



O.P. JINDAL GLOBAL
Institution of Eminence Deemed to be
UNIVERSITY
A Private University Promoting Public Service

CENTRE *for* **WRITING
STUDIES**
O.P. Jindal Global University

We are pleased to announce
a monthly seminar series

RESEARCH MAJLIS

for sharing, discussing, and critiquing innovative
research in humanities and social sciences.

This month (Thursday, 30th September)

Prasenjeet Tribhuvan That which cannot be understood: The curious case of Cannabis

October

Vidya Subramanian 'Enterprising teachers make enterprising schools': Teach for India and new pedagogical regimes in municipal schools in Delhi

November

Madhura Lohokare Some questions on 'care' in writing pedagogy in India, or, why we need a situated writing pedagogy

For queries contact skapoor@jgu.edu.in

Title: "That which cannot be understood: the curious case of cannabis"

Speaker: Prasenjeet Tribhuvan, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, IIT Jodhpur

Abstract:

Materiality of things and their socio-historical realities influence life and foster social change. For some things, this 'materiality' is a given, unchanging physical existence that is easy to understand, use and subdue. For others, it's not that easy. Cannabis is one such substance that has been difficult to comprehend even for societies that have been using it for a long time. This talk shall look at the past and present of cannabis and its place in our society, with a focus on India. I shall try to delineate a material history of cannabis that is replete with contradictions and attempts to understand and solve these contradictions by communities and institutions. The talk will try and engage with one question - What do things like cannabis tell us about how we live?



O.P. JINDAL GLOBAL
Institution of Eminence Deemed to be
UNIVERSITY
A Private University Promoting Public Service

CENTRE *for* **WRITING
STUDIES**
O.P. Jindal Global University

Inaugural Seminar of RESEARCH MAJLIS

That which cannot be understood

The curious case of **Cannabis**

Prasenjeet Tribhuvan
Assistant Professor, Humanities
and Social Sciences, IIT Jodhpur

Thursday, 30th September 2021
3:00 PM

Zoom link <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86258408139> Password JGU
Contact for queries msayeed@jgu.edu.in

Title: Enterprising Teachers Make Enterprising Schools: Teach for India and New Pedagogical Regimes in Municipal Schools

Speaker: Vidya Subramanian, Assistant Professor, Jindal School of Government & Public Policy

Abstract:

The Teach for India (TFI) intervention, an off-shoot of the global Teach for America model, emerged as a prominent corporate-supported PPP intervention in 2009 that sought to reform teaching-learning within select municipal schools in Mumbai and Pune through a concerted focus on English medium instruction. In 2011, the programme entered into local government schools in Delhi in a similar vein and today is one of the key NGOs collaborating with the Delhi state government in facilitating a range of education-based reforms across schools in the city. This presentation seeks to situate the evolution of this intervention within municipal schools in Delhi to foreground certain pertinent processes through which the programme and its elite members have been central to re-imagining the figure of the school teacher and institutionalising new pedagogical regimes that privilege competition, efficiency and enterprise within the government school system. Amidst the backdrop of the much publicised National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, this presentation also seeks to examine the historical contradictions and silences surrounding reforms around teachers, teaching and school improvement that are increasingly calling for PPPs and corporate organisations to come in and fill the voids of state systems.

Speaker Bio

Dr. Vidya Subramanian is an Assistant Professor at the Jindal School of Government & Public Policy. She is a sociologist researching education policy and development, public-private partnerships (PPP) in education, and emerging entrepreneurial cultures among urban privileged youth. Her ongoing research explores the trajectories of young elite professionals entering the developmental sector through diverse volunteering and short-term fellowship opportunities to further aspirations of service, self-making, and entrepreneurship. She is also keen to understand how these young elite professionals are engaging with an array of state and non-state actors, organisations and sites of policy to institutionalise new technocracies of governance. She has a PhD and MPhil from the Zakir Husain Centre for Educational Studies at Jawaharlal Nehru University, during which she was a doctoral fellow at the Transnational Research Group (TRG) of the Max Weber Foundation-German Humanities Institutes Abroad. She also holds an MA in Development Studies from the Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), Mumbai. She has previously taught at TISS Mumbai and was a consultant to the Tata Trusts.

CWS RESEARCH MAJLIS

**ENTERPRISING TEACHERS MAKE
ENTERPRISING SCHOOLS: TEACH FOR
INDIA AND NEW PEDAGOGICAL REGIMES
IN MUNICIPAL SCHOOLS**

by
Dr. Vidya Subramanian
JSGP, JGU

on
Thursday, October 28, 2021
3-5 p.m

Please join at:

Title: 'Some concerns about "care" in writing pedagogy in India, or, why we need a situated writing pedagogy'

Speaker: Madhura Lohokare, Director and Associate Professor, Centre for Writing Studies, JGU

Abstract:

The objective of this paper is two-pronged: first, I think through the dilemma of using "care" as a category in the evolving of a writing pedagogy in the Indian college/ university, by dwelling upon the implications of this category for the incipient field of writing pedagogy in India. In responding to this dilemma, I focus on thick descriptions of practices of writing up of social science research within regional universities in India and reflect critically on my own teacherly positionality. Through this I attempt to demonstrate how the contours of a writing pedagogy are a product of complex structuring conditions, including disciplinary orientation and the writers' and teachers' location in the graded hierarchies of academic knowledge production in the Indian context. I contend that such an exercise of *situating* our pedagogical practices and discourses related to writing might be crucial in order to arrive at a category of ethical and political pedagogical practice which enables us to address the vulnerabilities produced in the Indian university classroom.

Speaker Bio

Madhura Lohokare directs the Centre for Writing Studies at O.P. Jindal University, Sonapat, Haryana. Trained as an anthropologist, her doctoral research investigated how geographies of urban exclusion produce young men as gendered and caste-d subjects in the context of the city of Pune. Her current research interests focus on articulations between urban modernity and upper caste self-making and on critical writing pedagogies. At the Centre for Writing Studies at JGU, she is deeply invested in developing an inclusive pedagogy of critical thinking and writing and in creating methodologies towards a more publicly engaged academic practice.

CWS Research Majlis

Some Concerns about 'Care' in Writing Pedagogy in India, or, Why We Need a Situated Writing Pedagogy

by

Dr. Madhura Lohokare
CWS, JGU

November 25, 2021

Thursday

3- 5 p.m.

Join at

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89518261359>

Password: JGU



O.P. JINDAL GLOBAL
Institution of Eminence Deemed to be
UNIVERSITY
A Private University Promoting Public Service

CENTRE *for* **WRITING
STUDIES**

O.P. Jindal Global University

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89518261359>

— Design by All-tree-download.com —

NOTE on the CWS Research Majlis

The CWS Research Majlis is a forum meant for the exchange of ideas amongst researchers from a wide range of disciplinary interests. The Research Majlis seeks to facilitate sharing of research – incipient as well as advanced - and the creation of a space for critical conversation between peers in the larger academic community. The Centre for Writing Studies is deeply invested in debates over pedagogies and politics of reading and writing. The Research Majlis is an intervention in linking these debates to contemporary research and to the ways in which academic and critical writing is being employed to reflect and negotiate with social and political issues around us. Keeping this in mind the Research Majlis also seeks to incorporate research work from areas of artistic research, creative and non-fiction writing as well as other forms of non-textual research. As the name suggests, this forum has been inherently thought of as a space for free, critical, and interactive exchanges. Majlis is one of those words which has many connotations in various Asian communities. Originally coming from Arabic, where it literally means ‘a sitting’, its usage has been numerous ranging from a ‘council’ to ‘certain religious gatherings’. Such potent possibilities exist because ‘majlis’ essentially signifies a dialogical and conversational space. Marking the space between formal and informal, the word is traditionally used for lounges and salons with free as well as planned discussions. For this reason, when Flavia Agnes (along with Madhushree Datta) came up with a legal resource centre for women, it was an apt name because it signifies the urgency of conversation on women’s legal rights in India. With the Research Majlis, CWS thus intends to create a broad and deep research lounge for emerging social and conceptual concerns by foregrounding the upcoming research that is pushing the boundaries of our understanding.

The Research Majlis will be held during the last week of every month during the semester. We would also like to pair up each speaker with a discussant, in order to facilitate a deeper and more meaningful engagement with their work. Thus, we would also request our speakers to send a draft of the paper in advance. We invite our colleagues and peers to reach out to us with suggestions and proposals for presenting in the Research Majlis and we also look forward to your continuing participation as an audience in our discussions.