### Report of the Refresher Course

**Organisers:** Amity Academic Staff College in Association with Amity Institute of Social Sciences, Amity University, AUUP & Society for the History of Technology (SHOT), USA

**Programme Title:** Epistemological Issues, Methodological Uses & Skill Development in New Trends of Social Sciences (RECOINSS23)

This Refresher Course was designed to provide participants with a comprehensive understanding of significant topics of social sciences. The focus is on learning about epistemological shifts in social science disciplines, exploring relevant and new methodologies while developing marketable skills, as well as, research capabilities. Participants will be exposed to topnotch global scholarship and, at the end of the course, be in position to contribute with renewed zeal to academic excellence in their own field.

Date: June 5-16, 2023

Time: 9:00 am to 5:30 pm

## **Objectives of the Refresher Course:**

**§To explore the possibilities of Multidisciplinary Approach:** The New Education Policy (NEP) of India recognizes the importance of a multidisciplinary approach in social sciences. It encourages the students to understand and solve complex academic issues and allows them to integrate knowledge and analytical perspectives from multiple disciplines. The approach encourages the students to develop critical thinking as well as helps them question the entrenched values. By embracing this multidisciplinary approach to education, India will position itself as a leader in higher education and innovation.

**§Understand the relationship between Ethics and Research:** The NEP focuses on the importance of research and innovation in higher education. Research is inextricably related to the question of ethics. For higher education in India, a focus on conventional research ethics and AI research ethics is crucial to ensure that the research conducted is of high quality, trustworthy, and responsible. A focus on ethical issues can help to ensure that research is conducted in a manner consistent with the values and priorities of India, such as social responsibility, equity, and sustainability.

**§Encourage Experiential learning:** NEP insists on hands-on learning, fieldwork, and practical skills in all fields of education. Consequently, current courses focus on the importance of data collection and surveys. As the organizers of this event, we want participants to explore their chosen topic through a balanced approach between data analysis and theoretical discussions. This will help participants to truly understand the benefit of their study and its impact on the research community.

**§Deepen our academic exchanges with Society for History of Technology (SHOT), USA:** This Refresher Course was organised in collaboration with SHOT. This is first programme that AISS conducted with SHOT since a MoU was signed with the organisation in 2022. To refreshen and deepen the existing state of knowledge about social history of science and technology through inviting speakers who are renowned experts of the academic field. To explore opportunities of publications in terms of article publications, book reviews. To instill among emerging scholars the importance of inter-disciplinary research.

#### **REALISATION OF THE GOALS:**

**Instructions:** Lectures were woven around and at the intersections of multiple disciplines. For e.g. Film Studies & History; Economics & History; Geography & History; Labour Studies & Gender Studies; Political Science & History; IR and Political Science; Dalit Studies, Dalit History & Politics; Philosophy & Politics; History of Medicine, Science and Technology

Learners were instructed on multiple methodologies. For e.g. field work based research, archival research, oral history interviews, theoretical formulations, Statistical methods, Data Science, Use of GIS in social sciences

We explored the use of conventional sources of research documents and discussed how to overcome the challenges of conventional archive and go beyond though tapping sources, such as literature, songs, movies, photos.

In exploring ethics, the focus had been on practices of academic integrity, norms of publications.

We have had sessions on emotional well being of students and faculties.

**Presentations:** The Refresher Course designated last 2 days for participants' presentations. We have received presentations from participants from a vast range of topics that are as much inter-disciplinary as well as rich in use of methodologies. In their respective presentations, participants have pointed out specifically and elaborately how they have benefited from lessons.

116 participants registered. They presented on various topics ranging from Business Management, HR to Political Science and History, literature, and educational policies. Topics of presentation have been mostly focused on contemporary India, focusing on its history, politics, society, institutions, and above all people, particularly, marginal members of societies

**Research & Publications**: The Refresher Course has strongly encouraged publication of participants' work. Every participant has been asked to share details of 2/3 journals where topics on which they are working could be published. This information sharing has enabled us to develop a vast repository of information related to various Scopus-indexed and UGC approved journals. We have shared reading resources among participants. Experts have strongly encouraged participants to get in touch with them to develop their research further. Opportunity has been created for expert-participant collaborations.

#### **AISS & SHOT MoU:**

Editor-in-Chief of the journal, Technology and Culture and SHOT EC member Prof (Dr.) Ruth Oldenziel gave a very inspiring talk on the journal's and the Society's commitment to focus on the global south. The journal is increasingly publishing articles from scholars studying the Indian context which is evident from the number of articles published related to the region. More books on Indian history are being reviewed in the journal. The participants of the Refresher Course have been given number of books to be reviewed. We encourage you to look into issues of technology/science society interactions, technology – environment entanglements, issues related to technopolitics and challenges of technological determinism.

We had number of sessions in the Refresher Course related to the History of Science, Technology and Medicine. Each of the talks gave us very clear insights on novel topics of research, such as epidemics and rural technologies. These topics opened up field work methodologies, questioned limitations of archives and taught how to go beyond archives in search of research resources. In future, we will like to find more participants presenting on HISTEM-related topics.

## **Our Esteemed Speakers and Distinguished Guests**

Prof.(Dr.) Sanjay Srivastava  Vice-Chancellor Mahatma Gandhi Central University, Bihar	Prof (Dr.) Satyajit Singh  Professor, Departments of Political Science and Global Studies, University of California Santa Barbara, USA	Prof.(Dr.) Dilip M. Menon  Mellon Chair in Indian  Studies.Professor of History, Department of International Relations and Director, Centre for Indian Studies in Africa, University of Witwatersrand	Prof (Dr) Swaran Singh  Professor and Chairperson Centre for International Politics, Organization and Disarmament (CIPOD), SIS, Jawaharlal Nehru University New Delhi India	Prof. Ruth Oldenziel  Professor TU Eindhoven, Department of Innovation/American- European History of Technology Project leader Cycling Cities: The Global Experience Editor in Chief Technology and Culture
Prof (Dr.) Manuka Khanna  Professor and Head, Dept. of Political Science, University of Lucknow, Lucknow, India.	Prof(Dr.) Yagati Chinna Rao  Chairperson, Centre for the study of Social Excluion and Inclusive Policy, School of Social Sciences, JNU, New Delhi, India	Prof. (Dr.) Masood Husain Siddiqui Professor, Dept. of Statistics, University of Lucknow, Lucknow	Prof (Dr) Poonam Bala  Professor Extraordinarius, University of South Africa (UNISA) and also Visiting Scholar at Cleveland State University, USA	Prof Rekha Saxena  Professor, Department of Political Science Hon.Vice-Chairpers on, Centre for MultilevelFederalis m, N.Delhi Hon. Senior Advisor, Forum of Federations, Ottawa Convener, The Comparative Federalists Research

				Group, Department of Political Science, University of Delhi
Prof Sanjay Kumar  Professor and Director of Lokniti, a Research Programme at the Centre for the study of Developing Societies, New Delhi, India	Dr. Bulbul Dhar-James  Hony Director, Sarojini Naidu Centre for Women's Studies,&Professor, Department of Political Science & Coordinator MA Human Rights Programme Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi, India	Prof (Dr.)Jaya Tyagi  Professor, Dept. of History, Delhi University, New Delhi, India	Prof (Dr.) Shantanu Chakrabarty  Professor, Dept. of History, University of Calcutta, Kolkata, WB, India	Prof. (Dr.)Sanjay Gupta  Professor, Dept. of Political Science, University of Lucknow, Lucknow.India
Dr. Aditya Prashant	Dr. Ravindra Tiwari	Prof. Sujata Mukherjee	Prof. Sangeeta Dasgupta	Dr Manan Dwivedi
Data Scientist (Lead) Veersa Technologies, New Delhi, India	Director, NETRA (Project NETRA is an initiative by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO	Professor of History, Rabindra Bharati University Kolkata, India	Centre for Historical Studies, School of Social Sciences, JNU, New Delhi, India	Faculty, Indian Institute of Public Administration, New Delhi, India
Prof (Dr) Nisar Ul Haq	Dr `Rozy Patel	Prof. Sudhanshu Bhushan	Dr. P.Amitav Khuntia	Prof (Dr.)Anjan Chakrabarti
Professor, Jamia Milia Islamia, New Delhi, India	Dean & Director The Department of Humanities Uka Tarsadia University Bardoli Gujarat	Dean Academic and Research, Director - Internal Quality Assurance Cell,Professor & Head,Department of Higher & Professional Education, NIEPA Editor: Indian Economic Journal Editor: Paripekshya Journal	Associate Fellow(Faculty) Coordinator: Centre for Climate Change and Labour In charge :Social Media, V. V. Giri National Labour Institute, (Ministry of Labour and Employment, Government of India)	Professor of Economics, University of Calcutta, Kolkata, India
Shri Priyank Kanoongo	Dr. Urvi Mukhopadhyay	Dr. John Bosco Lourdusamy	Dr. Prasenjit Sarkhel	Dr. Richa Sharma  Deputy Director ICSSR, New Delhi, India
Chairperson, National Commission for	Associate Professor, Department of History, West Bengal	Member, Governing council, National Centre for History	Associate Professor, Department of Economics, Kalyani	

Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR)	State University, WB, India	of Science, Mysore, Faculty, IIT Madras	University, WB, India CV Raman Fellow, Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, Virginia State University, USA	
Dr. Ushvinder Kaur  Associate Professor, Departme nt of Geography Swami Shraddanand College, University of Delhi, Delhi, India	Associate Professor, Department of Geography, Dayal Singh College, Delhi University, New Delhi, India	Dr. Anindita Ghosal  Associate Professor, Department of History, Diamond Harbour Women's University, Kolkata, WB, India	Dr. S.S. Bindra Director (Research AIPP,AIIS,AUUP, Ex-Professor Emiretus, GNDU, Panjab, India	

# The links to the recorded sessions can be found below:

Date	Торіс	URL
5th June 2023	Epistemological Issues Methodological Uses & Skill Development in New Trends of Social	https://youtu.be/CpgHl3ECEqU
6th June 2023	Sciences	https://youtu.be/aG6hHbrYNY4
7th June 2023		https://youtu.be/e26HTTitnLs
8th June 2023		https://youtu.be/0TcV_dz_sck
9th June 2023		https://youtu.be/M4clTs4jdOY
10th June 2023		https://youtu.be/ZhYjMDGr4XU
12th June 2023		https://youtu.be/-2xZLsFJeY4
13th June 2023		https://youtu.be/5QvMKlkyVDw
14th June 2023		https://youtu.be/4z2qVhMORzY

15th June 2023	https://youtu.be/gMatURT-Dg8
16th June 2023	https://youtu.be/7DjlGeYTh7E













