

Reading texts in Social Science: On Method & Meaning

Online Masterclass & Workshop Series

PART 1 | 18th Sep 2025



Keynote

Prof. Gurpreet Mahajan

Former Professor

Centre for Political Studies, JNU

Roundtable Conversation

PART 2 | 24th Oct 2025



Keynote

Prof. Mark Philp

Emeritus Professor

University of Warwick

Guided Reading Workshop

Certificate of Completion awarded for attending Part 1 & Part 2

To attend please scan the QR code
and read the instructions carefully
before applying

Note: Students from marginalised communities
are especially encouraged to apply



Reading texts in Social Science: On Method & Meaning

Online Masterclass & Workshop Series

How do we read?

Not just what texts say, but how we make sense of them, where they speak from, and the ways they travel across disciplines, regions, and histories.

This workshop invites participants to pause with the act of reading itself.
Together, we will ask:

- What does it mean to treat a text as an object of interpretation in the social sciences?
- How do traditions of political thought shape, constrain, or open our readings?
- What new possibilities for critique and dialogue emerge when we read texts across boundaries — disciplinary, linguistic, and cultural?

Bringing thinkers, scholars and students into conversation, the series combines keynotes, roundtables, and close reading workshops. The aim is not only to revisit canonical texts but to experiment with methods of reading that speak to contemporary political and social questions.

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PART 1

18th September 2025 | Online

Keynote Address

Reading Texts:
Approaches, Contexts, and Critique



18.09.2025

4 PM IST



Gurpreet Mahajan

Former Professor at Centre for Political Studies
Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

To apply please scan the QR code

Reading texts in Social Science On Method & Meaning



PART 1

18th September 2025 | Online

Roundtable Conversation



Gurpreet Mahajan

*Former Professor, Centre for Political Studies,
Jawaharlal Nehru University*



Monika

*PhD Criminology
University of Cambridge*



Christian Gilliam

*Senior Teaching Associate
University of Cambridge*



Gayatri Balu

*Assistant Director &
Assistant Professor, IDEAS
O.P Jindal Global University*

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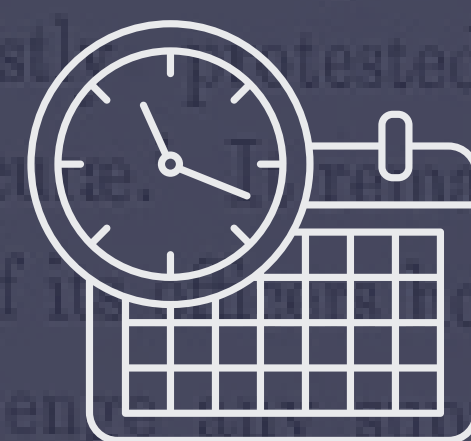


PART 2

24th October 2025 | Online

Keynote Address

Re-reading J.S. Mill's *On Liberty*
Context, Concepts, Contestations



24.10.2025

2 PM IST



To apply please scan the QR code



Mark Philp

Emeritus Professor, University of Warwick

&

Emeritus Fellow, Oriel College,
University of Oxford

Reading texts in Social Science: On Method & Meaning

Programme Schedule

Part 1 : Keynote + Roundtable

Theme: Reading Texts in Social Science? On Method & Meaning

Sept 18, 2025 | 4:00 – 5:30 PM IST | Online

Keynote (30 min)

Prof. Gurpreet Mahajan

Former Professor, Centre for Political Studies, JNU

Reading Texts: Approaches, Context, Critique

Roundtable Discussion (30 min)

Open Q&A (20–25 min)

Part 2 : Close Reading Workshop & Masterclass

Theme: Reading J.S. Mill's On Liberty

Oct 24, 2025 | 2:00 – 5:30 PM IST | Online

Keynote Lecture (30 min)

Prof. Mark Philp

Emeritus Professor of History & Politics, University of Warwick

Re-reading J.S. Mill's On Liberty: Context, Concepts, Contestations

Close Reading Workshop

Certification of Completion

Submit a short reflection after Part 1 to be selected for Part 2

Certificate of Completion for those who submit a reflection after Part 1 and a commentary/creative piece after Part 2

Reading texts in Social Science: On Method & Meaning

Steps to Apply

1

Register for the Series

- Fill out the online registration form before 16th Sep 2025.
- Wait for confirmation and Zoom link closer to the deadline for Part 1.

2

→ Attend Part 1

18 Sept 2025 | 4–6 PM IST | Online (Zoom)

3

- Write a short reflection (150–200 words) based on Part 1 discussion.
- Submit via link in post-session email.

Deadline: 28th Sept 2025 (5 PM IST)

Note: **Selection for Part 2 depends on this submission.**

Outcome communicated by

10th Oct 2025

4

- Selected Cohort will attend Part 2 | Close Reading Workshop
- 24 Oct 2025 | Online

→ Prepare by reading excerpts of *On Liberty*.

5

- Submit Final Commentary / Creative Piece via link in post-session email.

Deadline: 2 Nov 2025

Option A: Commentary (300–500 words)

Option B: Creative reflection (photo essay, dialogue, diagram, etc.)

6

- Upon submission, receive the certificate of completion.
- Most creative submissions will make it to the Kashf Initiative Blog

Reading texts in Social Science: On Method & Meaning



To apply scan the QR code

Or click the link:

<https://forms.gle/33irjS9ppxUrCza5A>

For any queries, please contact

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