

SOPHIA JUNIOR COLLEGE

ARTS - Subject Information

Welcome to Sophia Junior College!

We are glad that you are applying to our college. The Junior College section of Sophia College was started in 1977. At Sophia, we offer two broad streams of study: Arts and Science, at the Higher Secondary stage of education i.e. Standards XI and XII (or, First Year Junior College (FYJC) & Second Year Junior College (SYJC), respectively).

What subjects do we offer in the **ARTS STREAM**?

Well, we have 2 *kinds of subjects* - Vocational subjects (Banking and Office Management) and 'plain' Arts subjects (sometimes called 'Humanities'). In case you are wondering, all subjects are equally 'scoring'. 😊

In the Higher Secondary Course of the Maharashtra State Board for Secondary & Higher Secondary Education, the following subjects are **compulsory**:

- 1) Environment Education
- 2) Health & Physical Education
- 3) *First language* : English
- 4) *Second language* : Hindi or French*^

***FRENCH** may be taken by any student. (Previous study of French is not required as the subject is taught at the *beginner's level*, literally from French alphabets!)

^ Instead of Second Language, you may apply for **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (I.T.)**. However, please note that this is a **self-financed subject** (i.e. unaided course) and it is strictly based on academic Merit. At present there are only 30 seats available for Arts students. [Unaided subjects attract a separate fee for the subject, per year, as they are self-financed subjects on offer. (i.e. there is no government aid).]

Note:

If you would like us to consider your application for I.T., please mention this on your Admission Form. (Those who choose either Banking or Office Management, cannot opt for I.T. as a subject as per Board Rules. All I.T. applicants must indicate their 2nd language preference, just in case they don't get I.T.)

ELECTIVE SUBJECTS

Elective means, 'optional subject'. The Admission Form provides several subject combinations that are permissible. Some of these subjects are from the Arts and Vocational Arts streams, and may be new to you. For example, Banking, Office Management, Philosophy, Logic, Psychology, Sociology. Given below is some **basic information** about these subjects.

VOCATIONAL ARTS SUBJECTS

Note: Students who have taken General Mathematics cannot choose a Vocational subject.

- ❖ **Banking:** The aim of this course is to build basic skills like operation of bank accounts, understanding modern payments methods; understanding obligations of banks with regard to loans and advances. Skills in book-keeping and accountancy are introduced, for which only basic mathematical rule of BODMAS is required.
- ❖ **Office Management** as a subject will help you acquire information about skills related to 21st century management and problem solving. Leadership, Team building, developing professional skills (logical, ethical, emotional), principles of management are covered. Basic book-keeping and accountancy is taught. You only need to have the knowledge of BODMAS for this purpose.

ARTS SUBJECTS

Economics helps you to know the importance of economic growth and development. You will get an idea of challenges before the economy, information about new economic policies, infrastructural development, and some very basic statistical methods.

Logic: One of the important, defining characteristic of human beings is our rationality; that is, our capacity to think consistently and to draw conclusions from available information. This human capacity is called reasoning. Logic deals with reasoning. It focuses mainly on the methods and principles used to distinguish correct from incorrect reasoning. (i.e. Rules of Reasoning). The study of which will sharpen your intelligence. It will enrich your power of reasoning and develop the ability of critical thinking which is so vital today.

Political Science involves a study of political theory i.e. concepts like liberty, equality, justice; political institutions like State, government, nation; World political events and organizations. The Indian political system is also studied.

Philosophy starts with wonder about the world, life and ourselves. It arises from an inquisitiveness of the mind. It studies human life, along with the fundamental principles of right and wrong, good and bad, assumptions of moral ideals etc. It deals with questions like, what is the meaning of life. Does God exist? What is Truth? What are the criteria of truth? Etc. Dealing with such exciting questions of philosophy will increase our understanding of such issues. Learners will acquire the skills such as - general problem solving, communication skills, persuasive powers, ability to conceptualize and ability to anticipate problems and solutions. It will develop their ability to critically analyze the facts and think logically. The study of philosophy will enhance your ability to organize ideas and assess pros and cons. The subject of philosophy has immense potential to change your attitude and approach to life, which in turn could help shape and guide your life.

Psychology is a scientific way to understand our own behavior as well as the behavior of other people. Topics like learning, memory, communication, intelligence, personality and many more are included in this course. Mental health issues, psychological disorders, coping strategies and uses of psychology in daily life are included. Those passionate about the subject may study it further to become trained psychologists, many of whom work in hospitals (as clinical psychologists) and educational institutions or counselling centers.

Sociology Have you ever wondered about questions such as these? Should humans be concerned about the natural habitat around us? Is marriage a social obligation? Is gender, *performed*? Why is there an increase in *single-parent* households? What are sacred groves? How is *gender* different than sex? Why do *some* people resist change? What does the term *transgender* mean? Are more people becoming agnostic or atheist? Can science have an effect on *critical* thinking about social issues? What is home-schooling? Such topics lie within the scope of sociology. The course will encourage you to think *critically* about what humans believe in, say and do.

History is the story of man since ancient times. The syllabus covers pre-historical and historical period which includes ancient and medieval India. The topics are -Ancient civilizations of the world, first farmers, first cities, vedic period, kingdoms and republics, ancient dynasties of north and south India , Mughal and Maratha history, India's relations with the neighbouring countries, etc.