTS



Revised and Printed Expressily for the IITR Junta
Respectfully Dedicated to Sir James Thomson

Thou shalt have no other docs before the identity card.

Thou shalt not rag.

Thou shalt not indulge in the consumption of alcohol, or harmful drugs.

Thou shalt not be violent, nor indulge in any unkind, indecent behaviour towards thy neighbours.

Thou shalt not take the law into thy own hands and trust GOD (Dosw) to take care of all thy problems.

Thou shalt not become members of outside societies or join discussions of a political nature without prior permission of thy Institute.

Thou shalt not deny mess, club and other facilities to other students.

Thou shalt not be a bad boi.

Thou shalt be a good boi.

Thou shalt say Peace Out when you have nothing else to say.

Peace Out.



Research

What you are doing when you don't know what you are doing

In R, research is given foremost importance. Unlike our sister IITs, we do not believe in burning down laboratories as part of an intensive, fascinating and passionate experiment - we here trust in our labs to burn down themselves. Every once in a while, one hears reports of some guy in the CS department coming up with a conclusive proof that P does indeed equal NP . But there isn't much follow up to that and people invariably assume that the thermostat in the department might have again stopped working. One can also observe students of the Earth Sciences department late at night digging their own graves, or those with the chemistry lab, plucking flowers and playing with leaves for their 'experiments'.

The most path-breaking research of course happens in the Civil department. This is because most of their research tends to involve breaking down existing roads and laying them again, in the hope of finding that elusive X to Y ratio, where X and Y are two materials no one else in the institute has any idea about.

Regardless, students of this department can be frequently spotted in the campus carrying yellow tripod stands mounted on which is a camera, or as they prefer to call it, ultra high resolution wide field laser autofocus long range theodolite with night vision, and a measuring tape. They probably use these to measure something, though no one has ever bothered to stop and ask them what they're doing..

Regardless, we continue having tie-ups with leading corporate firms like IBM, Adobe, NVIDIA, TVS and several governmental and non-governmental organizations like the Ministry of Human Resource Development, CSIR, ISRO, National Science Foundation USA and the Nuclear Power Corporation of India. Even though many other associations for better research are into consideration in IITR, like its sister IITs, it falls short of delivering the world class environment for undergraduate research. To compensate this, there are certain programmes by the government for promoting undergraduate research on campus.

SPARK FELLOWSHIP

IIT Roorkee invites applications for institute-funded SPARK fellowships for summer internships. The objective of this program is to provide research exposure to interested undergraduate students of IITR. It also aims to attract and nurture talented undergraduate students from other institutions. This program provides a weekly stipend and project-funded summer internship.

Eligibility

Students currently enrolled and have completed at least two semesters of the undergraduate degree (B.Arch./B.E./B.Tech./M.Sc) in a relevant discipline from any institute in India

Almost all major IIT's, IISER's and research institutes have their equivalent of SPARK

Minimum Grade Requirements

CGPA > 7.5 for IITs/IISc.

CGPA > 8.0 for NITs/ IISERs/ NISER/IIEST.

CGPA > 8.5 for students from other institutes.

Stipend:

Students selected for the program will get stipend of INR 2500/week.

(i) Applications need to be submitted through an online portal where the applicants will upload their transcripts (marksheets), photograph, a 500-word research statement, and resume.

(ii) Applicants need to mention names of five faculty members of their choice from the list of faculty members interested in having a summer intern.

(iii) The term of the summer training should not be less than 6 weeks.

(iv) Students of IITR will be allowed to begin their summer internship immediately after the completion of the end-term examination.

(v) Accommodation and mess facilities in the Bhawans, subject to payment of necessary charges at par with that paid by students living in hostels. The average cost of housing would be around INR 3500/month (including mess facility)

Internships

Apart from being the lurking bogeyman of the campus, an internship is basically a stint you have with a company or an institute. It fetches you experience, helps you find what you want to do with your life, makes you realise what you absolutely DO NOT want to do with your life, but most importantly, fetches you points on your resume which leads to better internships and jobs and eventually you being independent and buying the Kinder Joy you always wanted but didn't have the guts as mom was nearby



Research internships, broadly speaking, involve you working with a professor (and/or their students) on a project that gives you hands on experience in the field. The only thing you can bank on about internships is that the campus comes to your aid in the first semester of your third year, where like placements (albeit at a smaller scale), companies come a-hiring - the process which is referred to as an 'on-campus intern'. With the TPO wearing a cape and coming to your rescue, it involves rounds of testing, applications, interviews and hopeful perusal of lists on channel-I

Off campus internships involve students applying for their preferred roles on their own. The application process for any internship inevitably involves some form of mailing, (so do brush up on your mailing basics. Our favorite course for becoming a hardcore mailboy- <https://www.universalclass.com/i/course/using-gmail-101.htm>) while many also involve you seeking referrals from seniors, family members and even professors.



You can apply for these interns at any point of your existence regardless of your current semester, branch, year, or anything else for that matter. We have been privy to students cracking the prestigious GSoC, going for universities abroad (Like NUS, NTU) etc. right in their first year, while some bag those juicy high-paying interns without any prior experience. It all depends on the experience you want to gain, and the time you want to spend away from your friends having fun at trips.

Placements

Things change drastically when you enter the final year. Here for the final year students, the months of October, November and December are taken over by the one and only season: the placement season.



The Placement Season

This season, among all the seasons of IITR can be identified as the time of year when you start noticing the final year students heading towards the Placement Complex, dressed in borrowed suits, some looking dapper and some looking awkward enough to make you uncomfortable. Like winters in Roorkee, placements go on for a very long time. To state the obvious, placement and job availability are probably the only two things many JEE qualified students (that means you) consider before filling the form.

So the writers of this guide- instead of criticising the underlying drawbacks of our existing education system, herd mentality of people and ultimately the over population of our country - will enlighten you regarding the same. Right now you need to know about 4 things:

- 1) It begins and ends in your final year.
- 2) It is highly unpredictable.
- 3) Your CG, irrespective of the department, matters.
- 4) Your starting job (which you'll probably get after 4 (or 5) years from now) is not the thing you should be worried about right now.

The nature of companies who come to IITR for placements is quite diverse. We get software giants like Microsoft, Oracle, and Google, Investment Banks like Goldman Sachs and J P Morgan, Oil and Mining companies of Schlumberger, Shell and Rio Tinto and numerous other firms who give decent jobs in the domain of software, product development, finance and the core sector of civil, mechanical and electrical engineering. For those of you who dislike coding, here's a hard pill for you to swallow :

Almost no industry, or science, functions without coding, in one form or another. Virtually all companies that grace our campus during this season, include a coding test amongst various other tests. Many final yearites realise this just as their seventh semester begins, and in a frenzied, maniacal hurry, learn as much as they can in the few months they get. We advise readers to learn from the countless people who've made this mistake, and urge everyone, without fail, to learn to code, in one form or another. The form will depend on the field you choose to make a career in.



Placement Complex

This is probably one of the most mysterious places of IITR where unsuspecting students find themselves at the end of their stay, dressed in, as already mentioned, uncomfortable borrowed suits. Serving as a looming reminder of the placement season, it is located in front of the convocation hall. On the outset, it looks like a usual innocent and not-diabolical building: with walls, windows and doors. However horror awaits the seniors inside as they are grilled on questions about science, technology and business, and then offered two biros: a red one and a blue one . Regardless of which one they pick, they're ultimately rejected on grounds of having a below par GPA

Sports



Fortunately (or unfortunately?), The sports culture at IIT Roorkee does not bear even the slightest resemblance to a not-so-recent Dharma movie. There is, however, a lot to look forward to if you're an avid sportsperson or a slightly overenthusiastic no-gooder at sports.

The campus offers a plethora of sports that one can choose from. Between national staples like cricket and football, to less appreciated but beautiful sports like hockey, badminton, lawn tennis, table tennis, weightlifting, basketball, volleyball, swimming and track and field events - there is a lot to choose from once you've managed to shed off that fat.

Usually, the only way one can get regular practice is by joining NSO, and make no mistake, it's pretty tough to get in. But it's okay if you didn't make it through, Sure, you'll still have plenty of opportunities to pursue your favourite sport.

The ultimate goal of every sports-person here at R land is to represent the Institute at the Inter IIT sports meet, which happens sometime in December (more on this under Fests), so if you try hard enough, you might just get through <insert that's what she said joke>.

Even if you're someone who's been planning to go to the gym, but have been putting it off because you were 'too busy preparing for the JEE', we've got you covered too. The campus has a central gym, apart from a gym in every bhawan. Usually these gyms are full of pretentious people who spend more time flexing than actually working out, but there's always room for more..

Lal Bahadur Shastri Stadium



Vansh Mehra

LBS is accredited as our institute's only helipad cum athletic track cum cricket field cum jogging track. It shares a boundary with the basketball court and witnesses a surge in the number of students on the ground at about 6:30 every evening which incidentally is just about when the basketball girls come in for practice (*wink wink*). An old folk-tale at IITR speaks of distraught, sleepy, and sweaty aliens gracing this ground early in the morning, running around in perfect circles. It is believed that IITR continues to host a spot for extraterrestrial communication - one of the only ones in the world (there are 2 more that we won't tell you about). The folk tale calls these aliens 'NSO Proficiency Holders'. Nobody has confirmed this yet, since the humans of R-Land have usually just slipped into blissful oblivion, just as the sun begins to rise.

Olympic-sized Swimming Pool

In case you don't know how to swim, you can skip this part. The strict pool timings for beginners and the need to make an admittance card from the council makes it quite unworthy of the effort. The rest of you just need to know two things about the pool: It's big and it's out of use for the better part of the year (thanks to the everlasting winter/rainy season in R land).



Football and Hockey Fields



Harsh Kumar

Two separate fields are dedicated to these two sports. We don't have much to say about either, as these are not very different from regular fields. But since we need to fill this space with something interesting, here's a fun fact: India does not have any national sport. Hockey being it, is just a widely circulated myth.

Institute Gym

The gym is the second most underutilized place in IITR, right after the Ravindra Mess Lounge. It is well equipped with the latest body conditioning contraptions, and is open to anyone who is fond of loud music and motivational videos from Sultan and Bhaag Milkha Bhaag. Incidentally, the most popular song here is 'Lose Yourself'. (We are of the opinion that Eminem should improve upon his original song and rename it 'Lose your Flab'). The gym is most occupied at the beginning of every fresh semester. Gradually as days pass and motivation levels drop like the charts of a Sallu Bhai movie, the people continuing the gym usually end up being one of two kinds: those who form part of the weight-lifting team of IITR or those who wish to make it to the same.



Sneha Sundararajan

The sports facilities also include courts for basketball, lawn tennis, squash, badminton, table tennis, volleyball etc. There is also a rowing club somewhere in the woods near the Solani Aqueduct. It's something that is unique about IITR but given that we are mentioning it in the end, you can assume that its current state is not exactly great, not many know of its existence, and if at all people use this facility is a mystery we haven't cracked, like the one about the aliens of LBS..

Campus Politics

For thousands of years, the warlords of the galaxies far-far away have fought innumerable, ruthless battles. Sparks have flown, tears have been shed and natives have perished in the dark space. All of this for the Iron Throne of the Students' Affairs Council (SAC) of the R-land cosmic space. It is said that the Iron Throne was studded with a thousand light-sabers before being reluctantly replaced by a revolving chair due to multiple posterior problems reported by the delegates involved. The ultimate doctrine (which is something as imaginary as this guide) declares IITR to be a democratic institute. Here students have as much say as the administration when it comes to campus affairs. Which of course translates to very little. While discussions and debates pertaining to what to do with the freshly allocated funds (hint: relay existing roads) and to whom should we let out the space in front of the students' club (hint: switch between two very similar retail brands) happen (in)frequently; everyone knows that the final decision is taken by a green little infant enjoying this reality show from somewhere in the universe.



The Student Affairs Council (SAC) is the body that represents student community in the IITR senate.

After along and violent history of intense political campaigns and several electoral reforms, the mega election extravaganza is scheduled to be held each year in the Spring Semester. As the atmosphere starts getting politically charged, introductions are made, affiliations are expressed, 'pacts' are signed and chapos are given. One may even get a glimpse of the persons that are contesting, through 'Presidential' debates where you get to enjoy free cartoned drinks.



Like it or hate it; it's almost impossible to be indifferent towards the poly season. Seniors try their best to act like godfathers to their corresponding juniors and encourage them to vote for their own mates. As swarms of perfect strangers start moving from door to door, screaming out their manifestos and decorating (read littering) the corridors and hallways with their shabbily hand-written paper cards and posters, we won't blame you if you are reminded of a Shyam Benegal political thriller. Their promises range from slightly laughable to excessively outrageous and usually tend to involve the terms geysers, washrooms, gym, attendance and chapo. R is perhaps unique in this respect among all its sister IITs. While many of them have student representatives in their senate; very few have participation and enthusiasm on this grand a scale.

The SAC consists of student representatives at the bhawan level as well as the insti level. Every citizen (they who have an enrollment number) in R-Land gets to vote in the SAC elections. The positions at bhawan level are Bhawan Secretary, Mess Secretary, Sports Secretary, Cultural Secretary, Technical Secretary and Maintenance Secretary and are voted for by bhawan members. At the institute level, there are seven General Secretaries- GS Academics (UG & PG), Technical Affairs, Entrepreneurship Affairs, Hostel Affairs, Cultural Affairs and Sports.



The election season may also witness the enforcement of a hostel entry deadline by the administration resulting in a prohibition on "inter bhawan movements". Even your late night pee breaks and tea breaks might be looked upon with suspicion by the all-seeing eyes of guards at hostels. If it seems like Admiral General Aladdin holding elections in the Republic of Wadiya, it may not be too personal an opinion.

The exact structure and functioning of the Senate, the SAC and numerous other student councils and committees (like the Technical Council, Academic Committee, Cultural Council etc) is quite complicated. If you want to read further, check out our article on the same [\(link\)](#).

Hostel Life



All freshmen reside in Rajendra bhawan and fresh-girls in Sarojini Bhawan. Some RJB residents enjoy the exquisite pleasure of single rooms thanks to a purely randomised room allotment algorithm proprietary, to the institute. No such luck for the fairer sex

Bhawans come with most of the basic amenities one may need in day to day life.

In the first few days, you may find yourself a tad bit annoyed by the seemingly endless queues outside the mess and showers but rest assured that these are known to dissipate in a week or two as more and more people lose interest in baths, food and other everyday activities that were considered essential back at home.

Every bhawan and even different parts of a bhawan come with their own set of nuances and eccentricities.

C Block of RJB is widely known and feared as a place of unsettling corridors and unruly stoners; the rumors are yet to be confirmed. The top floor of B block is the lair of ghissus, the only place free of commotion on the night before exams.

Amenities



Harsh

A bathroom that you share with the 50 people that live in the same row as you, along with a dog or two if you're lucky. And to say nothing about the spiders and lizards...

A mess that serves... food...

A laundry guy that knocks on your door twice a week and can be counted on as a reliable alarm. There's also a laundry room that requires you to provide your own detergent but is quite a popular alternative among people who find the laundry guy's early morning timings to be inconvenient.

A number of open spaces in case you ever feel like catching fresh air or are unfortunate enough to be the victim of a GPL too grand to be contained within the hostel corridors.

A Gym for evening work-out sessions, whatever your reasons for that may be.

There's also ungodly fast LAN connection in every room, perfect for multiplayer showdowns and movie nights arranged on a whim.



Vidhi Khosla

The mess in Sarojini Bhawan is more than what your male counterparts can boast of- many may find it likeable (at least in the beginning) and most would at least visit it once during the day for dessert.

The fruit stall will be your tummy-saviour for all those/most of the days when you'll wake up right after the mess closes for breakfast.

The beauty parlour will be your go-to place to fulfill all your 'feminine' desires.

The second floor residents are blessed with a balcony, and the ground floor ones have the lawns as venues for chilling out and sunbathing in the winters(usually not for GPL purposes, rest assured). The first floor ones, sadly, have to choose and migrate.

The TV/Cyber/Reading room will be the libraries for those who are too lazy to go to MGCL for the exams.

Bathrooms on every corner of every floor, cleaned twice a day.

A stationery shop - your life saviour for all the last-minute graphs and practical files that you'll need.

The laundry room, as in RJB and a press-wali auntie.

A Gym.

The PhD Quarters in SB must be entered cautiously. Whispering loudly in front of the rooms of PhD students may fetch you an earful, or even a bucketful of water thrown at you.

Sarojini Bhawan has 4 blocks, though not as commonly referred to as in RJB. The only exception is Alaknanda, more popularly called the triangle. It harbours the lost souls that have been separated from the rest of their Bhawanmates.

A Hostel, or Bhawan as they are fondly referred to here in R-land, is much more than the tangible amenities it has to offer. It's a lifestyle. So enjoy it while you can. The movie nights, bakar sessions and late night stoner talks. Who knows, your wingmates might turn out to be the siblings you never knew you needed

Fests

During your stay at R, the months of October and March will be a haze, a blur. For some of us, this is true quite literally. These months are remarkable in that they have a lot of things to look forward to. October heralds Convocation and Thomso, while March brings with it Sangram, Shrishti, and Cognizance. Here, we give you a brief glimpse of what to expect from these and other such fests.



Thomso

The annual cultural festival of IITR, Thomso is the time of year when cool kids of DU come down upon Roorkee. It will be important to mention how bravely this festival survived before the unfortunate disaster of 2010 which led to it being banned in 2011. However, it was re-launched with rigor in 2012 and people actually hoped that it was better to forget about the heavenly days again on campus.

Surprise struck the junta in the autumn of 2013 when Thomso'13 was unexpectedly kick-ass in every imaginable way. It has remained that way since then. Undoubtedly, Thomso will be the best time of your campus life, if it does happen.

We kid of course.

It is important to note that this fest is organised by the students. You can, of course, apply to get into their core team, if you bring with you dreams and ambitions of making this fest great. Stand up comics have been known to resent the vile hooliganism and tomfoolery characteristic of the thomso crowd. Celebrities and musicians have often been invited, although the live shows are seldom as good as you'd expect them to be. If you're a loud, extroverted EDM loving anthropoid who loves to dance like no tomorrow with perfect strangers, you'll have the time of your life. Various cultural events are organised through the day, including band competitions and the famous Footloose, which IITR's Choreography Section unfailingly brings home every year. Other events are not so popular, however, and are known to have very less participation - specially from IITR. A lot of people who come from other institutes are usually not interested in the competitions they've arrived for - but for the charm and magic of visiting an IIT.

NSS Social Summit

Social Summit kicks off the trinity of fests in the spring semester. It is the socio technical fest, organized by NSS. Though in its nascent stages, it is replete with multiple events like panel discussions, case studies and guest lectures, underlining the message of social conscience.

If you are a faccha in NSS, you will be hounded by your seniors to attend the aforementioned guest lectures and panel discussions, with the ever-looming issues of attendance over your head.

It is mostly ignored by the rest of the campus.

Cognizance

Cognizance being the 2nd largest technical festival of Asia (like every other IIT's techfest) is the favorite imagined reality Roorkee likes to believe in. Cognizance takes place in the Spring semester: just after the curse of the midterms vanishes from the lives of people. It shares its core fundamentals with Thomso - it is fuelled by hard-working students, invites eminent personalities from all over the world for guest lectures, workshops and stage-shows pertaining to the world of technology.

For both Thomso and Cogni, a modest structure of hierarchy exists while working. A typical freshman involved/pretending-to-be involved in the work can be identified by the following:

Begging his facebook friends to like the Cogni page.
Putting up posters in Bhawans.
Undying devotion for any kind of Chapo from a senior.

A burning question that might plague a ponderous mind is "How do I choose which fest is my true calling and where do I invest my money in buying its giant banner to cuddle up and fall asleep with?".

The quandary remains unresolved, and we are open to any sort of inputs. Please mail us at watchout@iitr.ac.in

Sangam

The official sports fest of IITR, Sangram offers the sports fraternity of IITR a reason to keep their spirits up after the Inter-IIT season ends. High spirited matches are marked by intense jeering and inventive name calling from the abundant IITR crowd granting you the illusory sense of accomplishment for having done your part for the campus. It sees a healthy turnout from many north Indian colleges, IITs included and is utilized to give freshmen some much needed game time. Needless to say, regularity a month or two before the fest can land you a spot in one of the B teams and maybe give you your sattu minute of fame.

Shrishti

Shrishti is the annual exhibition held in the SAC, wherein all sections of the Hobbies Club (now Technical Council) showcase their works. It takes place in March and is part of the holy trinity of fests of the Spring Semester - along with Cogni and Sangram. Workshops, art exhibitions, talks and some live actions from robots and models are some of the main features of Shrishti. One can also enjoy some quirky pictures being taken by the Photography Section with the hilarious props made by the Fine Arts Section.

Inter IITs

The month of December sees all 23 IITs gather to compete in an array of events split under 3 verticals - tech, cult and sports, each hosted by a separate IIT. Selection, training and participation are handled by the appropriate section. Roorkee hosted the Cultural Meet in 2018 and it was arguably the best fest of the year (because..you know...more IITians). In the wake of IITs popping up in every nook and corner of the country, these tournaments are getting bigger and better in terms of number of events, quality of judges and overall competitiveness.

Pro-Tip : While recruitments by all campus groups are officially conducted in the spring, another round of pre recruitments is held in the fall, specifically for inter IITs. Appearing for these rounds, irrespective of whether or not you intend to actually participate in the Inter IITs, goes a long way in securing permanent recruitment into the respective groups.

You also get a special set of clothes and jackets to show off.

sports

The grandfather of the Inter IITs, the sports meet is over 50 years old. The events are split into an Aquatics meet and everything else. NSO kids duke it out to make it first to the summer camps and then the winter camp (with boiled chicken and curated meals) to stand a shot at being selected to the final contingent. Burly, sweaty kids from all over the country then shove around for the championship.

cult

The youngest of the three, the Cultural meet is a much needed addition. It comes as a refreshing and necessary slap on the face for those who stereotype IITians as awkward nerds, incapable of performing well in any other field. The performing sections spend months preparing for the same, and the Cultural Meet reaches a grand crescendo towards the end of December, ultimately culminating in 3 days of amazing performances, some of which could put professionals to shame. With the events increasing and diversifying each year, all IITs are prompted to form groups that deal with those spheres. The power gap between the more established and newer IITs is gradually decreasing.

tech

All events that don't fit in either of the above categories get thrown here. Seven of these competitions have been held so far, and IITR grabbed the numero uno spot in the hardware held at IIT Bombay. Events here include Biz Quizzes, Financial Case Studies, Hardware Modelling and Robotics etc. As is expected of IITians, these competitions rarely fail to amaze and stupefy, and as opposed to the Cult Meet, the Tech Meet is considered holy and pivotal not only by the students, but by the administration of all the participating IITs as well.

LINGO

CHAPO (n.) Traditionally meaning chai-pakoda, this term has been now reduced to mean party or treat, or in the worst case, as a euphemism for 'I like you, but I'm too socially awkward to hold a conversation. Can we meet?'

"Hey Meenakshi! What about your birthday chapo?"

"My birthday was last month. Jerk."

GHISSU (n.) The kind of person you would like to be (deep, deep down), but can't. Those who can are therefore subjected to social ridicule. Characterised by high GPA and (generally) absent social life.

"What! Abhijeet got a grace mark from sir because of his regularity and attention in class and managed to clear his backlog? That ghissu!"

CHEP (n.) (chepness,adj.) Person (generally male) characterised by ludicrous and cheap means to woo/impress another person(generally female).

Laughing, "That guy is so after me. He first sent me a friend request and then when I left my notebook in class the other day, picked it up and handed it to me"

"Hehe. Looks like another chep"

"Ikr! What is wrong with these IIT guys?!"

BAKAR (n.) Gossip in general. Accounts for 96.69420% of all activity inside hostels.

"Kuch productive karte hai yaar. Kabse bakar kaat rahe hai."

CHAPAI/CHAPNA (v.) Copying (especially assignments). A term heavily used the night before submissions of any kind.

"Tut de be, chapna hai"

DESPO (adj.) Short for desperate. An innocuous substitute for chep. A person can be desperate for food, money or bandi.

"Only 30 messages in 3 days? Banda bilkul despo nahi hai yaar."

LINGO

MACHAU (v.)The term people use when somebody opens a tightly closed bottle in IIT-R, or does anything of equal value.

"Hey, you finally downloaded new bhajans from DC++. Macha diya!"

MAAL (n.)Fresh plant leaves with medicinal value. Some immediate effects include stress relief, heightened perception and a generally positive outlook towards life. Long term effects include attendance backs, year backs, expulsion etc.

"Bahaut tension ho rahi hai bhai. Thoda maal milega?"

BAKCHODI (v.) Gossips which lead to no logical conclusion. Or in general, gossips which have no logic whatsoever.

"Bhai kya bakchodi pel raha hai?"

BANDI (n.) A person characterised by the presence of two X-chromosomes. A rare species in IIT.

"Want to hear a joke?" "Yeah!"

"Bandi"

"I don't get it"

"Exactly."

CHAGGI (n.) A person whose CG is 6.something. He/She can be characterised by a light-minded approach towards life and (thereafter) tensed expressions during placements.

Similarly we have satti, atthi, nehli and dassi.

"Bhai tera paper hi toh chepa tha. Teri atthi lagi aur meri chaggi?"

GAAON (n.) Area where Rajendra, Cautley and Ganga bhawans are located. This area is far from main campus area and is generally recognised by a simple lifestyle and zero interference with major campus affairs.

"Yeh gaaon mera hai aur main is gaaon kaa Bajirao Singham." - Bittu bhaiya yaar."

Campus Facilities

Roorkee's campus is serene and graceful. One notices the lush greenery of the campus the instant one sets foot inside. One notices remarkable products of human activity too. Our campus is perhaps unique, in that its architecture is archaic - reminiscent of a time when the nation was in turmoil. You'll need to be well acquainted with a lot of old and new products of civil engineering inside the campus, and here we mention a few essentials.

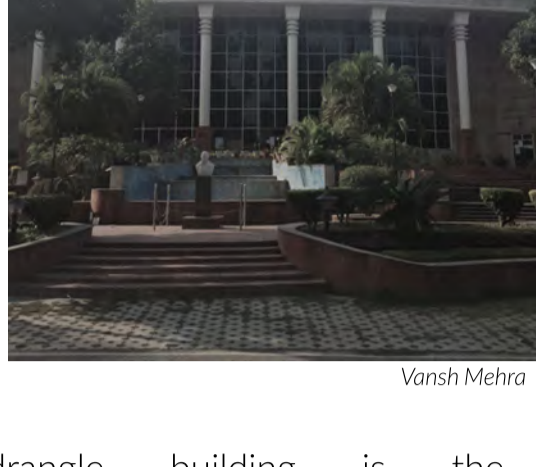
Institute Hospital



Institute hospital of IIT Roorkee is a 50 Bedded hospital that offers OPD, IPD, Laboratory, X-ray and ECG services to faculty, staff and students. The hospital functions from 8am to 12:30pm and from 4pm to 6pm. It also provides emergency services 24*7. At least one medical officer is always available to treat emergency cases. The students are expected to carry their respective Medical Booklet along during their visit to get treated. The location of the hospital comes to a majority of junta's notice during the Blood Donation Camp organised by NSS. The above mentioned majority being the freshers with NSS proficiency.

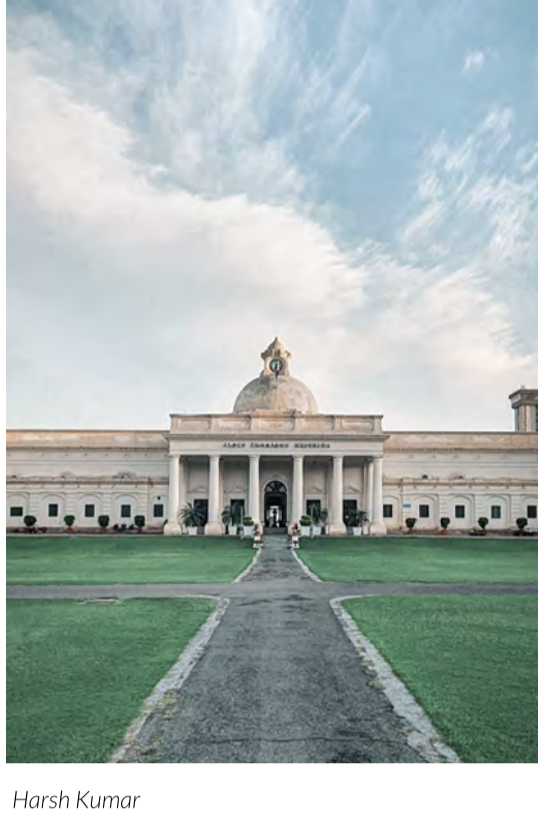
The Mahatma Gandhi Central Library is a two-storeyed air conditioned building that houses more than 3.5 lakh books and more than 20k e-books. It's one of the most peaceful places you could find inside the campus except during sem exams as the place piles up with a large number of last minute learners. Its timings are from 8am to 12 midnight on normal days. However, to cater to the needs of the highly determined, the study room of the library remains open all day. Despite the existence of the unspoken rule that prohibits public displays of affection inside the campus premises, you're sure to witness a lot of violations in here.

MGCL



Vansh Mehra

Main Building



Harsh Kumar

This quadrangle building is the administrative block of the campus that holds the various offices of the Director and Deans of various affairs. It functions on all working days from 9am to 5pm. The well maintained lush-green lawn and its surrounding area in front of this building is the place that gets non-weed smokers of the campus high. The security guards are pretty insecure about the lawn, in that they restrict students from stepping on the grass, for they believe the lawn might spill out all those highly confidential 3am intimate talks of the regular visitors. 9 out of 10 students are likely to mark 'The Main Building' as their most favorite place in the campus - the tenth guy being that unlucky sod who gets wet while trying to cross the road, as the sprinklers rain all over the place. The existence of this architectural marvel has also been proved to come in handy when designers of various groups run out of ideas.

The Lecture hall complex, a three-storeyed building, is conveniently located near the Central Library so as to reduce the time taken by highly ambitious junta of R-land to commute, right after their classes. Lectures of non-departmental courses and most of the tutorials take place at these satisfactorily designed, air conditioned halls that turn out to be too comfortable for us muggle-borns to concentrate. Exceptions similar to Lily Evans and Hermione Granger are unavoidable amongst the R-crowd - as is the case with any other.

LHC



Alpahar



Alpahar is the oldest eatery on campus, rumored to have been here for nearly half a century. It was located in the heart of the campus, till it was relocated to its present location near Khosla International House. Despite its remote location, Alpahar attracts many students during the daytime. Owing to the rich aroma and exquisite taste of hot simmering doodh-patti (that's tea with extra milk worth Rs.2), the aloo pakoras and samosas in the morning, Alpahar turns out to be a brilliant place for morning breakfast and the ensuing bakar sessions in the afternoon.

This open space next to the Student's Club and PNB is the official hangout place for R junta, especially the unfortunate ones who do not know what to do with the cursed one hour breaks between classes. With a rather uncomfortable seating arrangement that allows no privacy for couples, Georgia is perfect for passing time sipping coffee or iced tea with friends. The delicacies are not exquisite but the mediocre content of the cuisine is more than made up by the rich, invigorating content of the conversations.

Nescafe



The author of this piece found out about this place only in his second year. You didn't misread - this place is hidden and discreet. It is speculated that serving coffee is simply a front put on by the authorities, while shady experiments on porcupines and hedgehogs carry on well within the building, deep into the night. It therefore doesn't come as a surprise when you spot a few of these seemingly bizarre species in Roorkee. Muffled screams of anguish can be heard at night, we advise all readers to look out for the same. Located behind the Sports complex, this place is beautiful in its peacefulness and tranquility. More on this under the piece Forget All About the Pressure of Days.

Nescafe

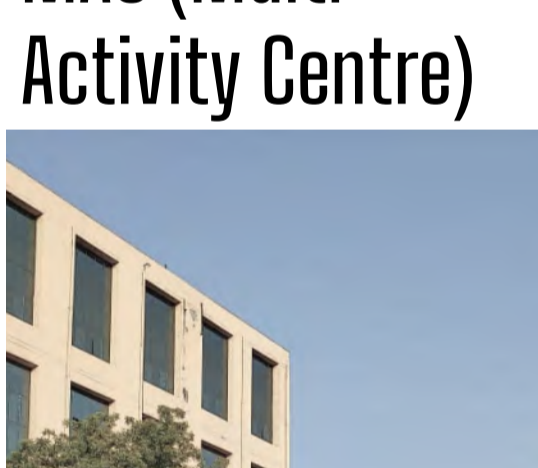


A 40 inch LCD television combined with huge pool, billiards and snooker tables, and now, even PS4s, this is one of the best hangout places on campus. With sofas and separate rooms to accommodate the activities of the literary section, this place houses table tennis, foos- ball, carrom and chess tables for the R junta. The open space in front of the club serves as the most happening place during the time of Cognizance or Thomso. Events of Lohri celebration, flash-mobs and street plays take place here leading to an ugly amount of noise and enthusiasm.

Students' Club



MAC (Multi Activity Centre)



Vansh Mehra

Upon inauguration, the MAC was intended to be the melting pot of cultural activities in IITR. This latest addition to gaon's imposing skyline, has been the source of numerous tantalizing rumors in the five years that it took to build as well as debates over its not so central location. Nevertheless, MAC houses a lush, air-conditioned auditorium, rooms for indoor games, eateries, dedicated rooms for sections and societies of the cultural council and a clumsily built open air theatre. Here, you will also find a CCD, an Amul parlour, shops catering to various requirements and a food court called Utopia which boasts of the existence of a Subway amongst its diverse cuisine options. All of these places are subsidised, and the food is pretty good for what it costs. MAC is the reason behind growing property prices in the gaon, although it is rumored to be jinxed by thousands of pass outs who hoped it would be complete before they graduate.

The SAC is an architectural marvel. And we mean that in a very derogatory way. Bold and imposing from the outside, within is a poorly designed maze, perfect for couples looking to trip and get lost in. You will witness triangular and trapezoidal rooms, designed that way for no reason. We give in - this is the second spot in the world that facilitates extraterrestrial communication. These rooms have been occupied by the Cultural Council and the Technical Council. The building is extremely noisy whenever the Music and Choreo Sections practice, much to the discontent of their peace-loving peers.

SAC



Shruti Gour

Wellness Centre



Vansh Mehra

Mental health is at least as important, arguably even more important than physical health, and the Institute realises this and lays a lot of emphasis on working towards the psychological well-being of students. The wellness centre has a tie-up with 1to1help.net, a professional organisation which works in the corporate sector to provide counseling services. The counselor visits the Institute frequently, and the wellness centre is responsible for scheduling sessions, while obviously maintaining one's anonymity. One can also chat or have a telephonic conversation with a counselor if one prefers that. The wellness centre also organises talks on various issues and conducts activities for UG and PG students to increase bonding.

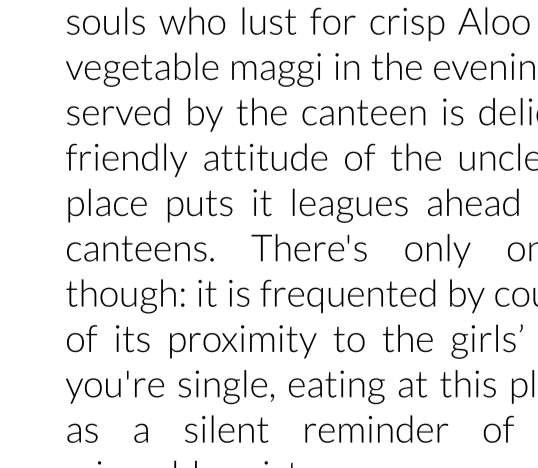
For quite some time, the location of this canteen was a closely guarded secret of the inhabitants of Sarojini Bhawan. The canteen is situated in the vicinity of Jawahar Bhawan. However, over the years, its popularity has increased tremendously. Nowadays it attracts a lot of wandering souls who lust for crisp Aloo Parathas and vegetable maggi in the evenings. The maggi served by the canteen is delicious and the friendly attitude of the uncle running this place puts it leagues ahead of the hostel canteens. There's only one downside though: it is frequented by couples because of its proximity to the girls' hostels. So if you're single, eating at this place might act as a silent reminder of your lonely, miserable existence.

CBRI Canteen



Vidhi Khosla

The Church



Vansh Mehra

We also have a small temple and a mosque inside campus, but the Church holds a special place in everyone's heart irrespective of their faith. Located near Convocation Hall, the Church is an architectural beauty. It's not impressive, it's just quaint. Sundays find the more ardent believers quickly making their way to pray, while Christmas eve finds it beautifully lit and well decorated. Lovely people sing carols in a voice that can make you cry, and even lovelier people serve free plum cake to anyone who cares to visit. There's also a certain special fact associated with the Church, and it has something to do with the devil. We'll let you figure that out for yourself.



Places to eat

While most afternoons here are spent pondering 'Where should I have lunch today?', a few are also spent wondering 'Why do we even bother to check the mess food?' However, the ultimate question for almost every inhabitant here still remains 'Which movie do I use as an icebreaker in parties while trying to chat with the oppsite sex?'

The sole purpose of this guide's existence is to serve as an answer to this question. For reasons not limited to establishing authority, we shall also make an attempt to cover the other, more trivial things.. By now, we have already established that IITR is big. No, not space- big. Not even KGP big when compared to others. But we are big enough. What this means is that we can afford to spend ludicrous amounts of land to serve as vast green spaces (stepping on which might get you shot), to start endless construction projects promising inhabitants the juicy insides of a McChicken, or to serve as offerings to the winning team of the annual Inter IIT.

While life goes on inside, it thrives outside the campus. We began with the dilemma students face to decide which restaurant to have lunch in. This is not because we have a lot of options, but mainly because there is very little differentiating the ones that exist. If you want to have, say, Italian or Continental or Mongolian-African-American - extra spicy, well, forget it. However, if you wish to treat yourself with a little paneer or chana-masala, well, here you go.

The restaurants that exist outside the campus to serve as places to eat other than the mess and the canteens, offer very little for too much. In all this, perhaps the tea point by the side of the bus stand would be your second best option. The best, of course, would be the guy you think you know who just came back from home with a really heavy backpack.

So, you can try the following places, just for a change:



Desi Tadka

Birthday? Check.
Dassi? Check.
Intern/Placement? Check.
Desi Tadka has been a staple chapo point for any and many occasions for the R-junta. Characterised by its spicy food and rich flavors, this moderately priced, pakka Indian restaurant lies halfway between Dominos and Rustic. Don't forget to try the Chicken/Paneer Truffle.



Peppery Herbs

Opened a few years ago, this place is now gives Olive serious competition, with many couples rushing here, having gotten bored of Olive. Run by a really kind couple and although known for serving excellent sandwiches and chinese, be aware of the fact that the food will be totally worth it only when you are on a date or beg a well endowed friend for a chapo here.

Olive & Rustic House



These are ideal places for potential love birds. You can eat here without the fear of finding your single friends around, partly because they are single and partly because it's so damn expensive. But if you're someone who doesn't care much about materialistic things like money, Olive and its equally bourgeoisie friend called Rustic House, is where you can gorge on some good quality paneer, chicken and pasta around Roorkee.



Pizza Hut & Dominos

It was only a few years back that Pizza Hut realized the growing importance of Roorkee as a potential market and decided that they could no longer ignore it the way McDonalds does. The result of this epiphany is an occasionally crammed Pizza Hut Delivery outlet located near Olive. It has turned Dominos' pizza joint monopoly into a duopoly, and both the places make you grateful for having that worn out IITR Icard which guarantees you magical discounts all around Roorkee.

The person hired for writing restaurant reviews was fired at this point, when it was learnt that he was - no disrespect intended - a lowly, lifeless geek. The reviews after this were continued by a stoner follower of Lord Shiva, who like most followers of Lord Shiva, is perennially broke. It isn't a coincidence that Lord Shiva dressed in animal skin while other Gods had more jewelry on than a Tribhovandas Bhimji Zaveri model. Anyway, these will help you a lot on days when your wallet has more air than a packet of Lays.



Spice Club



Located right next to Jain Uncle ki dukaan (rather conveniently), this joint is one of the best places close to the campus where you can get decent chicken. For some of us, Spice Club is a temple with unparalleled piety, run by waiters who couldn't have any less fucks to give, which makes the place even more endearing. Almost every evening, it is packed to the brim with Sports kids, chapo seekers and residents of Ravindra Bhawan.

*** A fair number of these eateries offer neat discounts to students of IIT, so make sure to carry your ID card. If you forget it (courtesy the twat you call a friend who is always in a hurry), make sure you look like you just fought a pig and sound smart (saying 'one for the lady' when ordering a glass of water goes a long way)

Kathi Rolls



The many Kathi Roll shacks just outside the Century Gate of IITR are outnumbered only by the plethora of options they have on their menu. A quick fix to your hunger, these rolls have the most succulent bites of paneer, veggies and chicken, with some delightful sauces. Take your pick!



Royal Palace

Situated near Century Gate, Royal Palace is yet another Chapo point for IITR junta. Known for its dim ambience and excess oil in anything with gravy, RP is one of those places where you go when you are large in number. The place hardly looks like a palace, but it surely costs like one. The food is good, but the bill burns a hole in most pockets.



Khalsa Fast Food

(aka Bus-T, the T being for terminal it is presumed)

The fact that this is the only place open at 3 am in the morning should be enough to make this your favourite place in Roorkee. On top of that, it serves what is probably the best Maggi in Roorkee, complete with butter floating leisurely on top.

Jain Uncle ki Dukaan

This small shack is barely visible amidst all the smoke of the (unofficially dubbed) Sutta Point. But if you do find it, it is going to help your broke ass a lot in the next 4 years. It dishes out hot and edible food starting from Rs. 12 for a dish (with unlimited refills) and Rs. 3 for a roti. This is the place you eat at after you give that hot human a chapo at Olive.

Downside - You'll have rickshaw- wallahs and manual labourers as other patrons. That doesn't do much for ambience, but it's sure to give you a welcome change from the cut-throat and claustrophobic urbanity of the campus. Upside - Jain uncle, being the noble soul that he is, will probably let you eat on credit. This humble

writer has had a balance of almost a 1000 bucks at the place, without once hearing a complaint.



Badshaan



This one is the Mona Lisa of Chicken shacks in Roorkee. No one really loves it but everyone visits it for the historical value and tradition. Don't get us wrong. The chicken there is good but not very different from what you'll get at Food Point or New Food Point (which your seniors will know as Sizzlers) without having to go into the smelly streets of Old Roorkee.

Downside - A 100 rupee rickshaw fare.

Upside - An Afghani Chicken that is so loaded with cream that you'll smell of it for the next 5 days

Dosa Outlets

It is an open secret that the greatest entrepreneurial opportunity in Roorkee is to establish an actual South Indian food outlet. A number of outlets on campus claim to serve South Indian food (read 'dosa' and 'sambhar'). These are all scams that anyone that has tasted an actual dosa (despite all the variation) can see through instantly. If these are your guilty pleasures - no shame, eat to survive. Are they legitimate? Hell no



Tintin

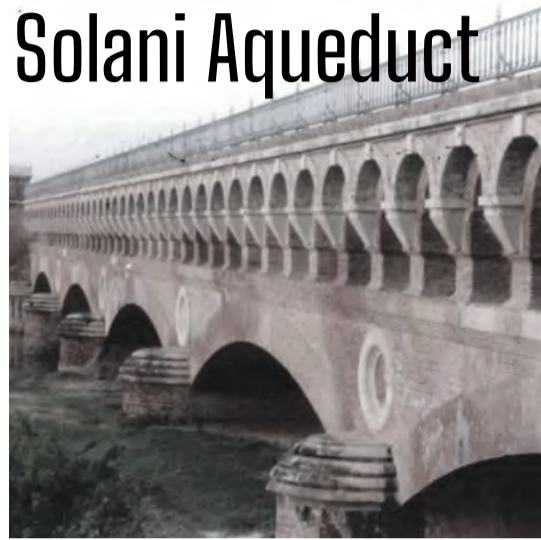
Finding Tintin by yourself is a Herculean task, even Christopher Columbus couldn't find it. Located in an unassuming house in a remote corner of the remote place that Roorkee is, no one even remotely beats Tintin's mushroom burger. Do try the omelets and tacos as well, they will make sure your effort in finding the place doesn't come to naught. Downside - Getting through the narrow lane.. Upside - Cheap food.

Places of interest (outside campus)



We hope we have established by now that life within the confines of IITR is exquisite and suffocating at the same time. However, Roorkee has more for you in store. Here are a few places outside campus you will, in due course of time, surely visit.

The Canal and Solani Aqueduct



Although everyone signs the undertaking form which promises that they won't be going anywhere near the canal or aqueduct, there's hardly any undergrad who hasn't visited it once. The aqueduct is a marvel of civil engineering. Located approximately 2 kms from the Century Gate, the place is worth the pain of waking up in the morning for sunrise. The sound of the gushing river is serene and peaceful. A wonderful place to get away from life, this spot is also known to sport quite a few exotic birds. Don't worry, we have a piece in this guide on both for you.

The only multiplex in Roorkee, RR is about 4.5 kms or a 10 min journey from the campus. A recent phenomenon in Roorkee, RR desperately tries to satiate one's desires to watch their favourite Bollywood actors' new releases or hollywood thrillers in a comfortable setting at reasonable rates (still cheaper than Haridwar or Dehradun). The 3D-quality is decent and you will also find some restaurants and cafes inside the hall. Recommended if you wish to go out for a movie with peers. You may also be able to find solace in this place during weekends or post exams.

RR Cinemas



Neelam theatre



About 800m from the campus, there exists the only *cinema hall* inside Roorkee. It usually screens B-grade Bollywood movies, whose names can put even Kanti Shah (of Fauji Fauj Mein, Padosi Mauj Mein and Gunda fame) to start looking for a place to hide his embarrassed face. There are exceptions to this rule, of course. Last time the authors passed this theatre on their way to a psychology conference, Revolver Rani was premiering here. But then come to think of it, RR isn't much different from a B-grade Bollywood fiasco either. The theatre is cheap. Much cheaper than going to Haridwar or Dehradun to watch a movie. While we would not recommend this as a place to go when you need to catch a Nolan or Tarantino masterpiece (supposing it showed one and assuming you are an adult), you should try to visit this at least once during your stay.

A fairly recent addition to Roorkee's getaway destinations, Crystal World used to be for those of you unholy, promiscuous, spiteful scoundrels who lust after KFC's Chicken, before they arrived at Roorkee. The place is basically a large, expensive food court with big names like Gelato and Keventers. This is for those of you rich numbskulls who are too posh to grace our very own Spice Club. There is also a functional water park right next to this, although details are currently unavailable since the authors of this text prefer not to indulge in such activities

Crystal World



Rlya Elizabeth John

Motel Divine



Ah, the (in)famous Motel Divine. You will get acquainted with this place as soon as your Freshers' Parties and Intro Chapos begin. Loud Punjabi music and EDM is the name of the game here, as the junta manically headbangs to Manali Trance and gets drunk on Pineapple Raita.

Certain other members of R, have a different and deeper connection with the same. Often called the green dungeons, members of Roorkee have been known to find refuge in the well that never dries. Considered holy, this part of Motel Divine is often a spiritual journey. Readers will soon find out about the same.

As mentioned in the FAQs, this is the one stop-shop for all your daily needs. The Student's Store, in particular, is one of the few places every student at R goes to. For the brave ones reading this, you'll find some greatstreet-side food here too. Located right outside Shatabdi Dwar, shops here include bookshops, medical stores, general stores, poster printing stores etc. You shall never have to go anywhere else as far as daily needs are concerned.

Civil Lines



Vansh Mehra

AIIMS Rishikesh



Yes you read correctly. The tiny state of Uttarakhand now has an IIT and also an AIIMS, which places it above Jammu and Kashmir in . If you want to meet smart medical students sitting near the Ganges talking about things much more complex than the powerhouse-ness of the mitochondria, this is the place to go. Like the name suggests, this place can also cure third degree burns, cancer and blunt object trauma but you will have to take a broken-heart somewhere else.

Off Campus Tourism

For all that's been said about the places on campus and within Roorkee itself, life can get a little monotonous. So what does one do if one has a couple of days free, and wants to get away from an annoying roommate? Luckily, Roorkee is surrounded by places that you can visit on a shoestring budget.



Haridwar

The Photography Section, IITR

When one thinks of Haridwar, images of the sunrise, high-as-a-kite babas and people praying come to mind. However, it is not the same for a resident of R. You might want to visit Haridwar with your friends if plans of camping under the clear starry skies, and sharing stories with your friends while one of you gently strums a guitar in the background sound appealing to you. The next good thing you could do is go for a small hike to the Mansadevi temple while watching the sun come up enroute (this is obviously not for you if your roommate switches off your alarm for you). Apart from this, many often flock to Haridwar to watch movies and chill with their buddies.

Probably best known for being the spiritual retreat of The Beatles, this is also another place that is frequented by people from the campus. Chances are, you might bump into the roommate you wanted to run away from in the first place. Still, Rishikesh is known for its famous Ram and Laxman Jhulas, that are jam-packed in the day with scooters and people crossing and add glamour to the view at night with their shimmering golden lights.

Also, adventure sports like river rafting and bungee jumping are the major attractions here. The Beatles Ashram is another frequently visited place which houses relics from the visit of Lennon, McCartney, Ringo and Harrison. Apart from this, Rishikesh is loved for its cafes, which are great places to chill out. One might want to visit the Beatles Cafe in particular. The best thing about Rishikesh is the versatility of the place. From a one day bike trip to an adventure filled trip to a peaceful night out at the Ganga Ghat, Rishikesh has it all.



Rishikesh

The Photography Section, IITR



Dehradun

Dehradun is about 2 hours away from the campus and that's where you go to watch famous movies on the first day if nearby theatres are full, or shop at a mall, or enjoy tasty food at lavish restaurants. Apart from this, Robber's Cave is one popular picnicking, hiking and wading spot which can be visited. Dehradun also serves as a starting point for many small bike trips to places like Mussoorie, Kanatal or Dhanaulti. One of the major benefits of being at the foothills of the Himalayas is that one could also go on treks to rejuvenate themselves. The 'Himalayan Explorer Club' or HEC is a students' club solely serving this purpose.

Forget all about the pressure of days

A quiet walk alone in the dark, with only the chirping of crickets to keep you company. The smell of eucalyptus leaves and jasmine flowers reminiscent of a time and place you left behind, the voice of Thom Yorke bleeding out your anguish. A lonely little pupper crosses your path and you stop to pet him. You decide to sit there by the side of the road for a while and let the tide of emotions roll over you. Life is easy for no one, and we all need a place to get away.

Here are a few places in Roorkee (not restricted to the campus) that you can wander off to, and hide from the pressure of days :

This quiet park is located a little discreetly. A left turn near Cafe Coffee Day takes you into the professors' living quarters. The buildings are conveniently placed around a beautiful little park with a few swings and slides and a lot of open area. A few benches adorn the edges - great spots for introspection. Evenings find the park busy with kids, but after dark, this place is perfect for an hour of peace and solitude.

The Professor's Square



Vansh Mehra



Vidhi Khosla

It won't be long before people lead you to the brilliant CBRI canteen. Great Paranthas make for some great dinner table conversation. However one must venture even further inside to find the cinematically perfect roads that take you into a different world altogether. Music sounds holistic for the first time- the leaves and flowers dancing and hollering their poignant yet beautiful stories. Each colour hits a different note, fireflies appear and fade away in perfect tempo, and a world of colour and sound coalesces into one grand wave of emotion that stops time and punches the wind out of you.

At some point in your college life you will find this small little food outlet behind the Sports Complex. The food isn't relevant here, the population is. Day finds this bijou eating spot sparsely populated, while night finds it deserted. A side note : it doesn't take a genius to figure out that most places can serve as getaway zones after dark. One need not necessarily want to get away alone * ahem *, and this cafe is conveniently equipped with serene benches and kaleidoscopic flowers. For those of you who are into bird-watching, look out for the bird with the weird hair-do, or the majestic hoopoe.

Nescafe



Shruti Gour



One of the first places you will visit once you arrive at Roorkee, will be Civil Lines - the one stop shop for all your daily needs. The straight road once you step out of Shatabdi Dwar, is lined on both sides with shops that cater to your every need. This shopping boulevard eventually leads you to the Ganga Canal. We'd be fools to not mention that this place can be a densely populated, sweaty mess that melts all souls into one dehydrated monster. Darkness to the rescue. The ever flowing river can lead you down multiple memory lanes, not to mention the tear jerking reflection of the moon. The soft gushing of the river can soothe even the darkest soul, as can the slight breeze on your face, reminiscent of a forgotten caress. Come here to reminisce and to feel insignificant.

The best places to get away from life are not the ones other people tell you about. These places are not too hard to find, yet they can mean different things to different people. The most niche and lonely places, though, will always be the places you find on one of your 3 a.m solitary adventures.

Which brings us to the best getaway : the 3 a.m campus walk. Make sure you experience the brilliance of this campus late at night too.

Be sure to check out some memoirs our beautiful seniors wrote, fondly reminiscing about their time spent here.

From

W O

Here you are, having bravely and successfully (hopefully) made it through the 60 odd pages of humongous information. Here you are, at the end of our Freshman Guide. **We apologise**, but we'd like to go back to what we started with - life at IIT-R is not always easy, not in the least, and for some of you, it can prove to be some of the most painful 4 years of your lives. Some of you, by the time your course ends, might even wish for it to end sooner - a thought that is not entirely alien to us. Between all the a forementioned wonderfulness and niceness of Roorkee, these contemplations do peep their head out from the crevices. And we would be remiss to not address this.

To begin with, of course we hope the guide offended a few of you readers (not just freshmen), and we hope all of you take it with a pinch of salt. We come with our own faults and idiosyncrasies, that we are well aware of, and the whole of the guide (at least for the most part), was written in good humour. We hope that all readers understand this, and devour the guide in the same vein as it was written.

The authors of this guide are not ignorant of the human condition, nor do they attempt to discredit or belittle it. We purposely try to paint a rosy picture of R-Land - you definitely don't need us to paint a dark, brooding picture of Roorkee, for chances are you'll be familiar with it after a couple of years of your time here. At this point however, we'd like to dive headfirst into it. And we'd like to give you a satisfactory reason as to why we choose to focus only on the positives.

The writers perfectly understand the nature of the various predicaments you might find yourselves in during your short and eventful stay here at Roorkee. You might find yourself to be completely inferior to all your colleagues in the field you thought you'd excel in; you might be in a position where you'd want to change your field of study, but can't, owing to family pressure or need for immediate capital: you might find yourself

entangled in an unfortunate love triangle, or you might turn out to be the victim of unrequited love, a love that shakes your very soul and shatters your self-esteem; or you might be depressed for a shit-load of many other reasons, reasons that we do not claim to understand in the least. Yet, we assure you that you're not alone. Not only have the authors individually gone through what has been previously mentioned, but we have also gone through innumerable other levels of personal hell, and some of us still find ourselves centered at the eye of the storm.

"How can you possibly understand what I'm going through? You're not me, you never will be, and your words fall on unhearing ears! Can you be possibly so dense, so foolish, that you would assume that the fact that others go through similar feelings, can possibly hush or extinguish the eternal flame in my heart? In my soul? Can anyone possibly deny my isolation, my loneliness?"



The very fact that we can frame your questions in this way is testimony to the fact that we probably know a bit about all of this. In any case, even if we don't get you completely, that's still no reason to not reach out to us, or to anyone for that matter.

While we may have the resources to pen down and publish our feelings that resonate with you, we assure you (based on our personal experiences), that many more such humans do inhabit Roorkee - people who will understand that undying flame in your soul and people who possess the power to quench it. Many of you may often resort to isolating yourselves, in the hope that something may come of it, since it is these 'external' humans who are causing you all these problems. However, as the Russian philosopher, psychologist and author Fyodor Dostoevsky would agree, the true joy in living is to be only found in living as a human, amongst other human beings, and capable of loving the ones surrounding you. For true unhappiness and insurmountable grief is experienced only by those who to cease to love, and we're certain that those of you reading this haven't reached such an unfortunate stage. There is always hope for a revival, even though it might seem that the specificity of your problems renders them incomprehensible to anyone who asks 'How are you doing?'

It is true what you say - nobody can possibly understand or empathise with your exact condition. Your involvement in an unfortunate love triangle can't possibly be reduced to 'Bollywood nonsense. You may have gone through an incredible amount of suffering before ending up in the position you find yourself in. And so we tell you : don't let anyone tell you, your suffering is a joke.

Time and time again though, we have found that such stifling and bridling emotions often give rise to a more kind and profound human being.

At the end of it all, compassion is what drives us as a species, and trust us when we say that a few kind words to someone who is ailing might go a long way in making things a bit easier for them.

We urge and request you to not be embittered and disheartened by feelings of incompetence, inadequacy, and loneliness. As long as you can love, you are human, and as long as you're human, you're needed by not just your loved ones, but by the rest of the world too. Do not judge your neighbour or your batchmate based on how he judges you or others, for he may himself be going through his own personal hell, and it is not for any of us to denounce anyone else.

We hope you understand why we painted such a positive picture of IITR. We hope this guide makes you aware of how Roorkee is filled to the brim with things to explore, to fight for, cry over, compete in hopes of and if life sometimes doesn't work out exactly the way you want it to, to not abhor the pain, but to move on forward. We hope it gives you as many (and much more) reasons to live joyfully, as life gives you reasons to live bitterly and unhappily. We urge you to contact any of us and any others you know in case you're feeling particularly down, but we emphasise once again : while the soul may never heal, the heart does become bountiful and all-loving, and in this renewed man, one can live a life previously unknown and impossible, and such a life is indeed beautiful and profound.

This guide has been brought to you by Watch Out! If you liked reading this - you can check out the rest of the stuff we do at [our website](#). We would love to hear back from you. So feel free to give us feedback. Even if it is just to send us a smiley, please do! You have no idea how much it would mean to us. You really wouldn't want to know either.

Welcome to R-Land, we may not know you personally, but we do (for the most part) love you.