

Winter Graduate School

Research Methodology & Academic Writing

Department of Humanities and Social Sciences
Indian Institute of Science Education and Research Mohali

IN PURSUIT OF KNOWLEDGE

18–22 March 2024

Theme	Date	Speaker(s)
Natural Sciences and Social Sciences in Dialogue	18 March	Prof. Meera Nanda, Independent Scholar Prof. Rajeev Patnaik, PU
Ideas, Methods, and Field Insights	19 March	Dr. Rahul Govind, DU Prof. Chirashree Das Gupta, JNU Dr. Manish Kumar, DSE
Feminist Research Methods	20 March	Prof. Anu Sabhlok, IISER Mohali Prof. Rukmini Sen, AUD
Academic Writing	21 March	Dr. Kanika Singh, Ashoka University Dr. Ashima Sood, ANU Ahmedabad
Field Visit	22 March	

Venue: VH Conference Room

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Concept Note

The 2024 Winter Graduate School is an open call for the doctoral and postdoctoral scholars and faculty members of the Humanities and Social Science Departments of all IISERs, NISER Bhubaneswar, and IISc Bangalore to initiate and practice a culture of annual scholarly exchange. The most candid objective is to engage in scholarly exchange and expand research networks and methodologies. This year, the “graduate school” will be thematized on “Research Methodology and Academic Writing” in the Humanities and Social Sciences covering the following broad sub-themes:

- 1. Natural Science and Social Sciences in Dialogue:** Finding commonalities and dissonances in the epistemological fields of natural sciences and social sciences, considering the current debates in the country and around the world about the authenticity of facts, the relevance of truth, and their interpretation through research methodologies.
- 2. Ideas, Methods, and Field Insights:** Understanding a) the intellectual evolution of philosophical concepts and their import and implementation as research methodologies; b) the exploration of methods involving quantitative and qualitative studies; and c) fieldwork-based research.
- 3. Feminist Research Methods:** Unlearning the orthodox understanding of social science research by incorporating feminist methodologies and praxis
- 4. Academic Writing:** Spanning ethics, literature review, the use of digital tools, writing critically, referencing, citations, and publishing.

The plan for the first three days is to engage in expert sessions followed by doctoral scholars presenting their ongoing research, empirical work, working papers, or completed papers. The presentations can be overarchingly based on, but not limited to the above broad themes, and we highly welcome scholars from a vast range of sub-disciplines/clusters like Anthropology, Archaeology, Architecture, Development Studies, Economic and Public Policy, Geography, Urban Studies, Literature and History, Political Science, Political Ecology, Infrastructure Studies, Gender Studies, Media & Film Studies, and Philosophy. The fourth day of this school will be dedicated to orienting doctoral students to academic writing followed by a field visit on the fifth and last day of this graduate school. A tentative and long-term outcome of this graduate school is a working paper series or an edited volume, which will serve as a valuable asset underscoring the several dimensions of research in the humanities and social sciences.

Winter Graduate School 2024: Programme Schedule

Day 1: Monday, 18th March 2024

Registration	9:30 - 10:00
Welcome Address Parth R. Chauhan, Associate Professor & HoD, HSS, IISER Mohali	10:00 - 10:15
Introduction to the Workshop Debdulal Saha, Assistant Professor, IISER Mohali	10:15 - 10:30
Icebreaker	10:30 - 11:00
<i>"Post-Truth: What Is It, and Why We Need to Worry"</i>	11:00 - 12:00
Speaker: Meera Nanda, Former Visiting Professor, IISER Mohali & IISER Pune Chairperson: TV Venkateswaran, Visiting Professor, IISER Mohali Scholar Moderator: Shafakat H. Mirza	
TEA BREAK	12:00 - 12:15
<i>"Cutting-edge Technology Aiding Palaeoanthropological Research Today"</i>	12:15 - 13:15
Speaker: Rajeev Patnaik, Professor, PU, Chandigarh Chairperson: Parth R. Chauhan, Associate Professor, IISER Mohali Scholar Moderator: Srijay	
LUNCH BREAK	13:15 - 14:30

Day 1: Monday, 18th March 2024



**NATURAL SCIENCES AND SOCIAL
SCIENCES IN DIALOGUE**

SESSION 1: Medicine (14:30 - 15:30)

Chairperson: Meera Nanda, Former Visiting Professor,
IISER Mohali & IISER Pune

Scholar Moderator: Sikandar Ali

*"An Ethnographic Enquiry of Sowa Rigpa
Medical System of Ladakh"* 14:30 - 15:00

Speaker: Ajitesh Mathur, PhD Scholar, NISER
Bhubaneswar

*"Antiquity and Medicine: Hindu Ayurveda in
the Late Nineteenth Century India"* 15:00 - 15:30

Speaker: Swapnil Chaudhary, PhD Scholar,
IISER Mohali

TEA BREAK

15:30 - 16:00

SESSION 2: Literature (16:00 - 17:00)

Chairperson: Adrene Freeda D'Cruz, Assistant
Professor, IISER Mohali

Scholar Moderator: Alfiya K. Jose

*"Wasted Humans in Gabriel Garcia Marquez's The
Autumn of the Patriarch"*

Speaker: Jayalakshmi, PhD Scholar, IISER Mohali 16:00 - 16:30

*"The Making of Bengali Muslim Children's
Periodicals: Literary Self-critique, Child Readers,
and Nationhood, c. 1920-1940"*

16:30 - 17:00

Speaker: Nilkantha Pal, PhD Scholar, IISER Mohali

Day 2: Tuesday, 19th March 2024

"Methodological Approaches to the History of Ideas" 10:00 - 11:00

Speaker: Rahul Govind, Assistant Professor,
Delhi University

Chairperson: Sunny Kumar, Assistant Professor,
IISER Mohali

Scholar Moderator: Nilkantha Pal

TEA BREAK

11:00 - 11:30

SESSION 1: Film and Architecture (11:30 - 12:30)

Chairperson: Anu Sabhlok, Professor, IISER Mohali

Scholar Moderator: Jayalakshmi

"In Defence of Friendship: A Critical Study of Female Bonding in Malayalam Cinema" 11:30 - 12:00

Speaker: Annie Mariya Simon, PhD Scholar, IISER
Bhopal

"Study of Film-Induced Architectural Heritage: Methods and Tools" 12:00 - 12:30

Speaker: Tejashree Lakras, PhD Scholar, IISER Pune

LUNCH BREAK

12:30 - 14:00

"Political Economy of Institutions as Method: Caste, Class, and Gender" 14:00 - 15:00

Speaker: Chirashree Das Gupta, Professor,
Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU)

Chairperson: Prashant Ingole, Lecturer, IISER
Mohali

Scholar Moderator: Srijay



Day 2: Tuesday, 19th March 2024

*"Conducting Labour and Agricultural Research:
Data, Sampling, and Methods"* 15:00 – 16:00

Speaker: Manish Kumar, Assistant Professor,
Delhi School of Economics

Chairperson: Debdulal Saha, Assistant Professor,
IISER Mohali

Scholar Moderator: Anibesh Singh

TEA BREAK

16:00 – 16:15

SESSION 2: Development (16:15 – 17:15)

Chairperson: Debdulal Saha, Assistant Professor,
IISER Mohali

Scholar Moderator: Rishiraj Sinha

*"Temporal Traverse: Mapping States' Time Use over
Two Decades"* 16:15 – 16:45

Speaker: Divya Medha, PhD Scholar, IISER Kolkata

*"Energy Poverty: Its nature, extent and
implications"* 16:45 – 17:15

Speaker: Ujjwal Yadav, PhD Scholar, IISER Pune



Day 3: Wednesday, 20th March 2024

"Fields of Care: Notes on Feminist Methodologies"

10:00 – 11:00

Speaker: Anu Sabhlok, Professor, IISER Mohali

Chairperson: Adrene Freeda D'Cruz, Assistant Professor, IISER Mohali

Scholar Moderator: Alinda Merrie Jan

TEA BREAK

11:00 – 11:30

"Words and Worlds: Feminist Ways of Knowing"

11:30 – 12:30

Speaker: Rukmini Sen, Professor, Ambedkar University Delhi

Chairperson: Deepika Bansal, Lecturer, IISER Mohali

Scholar Moderator: Alfiya K. Jose

LUNCH BREAK

12:30 – 14:00

SESSION 1: Gender (14:00 – 15:00)

Chairperson: Rukmini Sen, Professor, Ambedkar University Delhi

Scholar Moderator: Aarju Parashar

"Women and State Politics in Uttarakhand"

14:00 – 14:30

Speaker: Neha Walia, PhD Scholar, IISER Pune

"Intersectionality in India"

14:30 – 15:00

Speaker: Utkarsha Negi, PhD Scholar, IISER Mohali

TEA BREAK

15:00 – 15:30

Day 4: Thursday, 21st March 2024

PANEL ON ACADEMIC WRITING

10:00 - 12:00

"Can academics write popularly?"

Speaker: Kanika Singh, Director, Centre for Writing and Communication, Ashoka University

"An editorial perspective on the PhD"

Speaker: Ashima Sood, Associate Professor, Anant National University, Ahmedabad

Chairperson: Anu Sabhlok, Professor, IISER Mohali
Scholar Moderator: Mihir Tanksale

TEA BREAK

12:00 - 12:15

SESSION 1: Labour (12:15 - 13:15)

Chairperson: Ritajyoti Bandyopadhyay, Associate Professor, IISER Mohali

Scholar Moderator: Srikanth Guguloth

"The potential of rising gig economy and labour process: a case study of food delivery workers in Delhi" 12:15 - 12:45

Speaker: Bikash Padhan, PhD Scholar, IISER Mohali

"She' the taxi driver" 12:45 - 13:15

Speaker: Subhashri Sarkar, PhD Scholar, IISER Mohali

LUNCH BREAK

13:15 - 14:30

Day 4: Thursday, 21st March 2024



SESSION 2: Archaeology and Disaster (14:30 - 15:30)

Chairperson: Philose Koshy, Lecturer, IISER Mohali

Scholar Moderators: Ningnung Jakoinao & Prabakar Paul

"The Vindhyan Hills of Madhya Pradesh: 14:30 - 15:00

*Exploration, Documentation, and Implications
for Preservation of Newly Discovered Rock Art
Sites (Central India)"*

Speaker: Rajesh Poojari, PhD Scholar, IISER Mohali

"Disaster Education: Exploring the Role of Schools 15:00 - 15:30

*in Building Disaster Resilience in Disaster-Prone
Areas of Arunachal Pradesh"*

Speaker: Sonjit Chakma, PhD Scholar, IISER Pune

TEA BREAK

15:30 - 16:00

Summing Up

16:00 - 16:30

Speaker: Shafakat H. Mirza, PhD Scholar, IISER
Mohali

Open Discussion & Critical Takeaways

16:30 - 17:00

Moderator: Debdulal Saha, Assistant Professor,
IISER Mohali

Vote of Thanks

17:00 - 17:15

Speaker: Srijay, PhD Scholar, IISER Mohali

DINNER

19:30 onwards