



THE DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE - ENGLISH
SRI SATHYA SAI INSTITUTE OF HIGHER LEARNING

IN COLLABORATION WITH

THE UNESCO CHAIR IN VULNERABILITY STUDIES
UNIVERSITY OF HYDERABAD

ORGANISES

A Ten-Day Online Faculty Development Programme

ON

*Literary-Cultural Theory and
Vulnerability Studies*

FROM

6th to 18th March 2026
(5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.)

[Register here](#)

SRI SATHYA SAI INSTITUTE OF HIGHER LEARNING

Founded in 1981, Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Learning (Deemed to be University) is a visible manifestation of its Founder-Chancellor, Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba's vision of "Education for Human Transformation". It provides values-based quality education, free of cost to students. This transformation (of students, teachers and staff) has been the guiding principle right from the inception, when Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Learning integrated ethics and values as the undercurrent of every subject taught at the Institute. The residential system of the Institute, combined with academic and research excellence, guarantees holistic development of the body, mind and spirit of the student in an environment similar to the ancient Indian 'gurukula' system of education, in the modern context.





THE DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE - ENGLISH, SRI SATHYA SAI INSTITUTE OF HIGHER LEARNING

The Department of English is one of the oldest departments of the Institute, evolving with time in tandem with the emerging trends in the field. The department offers B.A. (Hons./ Hons. with Research) in English in line with the New Education Policy and an M.A. in English Language and Literature comprising a contemporaneous, innovative, inclusive and skill-oriented curriculum, bringing together the best of the classical and the modern in English Studies. Additionally, the department has a robust doctoral research programme which contributes effectively to the society at large. The areas of research span a wide spectrum of literary and language studies such as Comparative Poetics, Phenomenological Hermeneutics, Cognitive Poetics, Trauma and Memory Studies, Climate Fiction, Blue Humanities, Narratological Studies, Children's Literature, Eastern Himalayan Studies, Folklore Studies, Indigenous Cultural Studies, Film Studies, and English Language Teaching. The department also facilitates an enriching academic and research experience and exposure to the students through various extension activities. With its dedicated, erudite and inspiring faculty, the Department of English at the Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Learning aims to become a leading centre of academic and research excellence by shaping learners into holistic individuals and competent professionals, through interdisciplinary, literary and linguistic pursuits.

Contact email - events.engdept@sssihl.edu.in

THE UNESCO CHAIR IN VULNERABILITY STUDIES, UNIVERSITY OF HYDERABAD

The UNESCO Chair in Vulnerability Studies, located in the Department of English at the University of Hyderabad, is the outcome of a decade's-long work by the Chairholder Prof. Pramod K. Nayar in the interrelated fields of human rights, literary-cultural studies, environmental crisis, ecological precarity, industrial disasters, species vulnerabilities, and extreme cultures. The Chair provides a theoretical, pedagogic and curricular framework for understanding, teaching and studying the Sustainable Development Goals set by the United Nations. The Chair's objectives include developing a conceptual vocabulary of vulnerability, pedagogic tools and cultural apparatuses to ameliorate, sensitise and prevent an amplification of the multiple vulnerabilities the globe witnesses, and the archiving of a history of contemporary vulnerabilities engendered by climate change, health crisis, gender inequalities, and 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.

Contact email - unescochair-vulnerabilitystudies@uohyd.ac.in



ABOUT THE PROGRAMME

Literary and Cultural Theory, in its plural forms, has always critiqued and called into question a range of vulnerabilities of different kinds and degrees that constitute texts and lives, whether of the proletariat or the new precariat. This Faculty Development Programme (FDP) brings together a group of experts who discuss topics as diverse as Thing Theory and Famine Comics, Plastic Studies and Plant Humanities, Body Studies and Ecocriticism, Urban Studies and Feminism, Animal Studies and Ageing, Care and Wellness and Posthumanism, Memory Studies and Climate Crisis, War in Comics and Food Security, the vulnerable child and the precarity of the mind, and the limits of language and representations in literature. These topics, methods, and schools of thought are nevertheless connected, as they are inquiries into issues that have assumed the force of an urgency that is immediate, at levels ranging from the personal to the planetary. The FDP will foreground how acts of reading are practices that demand a theoretical knowledge and a practical involvement from the reader of texts, who must position themselves at interdisciplinary intersections, while demonstrating the continuing imbrication of discourses, entangled and precarious, dominant and otherwise, in colluding with and/or struggling against hegemonies and marginalities.

Registration details

- There is a non-refundable registration fee (inclusive of GST) of INR 1500 for faculty members, INR 800 for research scholars and INR 500 for PG Students for this Ten-Day Online Faculty Development Programme.
- The participants should complete the online registration and payment by using the link given below **on or before 28th February 2026.**
- After each lecture session, all participants are required to submit the session feedback on all the days of the FDP.
- Upon submission of daily feedback forms, the participants will be awarded e-certificates.

[Register here](#)

Programme Coordinators

Dr Vijayalekshmi R.
Assistant Professor, Department of Languages and
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Ms Sai Archana M.
Teaching Assistant, Department of Languages and
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Programme Convenors



Prof. Rani P. L.,
Professor of English,
Dean, Social Sciences & Humanities
and Languages & Literature,
Sri Sathya Sai Institute
of Higher Learning



Prof. Pramod K. Nayar,
Professor of English
and UNESCO Chair in
Vulnerability Studies,
University of Hyderabad



Dr Maitali Khanna,
Assistant Professor and Head,
Department of Languages
and Literature,
Sri Sathya Sai Institute
of Higher Learning



Prof. Anna Kurian,
Professor of English
and Faculty Fellow, UNESCO Chair
in Vulnerability Studies,
University of Hyderabad



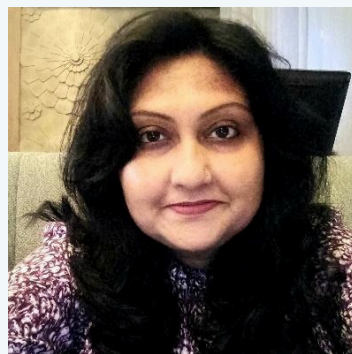
Panel of Speakers



Prof. Pramod K. Nayar
Professor of English
and UNESCO Chair in
Vulnerability Studies,
University of Hyderabad
POSTHUMAN VULNERABILITIES



Dr Priyanka Tripathi
Associate Professor and former Head,
Department of Humanities
and Social Sciences, IIT Patna
AGEIST DISCOURSES



Dr Srirupa Chatterjee
Associate Professor,
Department of Liberal Arts,
IIT Hyderabad
CRITICAL BODY STUDIES



Prof. Susan McHugh
Professor, School of Arts
and Humanities, College of Arts
& Sciences, University of New England, USA
ANIMAL STUDIES



Prof. Ira Raja
Professor, Department of English
University of Delhi
PARTITION LITERATURE



Dr Saurabh Todariya
Assistant Professor
IIIT Hyderabad
STORYTELLING AS HEALING



Dr Vidya Sarveswaran
Associate Professor
School of Liberal Arts, IIT Jodhpur
ECOCRITICAL ENTANGLEMENTS



Dr Svitlana Pidoprygora
Postdoctoral Researcher
University of Innsbruck, Austria
WAR IN COMICS



Dr Isha Dubey
Assistant Professor
Human Sciences Research Centre,
IIIT Hyderabad
URBAN STUDIES



Prof. John C. Ryan
Senior Research Fellow
Nulungu Institute, University of Notre Dame,
Australia
PLANT STUDIES



Panel of Speakers



Prof. Ranjan Ghosh
Department of English
University of North Bengal
PLASTIC HUMANITIES



Dr Partha Bhattacharjee
Assistant Professor, Department of Literature
and Languages, Department of Media Studies
SRM University, Andhra Pradesh
TRAUMA IN SOUTH ASIAN COMICS



Prof. K. Narayana Chandran
Professor of English (Retd)
University of Hyderabad
LANGUAGE AND VULNERABILITY



Dr Shuhita Bhattacharjee
Assistant Professor
Department of Liberal Arts
IIT Hyderabad
THING THEORY



Prof. Sipra Mukherjee
Professor of English
West Bengal State University
MARGINAL LITERATURES



Sri. Argha Manna
Artist-in-Residence, Dr Kiran C. Patel
Centre for Sustainable Development
IIT Gandhinagar
FAMINE COMICS



Prof. Simi Malhotra
Department of English
Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi
MEMORY IN FEMINIST HISTORIOGRAPHY



Prof. Anna Kurian
Professor of English and Faculty Fellow,
UNESCO Chair in Vulnerability Studies,
University of Hyderabad
VULNERABLE CHILD IN LITERATURE



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PROGRAMME ORGANISERS

Doctoral Research Scholars
&
II M.A. Students

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