

Online Certificate Course

“AI, GLOBAL VALUE CHAINS AND LABOUR REGIMES”

This interdisciplinary short-term certificate course explores the impact of artificial intelligence and automation on labour regimes and global production networks. Combining computational data science with critical social anthropology, it examines labour transformations through big data, NLP, machine learning, ethnography, and political economy. The course considers how geography, gender, caste, skill, and precarity shape the experience of AI-driven change.

Designed for master's-level students, the four-week course combines theoretical readings, case studies, and hands-on analytical exercises. Co-taught by Dr. Pooja Sarin and Dr. Nayanjyoti at IDEAS, JGU, the course equips students with conceptual and methodological tools to critically understand how AI is reshaping work, value, and policy in the global economy.

 1st Oct – 31st Oct 2026 |  6:00 PM – 8:00 PM (IST)

INSTRUCTORS



Dr. Nayanjyoti

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR & ASSISTANT
PROFESSOR, IDEAS, JGU



Dr. Pooja Sarin

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR & ASSISTANT
PROFESSOR, IDEAS, JGU

Total Sessions: 8 (Mondays and Wednesdays), Approx. 16 Contact Hours.
No specific academic qualification is required.

Participants who complete all evaluation components and maintain the required attendance will receive an official Certificate of Completion issued by the Office of Interdisciplinary Studies (IDEAS), O.P. Jindal Global University.

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COURSE STRUCTURE

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

- **Critically evaluate** the claims and counter-claims about AI’s impact on employment, skill, and labour market structure in the Global South.
- **Apply computational methods** —including NLP, machine learning, and big data analytics—to analyse labour market trends and worker experiences at scale.
- **Analyse** how global value chains mediate the adoption of automation and AI, shaping patterns of precarity, informalisation, and value capture.
- **Examine** the social, cultural, and political dimensions of technological change, including how caste, gender, and geography mediate AI’s labour effects.
- **Integrate** quantitative and qualitative approaches to develop nuanced, evidence-based perspectives on the futures of work and development.

SESSION-BY-SESSION SCHEDULE

SESSION	TITLE & DESCRIPTION	LEAD
SESSION 1	AI, AUTOMATION AND THE CHANGING WORLD OF WORK THIS MODULE INTRODUCES THE KEY DEBATES SURROUNDING AI, AUTOMATION AND THE FUTURE OF WORK. IT EXAMINES HOW AI IS RESHAPING OCCUPATIONS, TASKS, SKILLS AND EMPLOYMENT STRUCTURES, WHILE CRITICALLY ENGAGING WITH BOTH OPTIMISTIC AND PESSIMISTIC NARRATIVES OF TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGE. PARTICULAR ATTENTION WILL BE GIVEN TO INDIA AND THE GLOBAL SOUTH, WHERE THE EFFECTS OF AI ARE SHAPED BY EXISTING LABOUR-MARKET STRUCTURES, INFORMALITY AND UNEVEN TECHNOLOGICAL ADOPTION.	DR. POOJA SARIN
SESSION 2	LABOUR PROCESS THEORY AND GLOBAL VALUE CHAINS THIS MODULE ESTABLISHES THE CONCEPTUAL FOUNDATION FOR UNDERSTANDING WORK UNDER CAPITALISM, DRAWING ON BRAVERMAN, THOMPSON, AND LABOUR PROCESS THEORY, AND INTRODUCES THE GVC FRAMEWORK AS THE ARCHITECTURE THROUGH WHICH CONTEMPORARY PRODUCTION AND LABOUR ARE ORGANISED GLOBALLY.	DR. NAYANJYOTI
SESSION 3	PLATFORMS, DATA AND ALGORITHMIC MANAGEMENT THIS MODULE EXAMINES HOW DIGITAL PLATFORMS AND AI-ENABLED MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS ARE TRANSFORMING THE ORGANISATION AND CONTROL OF WORK. STUDENTS WILL EXPLORE WORKER DATA, ALGORITHMIC ALLOCATION OF TASKS, RATING AND REPUTATION SYSTEMS, WORKPLACE SURVEILLANCE, PLATFORM-MEDIATED LABOUR AND EMERGING FORMS OF DIGITAL CONTROL. THE MODULE WILL ALSO INTRODUCE QUESTIONS OF FAIRNESS, TRANSPARENCY, ACCOUNTABILITY AND WORKER RIGHTS IN ALGORITHMICALLY MANAGED WORKPLACES.	DR. POOJA SARIN

SESSION 4	LABOUR REGIMES IN GLOBAL VALUE CHAINS THIS MODULE ANALYSES HOW LABOUR REGIMES ARE CONSTITUTED ACROSS GLOBAL, NATIONAL, AND REGIONAL SCALES, EXAMINING INFORMALITY, PRECARIETY, SUBCONTRACTING, AND MIGRATION AS STRUCTURALLY PRODUCED FEATURES OF GVCS.	DR. NAYANJYOTI
SESSION 5	COMPUTATIONAL APPROACHES TO LABOUR MARKET ANALYTICS THIS MODULE INTRODUCES ACCESSIBLE, APPLICATION-ORIENTED COMPUTATIONAL APPROACHES FOR ANALYSING LABOUR-MARKET TRANSFORMATIONS. USING EXAMPLES SUCH AS JOB-POSTING DATA, WORKER-GENERATED CONTENT AND ONLINE PLATFORM DATA, STUDENTS WILL EXPLORE HOW TEXT ANALYTICS, NATURAL LANGUAGE PROCESSING AND MACHINE LEARNING CAN BE USED TO IDENTIFY PATTERNS IN SKILL DEMAND, OCCUPATIONAL CHANGE, EMPLOYMENT TRENDS AND WORKER EXPERIENCES. THE MODULE WILL ALSO DISCUSS THE LIMITATIONS, BIASES AND ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS INVOLVED IN USING DIGITAL DATA FOR LABOUR-MARKET ANALYSIS.	DR. POOJA SARIN
SESSION 6	AUTOMATION, SKILL AND SOCIAL HIERARCHIES THIS MODULE CRITICALLY EXAMINES HOW AUTOMATION AND AI REPRODUCE AND DEEPEN EXISTING SOCIAL HIERARCHIES. DRAWING ON ETHNOGRAPHIC AND POLITICAL-ECONOMIC APPROACHES, IT ANALYSES HOW CASTE, GENDER, AND GEOGRAPHY SHAPE THE DISTRIBUTION OF AUTOMATION'S COSTS AND BENEFITS.	DR. NAYANJYOTI
SESSION 7	GENERATIVE AI, KNOWLEDGE WORK AND EMERGING LABOUR MARKETS THIS MODULE EXAMINES HOW GENERATIVE AI IS TRANSFORMING KNOWLEDGE WORK, PROFESSIONAL OCCUPATIONS AND EMERGING LABOUR MARKETS. IT EXPLORES AUGMENTATION VERSUS DISPLACEMENT, CHANGING SKILL REQUIREMENTS, NEW AI-ENABLED OCCUPATIONS, DATA ANNOTATION AND LABELLING WORK, PROMPT-BASED WORK, AND EMERGING FORMS OF OUTSOURCED AND PLATFORM-MEDIATED LABOUR. THE MODULE WILL ALSO CONSIDER HOW LABOUR IS DISTRIBUTED ACROSS THE BROADER AI VALUE CHAIN, FROM DATA GENERATION AND MODEL DEVELOPMENT TO DEPLOYMENT AND DOWNSTREAM APPLICATIONS.	DR. POOJA SARIN
SESSION 8	GOVERNING THE FUTURE OF WORK: JUSTICE, RESPONSIBLE AI AND ALTERNATIVES THE CONCLUDING MODULE BRINGS TOGETHER THE TECHNOLOGICAL, COMPUTATIONAL, POLITICAL-ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PERSPECTIVES DEVELOPED ACROSS THE COURSE. IT EXAMINES POLICY AND GOVERNANCE RESPONSES TO AI-DRIVEN LABOUR-MARKET TRANSFORMATION, INCLUDING WORKER PROTECTION, RESKILLING, SOCIAL SECURITY, ALGORITHMIC ACCOUNTABILITY, FAIRNESS AND RESPONSIBLE AI. THE MODULE WILL ENCOURAGE STUDENTS TO CRITICALLY EXAMINE WHO BENEFITS FROM TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGE, WHO BEARS ITS COSTS, AND WHAT MORE EQUITABLE AND SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE FUTURES OF WORK MIGHT LOOK LIKE.	DR. NAYANJYOTI & DR. POOJA SARIN

“Certificate will be awarded to participants who attend at least 80% of the sessions.”

TENTATIVE READING AND RESOURCE LIST

- Braverman, Harry. 1974. *Labour and Monopoly Capital: The Degradation of Work in the Twentieth Century*. Monthly Review Press.
- Eloundou, T. et al. (2023) “GPTs are GPTs: An Early Look at the Labor Market Impact Potential of Large Language Models.” arxiv.org/abs/2303.10130
- Frey, C. B. & Osborne, M.A. 2017. “The Future of Employment: How Susceptible are Jobs to Computerisation?” *Technological Forecasting and Social Change* 114: 254–280.
- Gray, M.L. & Suri, S. (2019) *Ghost Work: How to Stop Silicon Valley from Building a New Global Underclass*. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt.
- ILO topic page and Working Papers on Artificial Intelligence (ilo.org/topics-and-sectors/artificial-intelligence)
- Pasquinelli, Matteo. 2024. *The Eye of the Master: A Social History of Artificial Intelligence*. Verso.
- Sarin, P., Kar, A.K., Kewat, K., & Ilavarasan, P.V. 2020. “Factors Affecting Future of Work: Insights from Social Media Analytics.” *Procedia Computer Science* 167: 1880–1888.
- Sarin, P., Kar, A.K., & Ilavarasan, P.V. 2021. “Exploring Engagement among Mobile App Developers: Insights from Mining Big Data in User-Generated Content.” *Journal of Advances in Management Research* 18(4): 585–608.
- Selwyn, Benjamin, et al. 2025. “Exploitation and Global Value Chains.” In *Handbook of Research on the Global Political Economy of Work*, pp. 126–137.
- Tsing, Anna. 2009. “Supply Chains and the Human Condition.” *Rethinking Marxism* 21(2): 148–176.
- Wood, A.J., Graham, M., Lehdonvirta, V., & Hjorth, I. 2019. “Good Gig, Bad Gig: Autonomy and Algorithmic Control in the Global Gig Economy.” *Work, Employment and Society* 33(1): 56–75

ELIGIBILITY AND PREREQUISITES:

No formal prerequisites. Participants are expected to have some familiarity with development issues, whether through professional experience or prior study. No background in economics is required.

DATES AND SCHEDULE:

Duration: 4 weeks, with two approximately two-hour sessions per week (8 sessions; approximately 16 contact hours).

Session Schedule:

- 1.5 October 2026 – Session 1
- 2.7 October 2026 – Session 2
- 3.12 October 2026 – Session 3
- 4.14 October 2026 – Session 4
- 5.19 October 2026 – Session 5
- 6.21 October 2026 – Session 6
- 7.26 October 2026 – Session 7
- 8.28 October 2026 – Session 8

Each session will combine conceptual discussion, demonstrations, applied examples, and guided hands-on exercises. The final session on 28 October 2026 will be conducted as an interactive workshop focused on analysis, interpretation, visual/spatial communication, methodological limitations, and feedback

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

- Anyone who curious about development, inequality, and political economy seeking a rigorous analytical introduction.
- Civil society practitioners and development sector professionals.
- Policy researchers and analysts in government or think tanks.
- Journalists covering economy, development, or public policy.
- Postgraduate students and early-career researchers in social sciences.

INSTRUCTORS



Dr. Nayanjyoti

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR & ASSISTANT
PROFESSOR, IDEAS, JGU

Dr. Nayanjyoti is a social anthropologist working on global value chains, automation, precarity, cultural production and subjectivities. His doctoral research was a multiscale ethnography in the capital-intensive sectors in the industrial zones in Delhi-NCR. He has an interdisciplinary training with graduation in literature, post-graduation in sociology from J.N.U., and MPhil and PhD in anthropology from Delhi University. He brings a long experience of engagements with the field in a diversity of settings, and has worked over the years in research, teaching, editorial and consultancy capacities with academic institutions like Ambedkar University, Delhi University, and Azim Premji University, research organisations, publication houses, and socially engaged practices in various interdisciplinary projects and initiatives. Before joining IDEAS, he taught sociology in Sri Venkateswara College, DU. He is also an Associate Researcher at the Centre de Sciences Humaines (CSH) Delhi.



Dr. Pooja Sarin

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR & ASSISTANT
PROFESSOR, IDEAS, JGU

Dr. Pooja Sarin is an Assistant Professor of Data Science and Assistant Director for Institutional Partnerships and Research Collaboration at the Office of Interdisciplinary Studies (IDEAS), O.P. Jindal Global University.

Ph.D. in Information Systems and Analytics from IIT Delhi. M.Tech. in Computer Engineering from Kurukshetra University, with thesis research undertaken at CSIR-CSIO, Chandigarh, and B.Tech. in Computer Science and Engineering.

Her interdisciplinary research focuses on computational social science, data analytics, digital platforms, responsible AI, AI governance, and digital wellbeing. Her methodological expertise spans mixed-methods research, quantitative analysis, machine learning, text mining, natural language processing, data visualisation, and computational research methods.

I.D.E.A.S. *at a* GLANCE

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ABOUT US

The Office of Interdisciplinary Studies (IDEAS) at O.P. Jindal Global University (JGU) serves as a university-wide platform for fostering interdisciplinary teaching, research, and community engagement across the social sciences. It brings together scholars, students, and practitioners to co-create knowledge and develop innovative responses to complex real-world challenges.

At its core, IDEAS operates as an intellectual incubator, supporting collaborative scholarship, experimental pedagogy, and research that transcends traditional disciplinary boundaries. Through its initiatives and field-based programmes, it promotes critical inquiry, applied learning, and engagement with pressing development concerns.

With a strong emphasis on interdisciplinary dialogue, global academic exchange, and community-linked research, IDEAS aims to cultivate a dynamic academic environment that connects theory with practice and advances socially relevant scholarship.