



URBANIZATION AND ENVIRONMENT

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INTENDED AUDIENCE : Natural sciences and engineering disciplines with a focus on built environment and urban (ecological) infrastructures like architecture, civil engineering, environmental engineering, etc. Humanities and Social Sciences (including but not restricted to) sociology, geography, history, anthropology, etc. The course will be beneficial for urban planners and practitioners along bureaucratic and technocratic circles.

INDUSTRIES APPLICABLE TO : Bengal Chamber of Commerce, Steel Authority of India, WBHIDCO.

Apart from industry, the course will be of interest to people who work in NGOs and civil society organizations like: WWF, ORF, SANDRP, Cities Rise, EnGIO, etc.

COURSE OUTLINE :

'Sustainable Urbanization' framework or 'Sustainable Development Goals' (SDGs) offer technocratic directions and guidelines, it is extremely important to empirically investigate the relationship cities and their wider environments to not only identify challenges but also map potentials and learn lessons towards the development of a robust resilient urban environmental matrix that will not only be technically sound and feasible but also informed by socio-economic and political realities and determinants.

ABOUT INSTRUCTOR :

Prof. Jenia Mukherjee is Assistant Professor at the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur. Her research interest spans across environmental humanities, transdisciplinary water research and urban studies.

COURSE PLAN :

- Week 1:** Setting the Context: The Urban Anthropocene ('Urbanocene'), Planetary Urbanization and Ecological Sustainability, Cities, Nature and Civilizations: Lessons from Antiquity, Case Study: Ancient Greece and Rome, Case Study: Indus Valley Civilization
- Week 2:** From 'Sanitary' to 'Sustainable' cities, Global Discourses of 'Green', and 'Ecological' Urbanisms, Global Discourses of 'Hi-tech' and 'Smart' Cities, Agenda 21, UNHCS and UN 'Sustainable Urbanization' Frameworks, Policy Prescriptions for the 'Global South'.
- Week 3:** Urbanization, Environment and the 'Global South', Peri-urbanization: 'Urbanization without Infrastructures', Case Studies: Kolkata, Dar es Salaam and Cochabamba (Part 1), Case Studies: Kolkata, Dar es Salaam and Cochabamba (Part 2), 'Infrastructural Archipelagos'
- Week 4:** Beyond Technocratic Prescriptions: Lessons from Social Sciences, Urban Environmental History: What, Why and How?, Urban Environmental History: Europe, Urban Environmental History: America, Urban Environmental History: South Asia
- Week 5:** Urban Political Ecology: What, Why and How?, Urban Political Ecology: Case Studies from the 'Global South' (Part 1), Urban Political Ecology: Case Studies from the 'Global South' (Part 2), Situated Urban Political Ecology (SUPE), Historical Urban Political Ecology (HUPE)
- Week 6:** Managing Wastes, Wastewater and Wastelands: Case Study India, Delhi, Chennai, Mumbai, Kolkata
- Week 7:** Urban Environmentalisms (Environmental Activism), 'Bourgeoisie Environmentalism', Activism to Save Urban Rivers: Kathmandu, Activism to Save Urban Rivers: Kolkata, Protests to Protect Wetlands
- Week 8:** Beyond 'Consumption Cities': Planning across the 'Urban-Rural' Gradient Paradigm. Restoration, Rehabilitation and Resettlement: River Isar (Munich). Restoration, Rehabilitation and Resettlement: Kolkata Environment Improvement Project (KEIP). Urban Nature Index (UNI), 2019: What Should Go In? Towards a Robust Resilient Urban Nature Matrix.