

THE HINDU

Commerce the most popular UG course in private colleges



Approximate number of students admitted to various streams

College	B.A.	B.Com.	B.Sc.
Christ University	600	1,200	500
Jain University	120	800	120
Jyothi Nivas College	300	300	300
NMKRV College for Women	150	350	150

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BANGALORE: Commerce has emerged as the most sought-after course even in undergraduate (UG) streams, mirroring the trend seen in pre-university admissions. With the admission procedure for degree colleges almost complete, the pattern is becoming clearer.

Commerce appears to have outstripped other streams with an overwhelming number of students opting for it. Though the arts and science streams are neck-and-neck, the final numbers for science are yet to be ascertained as colleges are expecting those who don't get the medical or engineering seat of their choice to join regular science courses. Counselling for admission to professional courses by Karnataka Examination Authority (KEA) is slated to begin next week.

High demand

Mount Carmel College (MCC), which offers four courses in its commerce and management department, has seen a high demand for seats. "B.Com (Bachelor of Commerce) and (BBM) Bachelor in Business Management are the most popular courses," explained Sr. Juanita, principal, Mount Carmel Degree College.

K. Vanaja Malathy, public administration officer at Jyoti Nivas College, echoed this. "The demand for commerce is exceptionally high and, with the introduction of more combinations, a larger number of students are interested," she said. The college has admitted 240 students to the B.Com course.

V.P. Thyagaraj, principal of BES Degree College, Jayanagar, said that the 200 B.Com seats in his college were snapped up within eight days of the applications being made available.

At Christ University, the total intake for the commerce and management for this year — 1,200 — was filled shortly

after admissions were announced.

With a B.Com degree available in courses such as tourism and travel management and integrated industry, students have opportunities beyond the usual B.Com and CA options. "CA is the best bet, but even courses such as industry integrated in commerce have good scope," said Sherin Felix, a commerce degree aspirant.

"Students who have B.Com with tourism and travel management have an edge over the others. They can take the civil service exams and even get into the airline industry. There is a lot of scope," said Ms Vanaja Malathy.

Arts stream

Psychology seems to be a popular course among students opting to study arts. In most colleges, CEOEP (communicative English, optional English, and psychology), HJTT (history, journalism, tourism and travel management), PyEE (psychology, economics, optional English), HES (history, economics, sociology), and JEP (journalism, English literature, and psychology) were the most sought-after combinations.

"Our intake for the PyEJ (psychology, English, journalism) course this year is 54, which shows the demand. HJTT has an intake of about 30, which is again something new," said Sr. Juanita.

At NMKRV College for Women, 150 students have been admitted in the arts stream with HES and JEP being the most popular combinations. At Christ University, nearly 600 students have been admitted in the arts stream.

Science courses

Biotechnology, nutrition and dietetics, computer science and chemistry seem to be in demand in the science stream. Combinations such as biotechnology with genetics, or with zoology or chemistry have received a good response in some colleges.