



# IDEAS OFFICE OF INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

Fostering Interdisciplinary Engagement Across Social Sciences

Established 2024

## Building a Sustainable, Interdisciplinary Research Ecosystem

Explore disciplinary intersections with creative collaborators and progressive mentorship.

## About IDEAS

The vision of IDEAS, Office of Inter-Disciplinary Studies at O.P. Jindal Global University is to create a university-wide incubator for interdisciplinarity. We provide an interdomain space for cross-pedagogical learning and research, based on core principles of interdisciplinary thought and praxis across social sciences.

Our main (research) mandate shall be to host and sustain a new constellations of research themes that contribute to a dynamic interdisciplinary thoughtarchitecture that goes beyond the normative, applied axes of mainstream scholarship.

## **Our Mission**

Our goal at IDEAS is to identify and match disciplinary interests, and build a supportive environment for ideation and execution of innovative and cutting-edge research that is led both by academic thought and praxis-informed priorities.

Our platform will serve as the foundation on which researchers can explore and build sustainable multidisciplinary connections, both within the University, and also with civil and international partners and reputed institutional collaborators.







Partnering the intellectual diversity within JGU with innovative thinking to address research gaps and needs from the field. Being part of a interdisciplinary research ecosystem through collaborations and mentoring opportunities that guide the mission. Ensuring dissemination of research to relevant stakeholders and capacity building programs for researchers and institutional partners/organizations.

# Introducing IDEAS Research Constellations

The IDEAS Constellations include scholars based across JGU schools, who will work closely to broaden the contours of knowledge production and dissemination. The Constellations are structured to provide a platform for them to converge (and develop) their respective research from multidisciplinary perspectives within a larger umbrella that offers institutional support, mentorship and creative autonomy.

### UNDERSTANDING INDIAN ECONOMY

The constellation strives to bring together meaningful research focusing on aspects of the Indian economy, viz evolution of the economy from a historic perspective; measurement of poverty, and inequality in household and individual outcomes; labour market dynamics; and largely investigating various micro and macro issues of contemporary relevance pertaining to Indian economic growth and development process. To achieve this, constellation the attracts economic applied microeconomists. historians. macroeconomists, and other academics with an interest in deepening their understanding of the Indian economy through different lenses.

Leads: Avanindra Nath Thakur, Mrinalini Jha Members: Ruchira Sen, Sharmin

Khodaiji, Abhishek Sur, Vikash Vaibhav

### JUSTICE, URBAN SYSTEMS AND TECHNOLOGY

The constellation draws on urban studies, social psychology, science and technology studies and sociology to understand the complex interplay between technology, inequalities and social justice within everevolving urban spaces. The aim is to understand urban development through a critical lens, focusing on the processes of urbanization and globalization that shape experiences of urban residents. the Furthermore, it aims to explore questions such as understanding the challenges and possibilities of technology in enabling access to health, and studying the role of public spaces and technology in exacerbating or challenging social inequalities.

**Leads:** Preethi Krishnan, Vidya Subramanian **Members:** Namesh Killemsetty, Chetan Sinha



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**POLITICS, SOCIETY & HISTORY** 

As societies have become culturally, religiously, and ethnically diverse, the politics of identity has assumed greater importance as well has taken new forms. Given the diverse manifestations of identity politics in today's time, this particular constellation aims to draw insights from different disciplines like history, sociology, political science, philosophy, and economics to explore and understand the ever-evolving field of politics, its impact on issues vital to society and their roots in historical processes. Adopting a critical social inquiry approach, the constellation research will combine empirical research, theoretical reflection, and archival work to problematise ideas and raise questions pertaining to the political.

Leads: Ambreen Agha, Kaushalya Bajpayee Members: Swapnil Dhanraj, Gagan Kumar, Dalia Bhattacharjee

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#### **TRANSITIONAL SPACES, CULTURE & MEDIA STUDIES**

This constellation brings together critical interdisciplinary theory and research on social spaces and spatializations, new media, social constructionism of everyday norms and cultural topologies at the interface of cultural studies, sociology, cultural arts, architectural theory, anthropology, media studies, and other diasporic spaces online or in everyday life. Research under this constellation will particularly explore and critique the intersection of new media in our everyday settings, daily lives and environment to understand the construction of contemporary debates around power and truth making, virtual identities, virtual citizenships, socio-spatial spaces on the internet, cultural norms, individual morality and public consciousness.

Leads: Sriti Ganguly, Poulomi Bhadra Member: Sakshi Chindaliya

#### **GEOPOLITICS AND STRATEGIES**

The constellation will work towards developing projects on conflict studies, mitigation and mobility, international relations, security studies and trade and foreign policy focused on global politics, particularly focused on South Asia and China.

Lead: Gunjan Singh Member: Haifa Peerzada

# Experimental Research Design & Pedagogy Methods Lab



## **ABOUT THE HUB**

The constellation intends to co-ordinate and support research, focused on experimental designs but not limited to. This cluster will serve a variety of purposes and can take a number of forms depending on faculty need and interests. It also aims to support for members' ongoing research and projects. This constellation will provide opportunity for cross- disciplinary collaboration and a platform for structured exchange of methodologies across disciplines. This constellation will provide a space for sharing insightful ideas and initiate discussion about their research methods.

Lead: Sarni Jain

Member: Vibha Trivedi

## **OUR FOCUS AREAS**



#### **Consumer Behaviour**

Develop an insight into consumers taste and preferences by exhaustive profiling ofan end-product, from evaluating the alternatives to finally purchasing the product.



#### Decision Making & Consumer Behaviour

Understand the consumers cognitive mindset which deals with selecting various alternatives against the given set of product line.

# **IDEAS** Visiting Fellowship

An opportunity for external scholars with exemplary professional experience and mutual research interests with Constellations to visit campus for a period of 2-4 weeks. This opportunity can be used for collaborating with researchers at JGU-IDEAS and co-ideate alongside our networks for knowledge and capacity-building.



## **EVENTS AT JGU IDEAS**

Beyond the knowledge dissemination and outreach initiatives included within each Constellations' Research Action Plan, the Office will organize a series of flagship events throughout the year. These are meant to both showcase the Office's research and expertise, as well as create a platform for crossfertilization of interdisciplinary exchanges.



An *online capacity building initiative* launched for conducting research training, methodology, and pedagogy-based workshops and short courses, through our expertise within the core research team and external collaborators.

#### Nazariya

A *Critical Dialogue Series* that provides a platform for building knowledge dissemination and connection opportunities for Constellations to external expertise and resources

#### Sāmagāna

In-house *working paper seminar series* to promote in-depth discussion on ongoing IDEAS research and encourage critical engagement and support for the Constellations' work.

#### Swaroop

An **annual conference** feature of JGU-IDEAS. This will provide a platform to showcase the Constellations' work, reinforce the Office's outreach to relevant stakeholders and collaborators, and facilitate new interest and growth in the IDEAS membership and networks.





## **PROF. DEEPANSHU MOHAN**

Dean, Offices of Interdisciplinary Studies (IDEAS) Director, Centre for New Economics Studies, (CNES) Professor of Economics, Jindal School of Liberal Arts and Humanities (JSLH)

Senior Research Fellow, International Institute for Higher Educational Research (IIHED)

## **ASSISTANT DIRECTORS**



### Dr. Namesh Killemsetty

Assistant Director (IDEAS -Research) Assistant Professor (JSGP)



### Dr. Kaushalya Bajpayee

Assistant Director (IDEAS -Research) Associate Professor (JGLS)



## Poulomi Bhadra

Assistant Director (IDEAS -Research Development & International Collaborations) Assistant Professor (JIBS) Assistant Director (CCFS)



#### Dr. Swapnil Dhanraj

Assistant Director (IDEAS -Institutional Partnerships) Associate Professor (JGLS)



#### Dr. Sarni Jain

Assistant Director (IDEAS -Training & Capacity Building) Assistant Professor (JGLS)



#### Dr. Mrinalini Jha

Assistant Director (IDEAS -Training & Capacity Building) Associate Professor (JSBF)

## SENIOR RESEARCH FELLOWS



#### Dr. Namesh Killemsetty

Assistant Professor & Assistant Dean- Program Strategy & Academic Affairs (JSGP)



Dr. Kaushalya Bajpayee Associate Professor (JGLS)



Dr. Avanindra Nath Thakur Professor (JSGP)



Dr. Gagan Kumar Associate Professor (JGLS)



Dr. Ambreen Agha Associate Professor (JSIA)



**Dr. Preethi Krishnan** Associate Professor (JGLS)



Dr. Chetan Sinha Associate Professor (JGLS)



Dr. N. Chandra Bhanu Murthy Assistant Professor (JGLS)



Dr. Swapnil Dhanraj Associate Professor (JGLS)

## **RESEARCH FELLOWS**



#### Dr. Vidya Subramanian

Associate Professor and Associate Dean - Planning and Strategy (JGLS)



## Dr. Ruchira Sen

Associate Professor and Assistant Dean - Admissions & Outreach (JSJC)



**Dr. Abhishek Sur** Associate Professor (JGLS)



Haifa Peerzada Assistant Professor (JGLS)



**Dr. Mrinalini Jha** Associate Professor (JSBF)



**Dr. Gunjan Singh** Associate Professor (JGLS)



**Dr. Sriti Ganguly** Assistant Professor (JSLH)



Poulomi Bhadra

Assistant Professor (JIBS) Assistant Director, Criminology & Forensic Studies (CCFS) Fellow, Centre for India-Australia Studies (CIAS)



**Dr. Sarni Jain** Assistant Professor (JGLS)



Dr. Dalia Bhattacharjee Assistant Professor (JGLS)

## **RESEARCH FELLOWS**



## Sharmin Khodaiji

Assistant Professor (JGLS)



Dr. Vikash Vaibhav Assistant Professor (JGBS)

## FELLOWS



Dr.Vibha Trivedi Assistant Professor (JGBS)



Sakshi Chindaliya Assistant Lecturer (JSLH)

## JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOWS

Doctoral students at JGU will have the opportunity to work with Constellations and IDEAS as Junior Research Fellows. The Office will facilitate the matching of interests and expertise in collaboration with the Office of Doctoral Studies .

## INSTITUTIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

IDEAS will be working with civil society organizations in addressing the problems in the areas of health, education, human rights, and social justice. We are currently in the process of developing our collaboration with civil society and community-based organizations. Our work on this vertical is aimed at developing a solution-oriented approach to social problems and social change in contemporary Indian society.



Child in Need Institute (CINI)



KAIVALYA Education Foundation