



Centre for Regional Studies (CRS)
School of Social Sciences, University of Hyderabad
Core Course to the Ph.D. Students of the Centre
(July to December Session)

Course Title : Research Methodology (Ph.D.)
No. of Credits : 4

Instructor : CRS Faculty
Course Code : RS 801

Course Description:

We begin by examining debates in the Philosophy of Social Sciences and Social thought. The Philosophies provide us a grounding to evaluate strengths and weaknesses of arguments, validity of evidence, and assists in situating one's research work. Next we discuss a select number of research methods. These include: interviewing, focus groups, surveys, experimentation, ethnography, and so on. We conclude this course by delving into the elements of writing a research proposal.

Course Outline

Paradigms for Research - Part 1

- a) Positivist Social Science
- b) Interpretive Social Science
- c) Eurocentrism and Category Formation
- d) Critical Social Science
- e) Feminist and post modern Social Science

Paradigms for Research - Part 2

- a) Post-positivist; Social Constructivism; Advocacy and Participatory; Pragmatism
- b) Paradigm Wars, and Mixed Methods as a Way Forward
- c) Moving from Topics to Questions and Sources
- d) Using Sources—Literature Review
- e) Writing Statements of Purpose in a Proposal

Strategies of Inquiry

Grounded Theory; Interpretive Practices; Case Studies; Participatory Action Research

Methods of Collecting and Analyzing Empirical Materials

Interviews, Surveys, and Focus Groups;

Quantitative Methods

Surveys, Experimentation, and use of SPSS

Reliability and Validity in Qualitative Research

Pulling together: Proposal writing

Questions of Inter-disciplinarily and social inquiry



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**Course Title : Advanced Theories on Region and Space:
The Indian Context (Ph.D.)**

Instructor : CRS Faculty

No. of Credits : 4

Course Code : RS 802

Course Description:

This interdisciplinary course provides a spatial understanding of diversities in India. A region is necessarily that which has to be examined and understood beyond disciplinary boundaries, especially in a globalised world. Further, in view of theoretical development in regards to space, place, and scale, the idea of region has moved from territorial to relational ways of visualizing the region. These developments on conceptualizing region has polarized the position of scholars. But, a third way / option on region is emerging, which recognizes the strengths of both the earlier theoretical positions. Through this course students will be introduced to the concept of a Region in the Indian context and explore multiple ways of characterizing a 'region.'

Course Learning Outcomes

At the end of this course, students will be able to

- understand scholarship on region from a cross cultural perspective
- interpret 'region' with examples from real world.
- present their views in both written and oral form;
- assess and critique published research in peer reviewed journals

Course Outline

There are ten Units in this course.

- Unit 1. Concept of space: Evolution of the concept of a region; Typology and Hierarchy of regions; Regional Studies; Regionalism; The Region as a cultural and ritual space
- Unit 2. The 'Region' in history
- Unit 3. India's Physical Setting: Physical and Climatic Regions
- Unit 4. India's socio-cultural mapping: Religion, Language, Adivasis; Caste
- Unit 5. Regional perspectives on Demography
- Unit 6. Urban systems and City Morphology
- Unit 7. Regional Perspectives on the Indian Economy: Agricultural and Industrial Regions
- Unit 8. Regional Development and Planning
- Unit 9. The Deccan: Regional Setting
- Unit 10. Debating the region: Place/Space/Territory; Relational aspects and interdisciplinarity of regional studies.

Course Evaluation

- Internal Assessment = 40 marks; End Semester Exam = 60 marks

Reading List

Books- Select Chapters

- Ahmad, A (ed), 1993, *Social Structure and Regional Development*, Rawat.
- Agarwal, SK, 2000. *Regional Development and Planning in India*. New Delhi: Concept.
- Aloysius, G. 2006. *Conceptualizing the Region*. CRS Working Paper No. 2 (available in CRS office for Reference only)
- Aloysius, G. 2007. *From Regions to Regionalisms*. CRS Working Paper No.3 (available in CRS office for Reference only)
- Banerjee, N. and S. Margit, 2005, *Development, Displacement and Disparity*, Orient Longman.
- Blij, H.D. 1980. *Regions: Concepts in Geography*. McGraw Hill
- Chauduri. J.R and Chauduri, R. 2001. *An Introduction to development and Regional Planning*. Oriental Blackswan.
- Champaklakshmi, R., 1996, *Trade, Ideology and Urbanisation: South India 300 BC to AD 600*, OUP.
- Claval, P. 2002. *An Introduction to the Regional Geography*. Rawat.
- Cohn, Bernard S. 1987. 'An anthropologist among the historians and other essays chapter 6.' "Regions subjective and objective : their relation to the study of modern Indian history and society". OUP
- Cole, J.P. 2002. *Geography of the World's Major Regions*. Routledge.
- Dreze, J. and Sen, A. (eds.) 1997. *Indian Development: Selected Regional Perspectives*. OUP
- Fox, Richard G., 1977, *Realm and Region in Traditional India*, Vikas Publishing House.
- Husain, M. (2014): *Geography of India*, Tata McGraw-Hill Education, New Delhi
- Inden, R., 1990, *Imagining India*, Oxford, Basil Blackwell
- Markusen Ann. 2003. Fuzzy Concepts, Scanty Evidence, Policy Distance: The Case for Rigour and Policy Relevance in Critical Regional Studies, *Regional Studies*, 37:6-7, 701-717
- Paasi, A., J. Harrison and M. Jones (eds) 2018. *Handbook on the Geographies of Regions and Territories*. Cheltenham, Edward Elgar.
- Pike, Andy. 2007. Whither Regional Studies? ". *Regional Studies*, volume 41, issue 9, Special Issue
- Reddy, G. Ram and BAV Sharma, 1979, *Regionalism in India: A Study of Telangana*, Concept.
- Saberwal Satish. 1971. Regions and Their Social Structures, *Contributions to Indian Sociology*, January, vol. 5 no. 1, 82-98
- Sahu B.P. 2013. *The Changing Gaze : Regions and the Constructions of Early India*, OUP
- Singh, R.L. (1993): *India: A Regional Geography*, UBS Publishers Distributors, New Delhi
- Sopher, D. E. 1980. *An Exploration of India*. Cornell: Ithaca.
- Subba Rao B. 1958. "Regions and Regionalism in India", *The Economic Weekly*, 10, No. 38, 20th September 1958, pp. 1215-20.
- Talbot, C. 2001. *Precolonial India in Practice: Society, Region and Identity in Medieval Andhra*, New York, OUP.
- Tripathi, D. 2015. Interrogating Linkages Between Borders, Regions, and Border Studies', *Journal of Borderlands Studies*, 30:2, 189-201
- Vora, R. and Feldaus, A., 2006. *Regions, Culture and Politics in India*. Manohar.
- Wallace, Paul (ed.), 1985, *Region and Nation in India*, Oxford-IBH.
- Yazdani, D., 1960, *The Early History of the Deccan*, London: Oxford University Press.

Articles for Unit 10

- Sills, David (Ed.). 1968. *International Encyclopaedia of the Social Sciences*. Vol. 13. NY: Macmillan Company. pp.377-390
- Vance, Rupert V. 1929. The Concept of the Region. *Social Forces*. Vol.8(2):208-218
- Barrows. Harlan. 1923. Geography as Human Geography. *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*. Vol.13(1): 1-14
- Robert Burnett Hall. 1935. The Geographic Region: A Resume. *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*. Vol.25(3): 122-136
- Kevin Archer. 1993. Regions as Social Organisms: The Lamarckian Characteristics of Vidal de la Blache's Regional Geography. *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*. Vol.83(3): 498-514

- C. Daryll Forde. 1941. Culture Regions. *MAN*. Vol. 41:130-133
- Robert D. Sack. 1983. Human Territoriality: A Theory. *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*. Vol.73(1): 55-74
- David B. Knight. 1982. Identity and Territory: Geographical Perspectives on Nationalism and Regionalism. *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*. Vol.72(4): 514-531
- Gordon Macleod and Martin Jones. 2009. Territorial, Scalar, Networked, Connected: In What Sense a 'Regional World'? In. Andy Pike. Ed. *Whither Regional Studies?* NY: Routledge. pp. 34-48
- Allen J. and A. Cochrane. 2007. Beyond the Territorial Fix: regional assemblages, politics and power. *Regional Studies*. 41. 1161-1175
- Amin, A. 2004. Regions unbound: towards a new politics of place. *Geografiska Annaler*. 86 B. 33-44
- Lagendijk, A. 2007. The accident of the region: A strategic relational perspective on the construction of region's significance. *Regional Studies*. 41. 1193-1207
- Paasi, A. 2002. Place and Region: regional worlds and regional words. *Progress in Human Geography*. 26. 802-811
- Paasi, A. 2019. From bounded spaces to relational social constructs: conceptualization of the region in geography. In. Paul Kohlenberg and Nadine Godehart (eds.). *The Multidimensionality of Regions in World Politics*. London: Routledge