



URBAN SOCIOLOGY

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INTENDED AUDIENCE : Students, Civil Service Aspirants, Gate Aspirants, Academicians, Industry Professional, Working Professionals-ngos

INDUSTRY SUPPORT : Educational Institutes And Universities

COURSE OUTLINE :

We live in a world that currently faces multiple challenges of enormous magnitude, due to the effects of urbanization. With the rate, scale and shifting geographies of urbanization in the global South, it is important to map both challenges associated with and opportunities offered by cities. Both the challenges and opportunities are of immediate and direct relevance, with much of our urban resources and biodiversity disappearing, increasing poverty and social inequities, damaging pollution levels and landscape transformations. Urban sociology is one of the most prominent branches within the larger domains of sociology which can capture these complexities and help unravel cities as engines of economic development and social optimism. Within this context, this course would offer a mix of theories, concepts and practical cases to students, on how new approaches to think about sustainable urbanization can be framed using epistemological framings.

ABOUT INSTRUCTOR :

Prof. Amrita Sen is an Assistant Professor of Sociology at the Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur. Her research interests include cultural and political ecology, politics of forest conservation, urban environmental conflicts and Anthropocene studies. In 2019, Amrita received the 'Excellence in PhD Thesis award' from Indian Institute of Technology Bombay, for her doctoral research on the conservation politics in Sundarbans. Recently, she has been awarded a Junior Core Fellowship by the Central European University, Budapest, to work on environmental social science issues.

Prof. Archana Patnaik is an Assistant Professor of Sociology at the Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur. Her research interests include community based natural resource management and common studies, law and society, sociology of science and technology, gender, and technology. She has been working on cultural commons, food, and smart cities. In 2010, she was awarded The Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO)-WOTRO (Science for Global Development) PhD fellowship to research on seeds as commons.

COURSE PLAN :

Week 1: Urbanization as a process

Week 2: Contemporary urban India

Week 3: Smart Cities and Urban Life

Week 4: Violence, disaster, and the City