



DEPARTMENT OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

National Institute of Technology Tiruchirappalli

in association with

THE UNESCO CHAIR IN VULNERABILITY STUDIES

University of Hyderabad

One Week Online Faculty Development Programme

Researching Cultural Vulnerability: Concepts, Contexts, and Challenges

27th January 2025 – 1st February 2025

National Institute of Technology (NIT), Tiruchirappalli

National Institute of Technology, Tiruchirappalli (NIT Trichy) founded in 1964 is a public technical and research university in Tamil Nadu, India. It is one of India's oldest technical universities and is located at Tiruchirappalli in a campus of 800 acres. The university is recognized as an Institute of National Importance by the Government of India. The university focuses exclusively on science, technology, engineering, management, architecture and humanities. National Institutional Ranking Framework ranked the university 1st among the NITs in India in 2024. Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry named the university as the "University of the Year" in 2017. The university has academic and research collaborations with universities and research centres in India and abroad including the United States and the United Kingdom and is undergoing accelerated growth through the World Bank-funded Technical Education Quality Improvement Program (TEQIP).

Department of Humanities & Social Sciences

The Department of Humanities and Social Sciences has been in existence since 2004. The department is known for independent interdisciplinary research and for a dynamic collaboration between faculty and students. To meet the existing demands of industry, business, public and private organizations, academic and human services, the department has constantly striven for a practical curriculum with a high degree of professional relevance, enabling students to face real-time challenges. Accordingly, the department has been offering a wide range of core and elective courses to undergraduates and graduates. The department has been offering a full-fledged Ph.D. program since 2004 and has produced quality research work in newer areas of Humanities and Social Sciences. Recognizing the growing demand for humanities-based courses, the department also offers minor degree courses in Economics and in Language/Literature. In 2020, the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences started an MA programme in English Language and Literature. Faculty in the department are committed teachers engaged in continuous research in niche areas like Language and Genetics, Health Humanities, Gender Studies, Cultural Studies, English and Employability Skills, Critical Pedagogy and Aviation English.

The UNESCO Chair in Vulnerability Studies, UoH

The UNESCO Chair in Vulnerability Studies, located in the Department of English at the University of Hyderabad, is the outcome of a decade's work by the Chairholder Prof. Pramod K. Nayar in the interrelated fields of Human Rights and literary-cultural studies, ecological precarity, industrial disaster and precarity, and extreme cultures. The Chair provides a theoretical, pedagogic and curricular framework for understanding, teaching and studying the United Nation's SDGs. The Chair's objectives include: developing a conceptual vocabulary of vulnerability, pedagogic tools and cultural apparatuses to ameliorate, sensitize and prevent an amplification of the multiple vulnerabilities the globe witnesses, and the archivization of a history of contemporary vulnerability across industrial disaster, climate change, health crises, gender inequalities, the greying of populations, among others. This teaching and research unit has organised several lecture series with eminent national and international scholars as resource persons, designed courses, and conducted seminars in the core areas that come under the Chair's purview. The Chair engages in fruitful academic collaborations with renowned institutes of Higher Education in India and abroad.

About the Programme

From colonialism to monolingualism to globalization, cultural vulnerability occurs in and due to many contexts and in many forms. This FDP engages with forms through which cultures and cultural practices become vulnerable, but also develop resilience and resistance. The Programme brings together experts to examine these forms of cultural vulnerability, from language vulnerability and the vulnerability of folk and indigenous cultures to cultural erasure and historical vulnerabilities in the form of war and genocide. Experts will also address acts of resistance to cultural vulnerability in, say, memorial cultures and through multilingualism. The FDP also examines ideas such as 'cultural protection' and global projects such as the 'Memory of the World'. The objective is to foreground methods of reading contexts of cultural vulnerability, cultural memory and cultural resilience when faced with erasure.

For more details visit: www.nittrichyunescofdp2025.edu

Registration Details

- There is a non-refundable registration fee of INR 1500 for faculty members, INR 800 for research scholars and INR 500 for PG Students for this One-Week Online Training Programme.
- On completion, participants will receive e-certificates. All participants are expected to submit the session feedback every day to be awarded with the e-certificates.
- After the payment, participants should fill up the online application form by using the link given below with all required details on or before January 25, 2025.

[Click here to register](#) or scan the QR Code



Programme Convenors

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INAUGURAL REMARKS BY



PROF. G. AGHILA
Director, NIT Tiruchirappalli



MS. EUNSONG KIM
UNESCO New Delhi



PROF. B. J. RAO
Vice Chancellor, UoH

OUR PANEL OF SPEAKERS



PROF. PRAMOD K. NAYAR
University of Hyderabad



PROF. K. NARAYANA CHANDRAN
University of Hyderabad



PROF. RAJESH KUMAR
IIT Madras



MR. STEPHEN STENNING
British Council



PROF. JOLY PUTHUSERY
University of Hyderabad



PROF. ABHIJIT GUPTA
Jadavpur University



PROF. CHARU GUPTA
University of Delhi



PROF. CATHERINE O'LEARY
University of St. Andrews



PROF. LOTHAR JORDAN
UNESCO MoW Programme



DR. PANKAJ SEKHSARIA
IIT Bombay



PROF. MARITA STURKEN
New York University

PROGRAMME CONVENORS



PROF. PRAMOD K. NAYAR
University of Hyderabad



PROF. ANNA KURIAN
University of Hyderabad



DR. V.K. KARTHIKA
NIT Tiruchirappalli

PROGRAMME SCHEDULE

Date	Time	Topic	Resource Person
27/01/2025	10.00 – 11.20	Cultures of Vulnerability / Cultural Vulnerability	Prof. Pramod K. Nayar, FEA, FRHistS UNESCO Chair in Vulnerability Studies, Department of English, University of Hyderabad
	11.30 – 13.00	Vulnerability and Language	Prof. K. Narayana Chandran Department of English, University of Hyderabad
28/01/2025	09.50 – 11.20	Multilingualism, Education and Vulnerability	Prof. Rajesh Kumar Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, IIT Madras
	11.30 – 13.00	Cultural Vulnerability and Cultural Protection	Mr. Stephen Stenning OBE, Director Culture in Action, British Council
29/01/2025	09.50 – 11.20	Folk Cultures and Vulnerability	Prof. Joly Puthussery Centre for Folk Culture Studies, University of Hyderabad
	11.30 – 13.00	Cultural Vulnerability, with Special Reference to Book Burning	Prof. Abhijit Gupta Department of English, Jadavpur University
30/01/2025	09.50 – 11.20	Indigenous Women Healers: Vulnerability and Resistance in Colonial India	Prof. Charu Gupta Department of History, University of Delhi
	11.30 – 13.00	Vulnerability and Memory	Prof. Catherine O’Leary Spanish School of Modern Languages, University of St. Andrews, UK
31/01/2025	09.50 – 11.20	Cultural Desecration	Prof. Pramod K. Nayar, FEA, FRHistS Department of English, University of Hyderabad
	11.30 – 13.00	Vulnerability and the MoW Project	Prof. Lothar Jordan Chair, Sub-Committee on Education and Research (SCEaR) IAC, UNESCO Memory of the World Programme
01/02/2025	09.50 – 11.20	Multi-dimensional Vulnerability in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands	Dr. Pankaj Sekhsaria Centre for Technology Alternatives for Rural Areas, IIT Bombay
	11.30 – 13.00	Reckonings with Violent Pasts: Rethinking the Memorial and the Monument	Prof. Marita Sturken Department of Media Culture and Communication, NYU

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27 January - 01 February 2025



Student Co-ordinators

Ms. Anila V. S. (8078032569)

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NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY TIRUCHIRAPPALLI