

COURSE DESCRIPTION**Money, Power, Impact: How Wealth Becomes Legacy**

Cross-School Elective — Undergraduate and Postgraduate (open to all Schools) — Autumn 2026

Course Information

Course Name	Money, Power, Impact: How Wealth Becomes Legacy
Course Code	BFX-MPOI1007
Credits	4
Programme	Cross-School Elective — Undergraduate and Postgraduate (open to all Schools)
Prerequisites	None

Faculty Information

Faculty Name	Professor Fatima Mahdi Karan, Professor of Practice
Email	fatima.karan@jgu.edu.in
Office Hours	By appointment (hours to be announced)
Homepage	JGU faculty page — to be confirmed

Faculty Biography: Professor Fatima Mahdi Karan is Professor of Practice and Vice Dean (Strategic Leadership & Institutional Initiatives) in the Office of the Vice Chancellor at O.P. Jindal Global University. She brings more than two decades of experience across international business journalism, global finance, strategic communications, and institutional leadership, including senior roles at CNN-IBN, CNBC-TV18, Bloomberg TV India, Barclays Wealth (London), and the International Finance Corporation (World Bank Group). Her teaching focuses on the intersection of money, power, storytelling, and institution-building.

Course Description**What is the most ambitious thing a person can do with wealth?**

For some of the world's most consequential builders — from Jamsetji Tata to Andrew Carnegie, Azim Premji to Rohini Nilekani, Shiv Nadar to MacKenzie Scott — the answer has been to convert private fortune into public institutions that outlive them.

This discussion-driven, case-based cross-school elective — open to undergraduate and postgraduate students — examines how wealth is transformed into enduring institutions and social impact through philanthropy, strategic giving, and institution-building.

Anchored in contemporary Indian and global case studies — including the Tata Trusts, the Azim Premji Foundation, the Shiv Nadar Foundation, Rohini Nilekani Philanthropies, MacKenzie Scott's Yield Giving, the Sackler family, and O.P. Jindal Global University itself — the course treats universities, foundations, museums, and trusts as designed objects: products of vision, governance, capital, and judgment. By design it relies on short essays, journalism, podcasts, documentaries, and founder interviews rather than relying solely on dense

academic monographs, making it accessible to students from law, business, public policy, liberal arts, and the sciences.

The course is unafraid of hard questions: does philanthropy strengthen democracy or distort it; when does generosity become influence; why do some institutions endure while others fail; and what would you build if you had the means to shape the future? Students are not asked to admire wealth or condemn it, but to **judge well**. The semester culminates in a Pitch Day, where student teams present — and defend — the institution they themselves would build.

By the end of the course, students will be able to: explain the strategic logic of philanthropy and large-scale giving; compare Indian and global traditions of institution-building; analyse why some institutions endure while others fail; evaluate universities, foundations, and trusts as products of vision, governance, and capital; and design, pitch, and defend a credible institution of their own.

Prerequisites

None. Open to undergraduate and postgraduate students from all Schools at O.P. Jindal Global University.

Scheme of Evaluation and Grading

The course is assessed entirely through continuous internal assessment; there is no external end-term examination.

Component	Weight
Class Participation & Weekly Response Notes	25%
Reflection Paper (1,500 words)	20%
Group Build Project & Final Pitch (with milestones)	55%
Total	100%

Graded on the standard JGU scale (O / A+ / A / A- / B+ / B / B- / P1 / P2 / F). Minimum 75% attendance is required.