

SREENARAYANAGURU OPEN UNIVERSITY, KOLLAM

NOTIFICATION

REC/N/101/2026

No.Ad.A3/1/244/2025/SOU

Dated : 12/10/2026

Applications are invited from qualified candidates for appointment to the post of Head of School in **School of Humanities and Social Science** on deputation basis at Sreenarayanaguru Open University, Kollam.

Name of Post	Head of School
School	School of Humanities and Social Science
Disciplines	Humanities and Social Sciences (History, Philosophy, Fine & Performing Arts, Sociology, Political Science, Psychology, Economics, Social Work, Anthropology, Geography, Environment, Public Administration) — and allied/relevant areas
No. of Posts	[01]
Nature of Appointment	Deputation
Pay / Level	As per UGC Norms. The Pay and Allowance shall be regulated as per the Pay and Allowance drawn in their Parent Department, subject to the applicable rules governing deputation.

Purpose of the Position:

The School of Humanities and Social Sciences stands as the intellectual and ethical heart of the University — cultivating critical thinking, cultural understanding and rigorous social inquiry into the whole of the human experience. Spanning the domains of history, philosophy and arts, along with other social sciences that illuminate how societies, economies and minds work, the School advances scholarship that is both foundational and socially engaged. In keeping with the National Education Policy 2020's vision of holistic, multidisciplinary education and the renewed centrality of the humanities and social sciences, the Head of School is the academic and administrative leader entrusted with shaping outstanding programmes, fostering interdisciplinary research and public scholarship and building a vibrant intellectual community. The University therefore seeks an accomplished scholar-leader of proven distinction, breadth and integrity to lead the School.

A. Age

As prescribed in the University Statutes / Recruitment Rules for the post. For a deputation or fixed-tenure appointment, the age shall ordinarily not exceed 52 years as on 01/01/2026 with relaxation up to 56 years in the case of those in University Service. Those who have a minimum of four years of service remaining in their parent department are also eligible to apply for the post.

B. Essential Qualifications (Academic)

1. A **Master's degree with at least 55% marks** (or an equivalent grade on a point scale wherever the grading system is followed) in the relevant discipline, from an Indian University or an equivalent accredited institution.
2. An **eminent scholar** holding a **Ph.D. degree** in a Humanities or Social Science discipline relevant to the school (e.g. History, Philosophy, Sociology, Arts, Political Science,

Psychology, Economics, Social Work, Anthropology, Geography, Public Administration or an allied field), with a strong record of high-quality published research and active scholarship.

3. Fulfilment of the eligibility conditions prescribed for the post is deputation of teachers not below the rank of **Associate Professor in Govt. Colleges/Aided Colleges/ Universities/ Government Institutions** under the applicable UGC Regulations on Minimum Qualifications and the Sreenarayanaguru Open University Act 2021 & Statutes. Associate Professors for the post shall be considered in the absence of Professors.

Relaxation:

A relaxation for reserved categories will be applicable as per Government rules in force

Disciplinary breadth:

As the School spans multiple disciplines, the Head may be drawn from any relevant Humanities or Social Science field, provided he or she demonstrates the intellectual breadth and leadership to guide a diverse, multidisciplinary faculty. Scholarship and publications in Indian languages and knowledge systems are valued and encouraged, in line with UGC and NEP 2020.

C. Essential Experience

1. Demonstrated **academic leadership and administrative experience** — for example, heading a School, Department or Centre; coordinating academic programmes; or serving on statutory academic bodies.
2. A **proven research record**, evidenced by publications in reputed peer-reviewed / UGC-CARE journals, authored or edited books, monographs and book chapters, meeting the research contribution and academic-score requirements of the applicable UGC Regulations.
3. Experience of **guiding doctoral and research scholars** and of securing and managing sponsored research projects (e.g. from ICSSR / ICHR / ICPR / UGC / international agencies).
4. Twelve years of Teaching experience in aided/govt colleges/university or other recognised higher education institutions.

D. Desirable Qualifications & Experience

Consistent with the School's broad, interdisciplinary mandate, preference will be given to candidates who demonstrate:

- **Distinguished scholarship in a Humanities or Social Science field**, together with the intellectual breadth to appreciate and lead across multiple disciplines.
- **A strong publication and citation record** — peer-reviewed journals, authored / edited books and monographs — and success in attracting funded research (e.g. ICSSR / ICHR / ICPR / UGC / international grants).
- **Experience of leading interdisciplinary and area-studies programmes** and of designing UG, PG and doctoral curricula aligned to NEP 2020's multidisciplinary vision.
- **Command of both qualitative and quantitative research methods** and familiarity with digital humanities and computational social science.
- **A record of public scholarship and community engagement** — fieldwork, policy research, outreach and contributions to public debate and cultural life.
- **Contributions to Indian languages, literatures, knowledge systems and cultural heritage**, in line with NEP 2020.
- **Familiarity with quality-assurance and accreditation frameworks** (NAAC, NIRF) and with outcome-based, learner-centred education.

E. Competencies & Leadership Attributes

Beyond formal eligibility, the successful candidate is expected to embody the qualities that define an outstanding leader in the humanities and social sciences:

- **Intellectual breadth and scholarly leadership** — the range to set a compelling agenda across diverse disciplines and to unite them around shared inquiry.
- **Commitment to critical inquiry and academic freedom** — upholding rigorous, open and ethical scholarship.
- **Collaborative leadership** — the ability to build, inspire and mentor a diverse and high-performing faculty and student body.
- **Public engagement and social relevance** — connecting scholarship to society, policy and cultural life.
- **Integrity and inclusivity** — a commitment to equity, access and a respectful, pluralistic environment.

F. Roles & Responsibilities (Indicative)

The Head of School shall provide overall academic and administrative leadership to the School, including:

- Providing strategic direction across the School's humanities and social science disciplines and fostering their integration and shared intellectual life.
- Designing, delivering and continually updating UG, PG and doctoral programmes — including interdisciplinary and NEP-2020-aligned offerings — with rigorous, learner-centred curricula. — Leading research and driving high-quality publications, books and sponsored projects (e.g. ICSSR / ICHR / ICPR / UGC) and building research centres and area-studies groups. — Fostering interdisciplinary collaboration, public scholarship and engagement with policy, community and cultural institutions.
- Mentoring faculty and research scholars and nurturing a vibrant, inclusive and ethical academic community.
- Overseeing admissions, assessment, accreditation (NAAC / NIRF) and student welfare within the School.
- Mobilising, allocating and accounting for resources, research grants and institutional / CSR funding with transparency.
- Organising seminars, conferences, lectures and cultural and outreach activities that enrich academic and public life.
- Representing the School in the University's statutory bodies and in external academic, policy and public forums, in accordance with the University's Act and Statutes.
- Discharging other duties and responsibilities as prescribed by the Statutes of the University.

G. General Conditions

1. Applicant should be a citizen of India.
2. All qualifications and experience must be from institutions recognised by the UGC and the relevant statutory bodies, as applicable. Those who obtain degree from the institutions other than the State /Central Universities/National Institutes shall produce the equivalency certificates from any of the State Universities in Kerala
3. Prescribed percentages of marks shall be calculated as the aggregate of all years / semesters; grade to-percentage conversion shall be as certified by the awarding institution.
4. The University reserves the right to fill, not to fill, or to vary the number of posts; to shortlist candidates by applying criteria higher than the prescribed minimum; and to constitute the

Selection Committee as per the applicable UGC Regulations and University Statutes.

5. Mere fulfilment of the minimum qualifications does not entitle a candidate to be called for interview or to be selected.
6. Canvassing in any form, or bringing external influence, will render a candidate liable to disqualification.
7. Deadline for online submission of application is at 5 PM on 11/11/2026.
8. Those who have applied in response to our earlier notification need to submit the application in response to this notification.
9. Those who are in service need to obtain No Objection Certificate from the employer, a copy of which must be enclosed with the Hard copy of the application.

H. Registration Fee:

Candidates shall remit an amount of Rs. 1500/- (One Thousand Five hundred only) as registration fee for General Category. SC/ST DA candidates need to remit Rs. 750/- (Seven hundred and fifty only). (Account No. 361401010035599, IFSC- UBIN0536148, Branch – Union Bank, Kollam -1) Fee should be remitted only through online as instructed in the submission portal. Copy of the fee receipt shall be submitted along with the hard copy of the online application to the University.

I. How to apply.

Eligible candidates shall submit online application in the official website of Sreenarayanaguru Open University, <https://sgou.ac.in/>

Hard copy of duly submitted online application along with true copies of all certificates / documents (self-attested) in proof of age, qualification, experience, research, community, reservation, and other claims shall reach the office of the Registrar, Sreenarayanaguru Open University, Kureepuzha, Kollam. 691601, on or before 5 pm on 18/11/2026. Defective/late applications will be summarily rejected.


Registrar
