

8. What as per you is best about IITH and please suggest an improvement area for betterment?

One thing I liked about IITH was how much freedom we had choosing advanced courses later on and how easy it was to get involved in research. I think one thing I'd like to see is more alumni in my area of work, which will only come with time.

9. Any other message you want to communicate!

Don't forget to have a lot of fun!



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B.Tech 2017, EE

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1. Tell us a little about yourself?

I am currently a PhD student in the Machine Learning Department at Carnegie Mellon University. My current research lies at the intersection of Machine Learning and Statistics and I am currently working on Generative Models.

Before this, I received my Masters' in Robotics from the Robotics Institute at Carnegie Mellon University while my undergraduate degree was in Electrical Engineering from IIT-Hyderabad.

2. What made you join IIT, Hyderabad?

The fact that it was doing really well among newer IITs and also close to a city like Hyderabad.

3. Which subject did you enjoy most and Least & Why?

I believe most of the classes I took at IITH have helped me in one way or another. Whether it was the core EE and CSE courses or a five-day course on movies and drama, I thoroughly enjoyed them all.

If I were to pick one particular course that I enjoyed the most, it would be Dr. K Sri Rama Murthy's course on Pattern Recognition and Machine Learning. It was my first formal introduction to Machine Learning and sparked in me a joy that propelled me to pursue a career in research.

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4. Which other activities were you involved in?

I participated in a few Basketball Leagues (I hope they still take place) and volunteered in the cultural and technical festivals (Elan and Nvision). However, to be completely honest, our dearest professors in the Electrical Engineering Department ensured that we were inundated with enough things to do, that my “other” activities were limited to just that.

5. How have your education and training prepared you for your current job role?

I feel that the most important skill for a PhD is perseverance. I think that my time as an undergrad working with Dr. Vineeth N. Balasubramanian, and my time as a Masters student at CMU definitely prepared me for just that.

6. The best moment you can recall from yours' life @ IIT Hyderabad?

Long walks at night with friends first in the ODF campus and then in the main Campus were beautiful moments that make some of my fondest memories.

7. What message do you want to convey to the existing student folk @ IIT, Hyderabad?

The work that you put in these 4 years is going to help you throughout your life (but you already know that). I would also encourage people to experiment more and try to be audacious when setting your life goals.

8. What as per you is best about IITH and please suggest an improvement area for betterment?

Being a new institute, IITH did not shy away from embracing change and tried to actively keep up with all the advancements in technology. This is evident from the unique academic curriculum and emphasis on research. Further, IITH provides a supportive environment, in terms of peers as well as faculty. I have gained lifelong friends and mentors from my time at IITH.

9. What is the best way to contact you?

My contact information is available on my website. The best way is to email me.