

SHIVANI RAMOUTAR

PURDUE GRADUATE STUDENT

Major: Ph.D. Curriculum & Instruction

Home Country: Trinidad and Tobago



Briefly describe your research.

My present research in Learning Design & Technology focuses on using inclusive classroom practices in STEM education with a specific emphasis on geospatial technology for connecting people, places, and stories in higher education. I view technology in education as a way to improve student outcomes, to enhance communication between teachers/students and increase diversity and inclusion when combined with sound pedagogy and design principles.

Why did you choose Purdue?

In 2019, I was looking for a place where I could be supported in the work I wanted to do and could feel like I was accepted and belonged. As a Fulbright scholar, I was accepted into several top institutions. What really sold Purdue for me, is the level of support offered by my advisor and the wonderful conversations I had with graduate students who told me of their positive experiences within my program. Purdue just felt like home before I even got here.

How did you decide what to study?

I was intrigued by the Learning Design and Technology program since it was quite novel and interesting to me. I had never heard about this before – it combined all the things I loved, teaching, education, design and technology. My department was open and accepting of diverse perspectives and supported me through the development of my research plan, before arriving here.

How do you keep yourself organized?

I am a very neat person, and I think if I keep my physical surroundings clean and tidy, mentally I am prepared to work or relax. I always leave a couple of days free to make sure I do errands, stock the refrigerator, make snacks, and clean. These things are important to my overall functioning and well-being. I also allow myself flexible time to do anything I want to do, like looking for new houseplants or going bowling with friends and checking out on-campus cultural events. This free time helps keep the rest of the week organized.

What was your process for selecting a graduate school?

My Fulbright advisor assisted me with narrowing my list to five schools. I applied to some geography programs and some curriculum programs after months of research. I used an excel spreadsheet to organize my information. I reached out to professors, and graduate students, engaging in long, honest conversations about the culture, diversity, and work, at each institution. I also reviewed publications, grants, and research coming out of the different departments. From there, I went through submitting references, writing essays, transcripts, GRE scores. I put my best foot forward and was accepted into four out of the five schools. Since Purdue was my top choice, it was an easy yes for me!

What's the biggest difference between your home country Trinidad and Tobago and Purdue?

Trinidad and Tobago is a beach country, a tropical country, so the sun and topography is perhaps the biggest difference. I do miss the beaches, of course, but I compensate by spending a lot of time on the West Lafayette hiking trails. Trinidad is also a very culturally rich nation, so you can find a little piece of most cultures in my home country. This is also something I like at Purdue, making new global connections, sharing stories, and good food.

Where do you spend most of your time on campus?

I like open spaces and good lighting, so I spend a lot of time at Marriott Hall, which is right next to Beering Hall where I work. I love grabbing a coffee there, eating a croissant, and preparing for the class I teach.

EXPLORE YOUR OPTIONS

PURDUE GRADUATE PROGRAMS

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural and Biological Engineering
Agricultural Economics
Agricultural Sciences Education
and Communication
Agronomy
Animal Sciences
Biochemistry
Botany and Plant Pathology
Entomology
Food Science
Forestry and Natural Resources
Horticulture

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Curriculum and Instruction
Educational Studies

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Aeronautics and Astronautics
Biomedical Engineering
Chemical Engineering
Civil Engineering
Electrical and Computer Engineering
Engineering Education
Engineering Management
Environmental and Ecological
Engineering
Industrial Engineering
Interdisciplinary Engineering
Materials Engineering
Mechanical Engineering
Nuclear Engineering

INTERDISCIPLINARY PROGRAMS

Defense Engineering and Technology
Biomedical Sciences
Ecological Sciences and Engineering
Information Security
Life Science

COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SCIENCES

Consumer Science
Health and Kinesiology
Health Sciences
Hospitality and Tourism Management
Human Development and Family
Studies
Nursing
Nutrition
Psychological Sciences
Public Health
Speech, Language, and Hearing
Sciences

View full list of Grad Majors
Purdue.link/GradPrograms

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

American Studies
Anthropology
Art
Communication
Comparative Literature
Design
English
History
Languages and Cultures
Linguistics
Philosophy
Political Sciences
Sociology
Theatre
Visual and Performing Arts

KRANNERT SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT

Business Analytics and Information
Management
Economics
Finance
Global Supply Chain Management
Human Resource Management
Management
Marketing
Organizational Behavior and Human
Resource Management

COLLEGE OF PHARMACY

Industrial and Physical
Pharmacy
Medicinal Chemistry and
Molecular Pharmacology
Pharmacy Practice

PURDUE POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE

Aviation Technology and
Management
Computer and Information
Technology
Computer Graphics Technology
Construction Management
Technology
Engineering Technology
Technology
Technology, Leadership, and
Innovation

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE

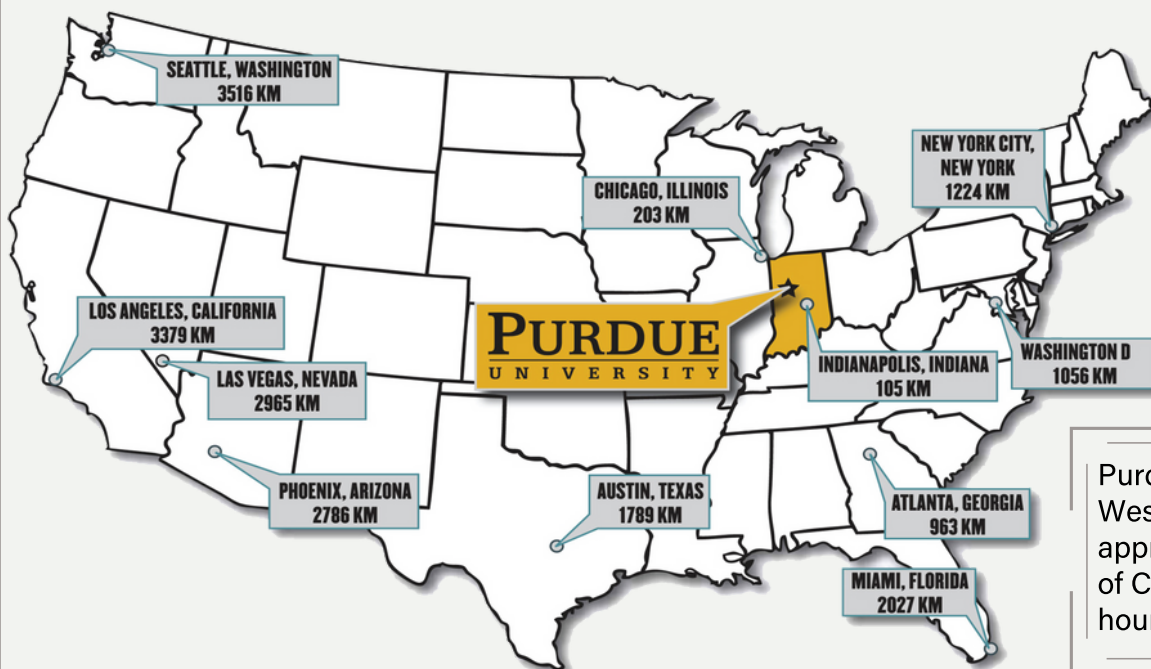
Biological Sciences
Chemistry
Computer Science
Earth, Atmospheric, and Planetary
Sciences
Mathematics
Physics
Statistics

COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

Basic Medical Sciences
Comparative Pathobiology
Veterinary Clinical Sciences

HOW TO APPLY TO PURDUE

purdue.edu/gradschool/admissions/how-to-apply/index.html



Purdue is centrally located in West Lafayette, Indiana - approximately two hours south of Chicago, Illinois and one hour north of Indianapolis, IN.

Questions? Email gradinfo@purdue.edu

