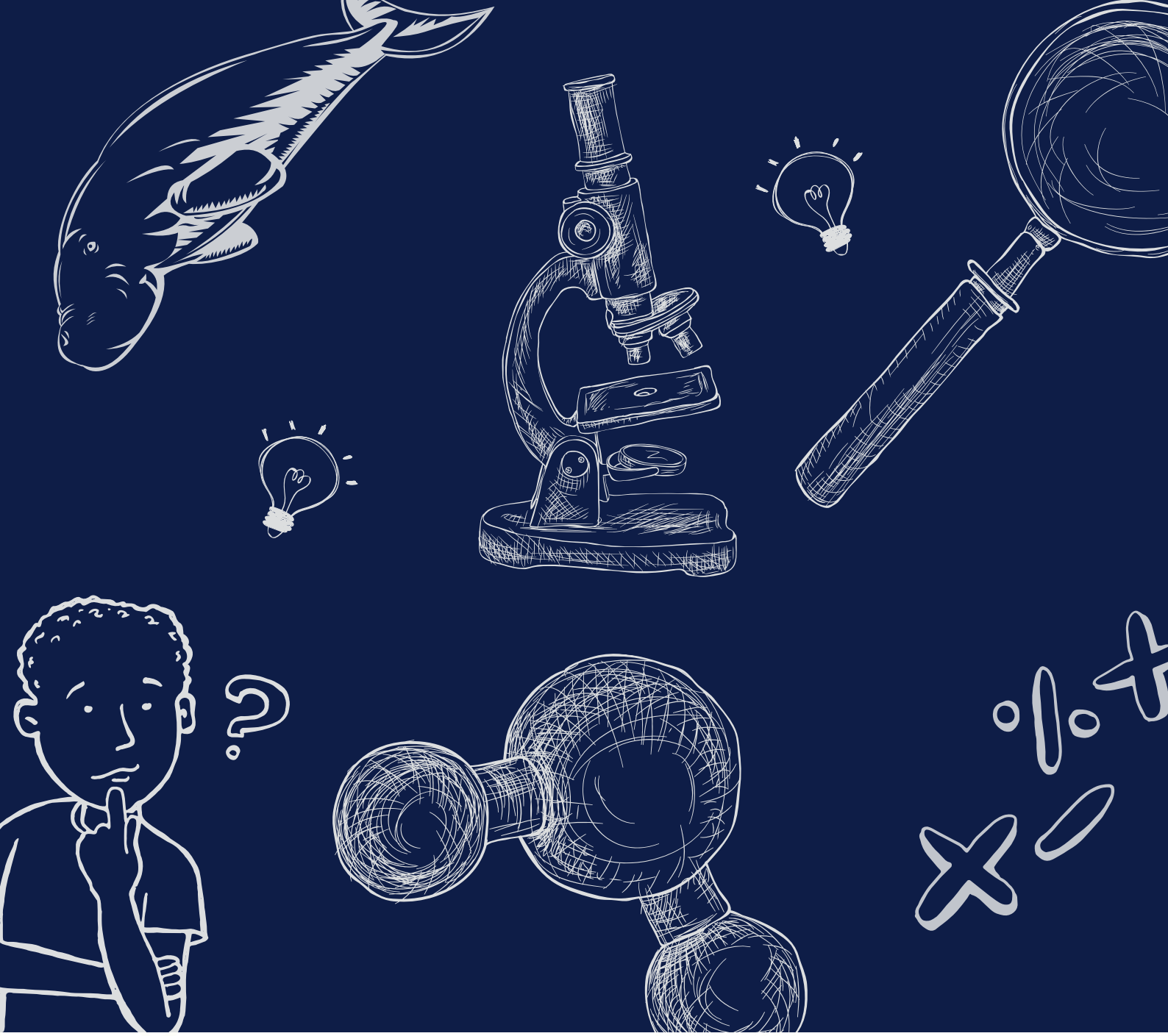

DISCOVER

High School Mentored Research Program

Overview

Discover is an innovative, personalized, one-on-one **virtual research mentorship program** for **high-school students** across the globe. Students are matched to our **mentors**, who range from Professors and Lecturers to PhD candidates at top global universities pursuing cutting-edge research in their field. With our structured program, students will be immersed in **10 bi-weekly sessions** with their mentor, learning the essentials of academic research, settling on a topic of choice, working to access open source data, performing a literature review, and ultimately authoring a report summarizing your findings in a specialized area of scholarship.

Subjects Covered

Marine Life Sciences

International Relations

Law

Physics

Psychology

Material Sciences

Machine Learning

Chemistry

Economics

Anthropology

Sociology

Biology

Literature

Mathematics

Statistics

Computer Science

Lifecycle of a Research Project

Here is what your research life cycle with Discover will entail.

- Ideate a **research topic** with your mentor's guidance
- Create a **problem statement** referring to successful examples
- **Annotate literature** with curated reading lists from your mentor
- Identify your **sources of data/datasets**
- Do your **research and analysis**!
- Receive substantive **feedback** from your mentor at every stage
- Receive support for **submissions to publication outlets**
- Learn to **present your research**

Offerings

Please find enclosed the Discover offerings, with specific differentiating outcomes noted.

Programme	Duration	Cost	Level of Engagement	Outcome
DISCOVER RA	3 months	1,00,000 INR + GST	10 sessions (1 hour each)	LOR
DISCOVER	3 months	1,50,000 INR + GST	10 sessions (1 hour each)	LOR, paper, targeted submission support (up to 3 competitions and or journals)

DISCOVER RA

- 3 month research engagement where, over 10 sessions, the student engages in task-based work to assist a Mentor and experience university level research methods and approaches. The program is structured and includes training in the foundational aspects of domain-specific academic research (non-empirical) and writing.

Outcome	Detailed and accurate LOR*
Cost	1,00,000 INR + GST

Available only in selected subjects: Psychology, Gender Studies, Political Science, Physics, Computer Science, Literature, Statistics, Economics.

*contingent on successful completion of programme.

DISCOVER

- A 3 month student-driven research engagement where, over 10 sessions, the student works closely with a PhD level Mentor through the Discover program research process, from topic selection to ideation to analysis.

  A Mentor guides the student through the development of a short 6-part academic paper (10-12 pages), alongside training in academic research and writing. The Mentor will offer regular structured feedback in line with Discover deliverables.

Outcome	Detailed and accurate LOR*, paper, targeted submission support (up to 3 competitions and or journals)
Cost	1,50,000 INR + GST

Available in Psychology, Gender Studies, Political Science, Physics, Computer Science, Sociology, Statistics, Biology, Environmental Sciences, Literature, Economics.

*contingent on successful completion of programme.

Meet Some of Our Mentors

Work with our practitioner and academic mentors who are based at institutions and organisations across the globe!

Kanika Ahuja

Honorary Mentor

Dr. Kanika K. Ahuja is a Professor of Psychology at Lady Shri Ram College for Women, University of Delhi. With over 24 years of experience, she specialises in Industrial/Organisational psychology, gender issues, diversity and inclusion, and psychometry. Dr. Ahuja has published articles in leading journals, authored and co-edited books, conducted workshops for schools and corporates, and delivered a TED-X talk.

Utkarsh Agrawal

Mentor

Utkarsh Agrawal works as a Research Fellow at University of Oxford. He graduated with a PhD in Computer Science from the University of Nottingham. He loves to talk and write about the use of data in healthcare.

Suvam Maharana

Mentor

Suvam Maharana is a particle physicist based in Delhi, India, who is currently pursuing his Ph.D. at the University of Delhi. When he is not immersed in exploring the origins of visible and invisible matter in the universe, Suvam tries his hand at photography to capture reality as it is.

Sukanya Sinha

Mentor

Dr. Sukanya Sinha is a Postdoctoral researcher in University of Manchester, United Kingdom, and a member of the ATLAS experiment, CERN, Switzerland. Her primary research interests span the experimental and phenomenological aspects of dark matter and strongly interacting dark sector. She pioneered the search for strongly interacting dark matter and produced the first experimental results, setting the strongest constraint on this scenario, from the largest physics dataset ever collected at the Large Hadron Collider at CERN.

Jo Krishnakumar

Mentor

Jo Krishnakumar (they/them) is a doctoral researcher in Anthropology and Sociology at SOAS, University of London, and a Junior Fellow at the Center for Applied Transgender Studies (CATS). Their PhD project focuses on documentary films, sex work and gentrification in South India, and is aligned with the advocacy they are involved in on-ground. They view research as one of the many ways they can add to the movements that they are a part of. Jo runs two independent projects; Almaarii, which is a visual ethnography of the 'closet' in South Asia and Trans/form, a project on understanding anti-trans violence in India.

Cledwyn Fernadez

Mentor

Cledwyn Fernandez is currently a policy consultant at ICRIER, a public policy think tank based out of Delhi. He has a Ph.D. in Economics from XLRI Jamshedpur. He was an Assistant Professor of Economics at TA Pai Management Institute, Manipal. His areas of interest are microeconomics, macroeconomics, development economics, public private partnership & infrastructure development, public policy, and industrial economics.

Vishruth Venkataraman

Mentor

Vishruth Venkat is a PhD student in the Organismal Biology and Anatomy department at the University of Chicago. He holds an MSc in Palaeobiology from the University of Bristol and a bachelor's degree in Integrative Biology and South Asian studies from the University of California, Berkeley. Vish's research involves studying the evolution of complex sensory systems and nerves in animals, as well as their development from embryos, using a combination of genetics, microscopy, CT scanning, and palaeontology. Besides his work, he is passionate about the history and philosophy of science, especially in South Asia, and the connection between science, society, and religion.

Louise Courbin

Mentor

Louise is a part-time PhD Candidate in the School of International Relations at the University of St Andrews, Scotland. Her current research focuses on the production and reproduction of knowledge within academia and political institutions in France since 1962. Her research interests combine critical theorisation of knowledge, comparative study of peace and conflict strategies, border conflict and cooperation, and the (re)production of narratives in academic and political institutions. She graduated from Sciences Po Strasbourg with a BA in Political and International Affairs, and two MAs, in Border Studies and International and European Studies.

How do I sign up?

Here is a step-by-step guide to signing up for the Discover program.

- Contact your **Account Manager at Essai**, **Q (Head, Discover), or Program Manager** or fill out our online form **here**.
- Discover staff will then **match you with a relevant mentor**.
- An **invoice and service agreement** will be generated and sent to you upon confirmation of acceptance.
- After **completion of payment** (either in full, or in two tranches of 50% each) the Program will begin!

Contact Us

www.essai.in/discover
discover@essai.in
q@essai.in *(Head of Discover Program)*