

<b>Course Title</b>	<b>Biopolitics</b>
<b>Course Code</b>	<b>LCS 130 [ELECTIVE]</b>
<b>No.of Credits</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Name of the Faculty Members(s)</b>	<b>Dilip Kumar Das</b>
<b>Course Description: 150/200 words</b>	Biopolitics, as Michel Foucault defined it in “ <i>Society Must Be Defended</i> ,” is a specifically modern form of political rationality “that has taken control of life in general – with the body as one pole and the population as the other.” Though he was not the first to use the term ‘biopolitics’, he gave it a specific content that is now prominent in interdisciplinary humanities. Briefly, it is about the way in which human life – its value and the need to protect it – has increasingly become an object of political calculation in governance. But which lives are held to be valuable, to be protected as such by the state, and which lives may be sacrificed in the process? The course examines the way this has been posed as a problem in social theory, through readings on biopolitics primarily from Michel Foucault, Giorgio Agamben and Roberto Esposito. Assignments for the course are intended to draw on the theoretical arguments in exploring issues pertaining to the valuation of human life in contemporary politics.
<b>Evaluation</b>	Evaluation will be based on assignments and examinations.

<b>Course Title</b>	<b>Introduction to Stuart Hall</b>
<b>Course Code</b>	<b>LCS 104 [CORE]</b>
<b>No.of Credits</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Name of the Faculty Members(s)</b>	<b>Dr. K. Satyanarayana</b>
<b>Course Description: 150/200 words</b>	The aim of the course is to read Stuart Hall's writings, interviews and interventions and raise questions about the field of cultural studies. As a teacher, public intellectual and leading cultural theorist, Hall contributed to the theoretical debates on culture and the subsequent emergence of cultural studies as a field of study. This course offers a brief overview of the life and thinking of Stuart Hall (1932-2014) and explores how his work and academic practices might offer us a critique of conventional forms of cultural studies.
<b>Evaluation</b>	1. Oral presentation (10%) 2. Two Assignments (2-4 pages) (2x 15% = 30%) 3. Final Exam: Take home (60%)

<b>Course Title</b>	<b>Marx and Marxist Cultural Theory</b>
<b>Course Code</b>	<b>LCS 105 [CORE]</b>
<b>No. of Credits</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Name of the Faculty Members(s)</b>	<b>M. Madhava Prasad</b>
<b>Course Description: 150/200 words</b>	<p>In this course we will read substantial portions of <i>Capital</i> along with some of Marx's early and later writings, as well as important texts of Marxist cultural theory. This course will be of interest to students with an interest in Marxist cultural theory and those who have always wanted to read Marx but never got round to it. After India's turn to full scale capitalism since the early 1990s, understanding capitalist society and culture has become an urgent necessity for us. Till today Marx's analysis of capital and its social and cultural logics remain unsurpassed in their penetrating insights. While much has changed since Marx's time the core of Marx's analysis of capital remains valid even today. Marxist cultural theory, which flourished in the 20th century has been highly influential in both humanities and social science disciplines and any student of these disciplines can scarcely afford to be ignorant of it. We will discuss some representative texts of cultural theory alongside the texts of Marx.</p>
<b>Evaluation</b>	Four reading notes, two presentations and a final take home examination.

<b>Course Title</b>	<b>Debating Violence</b>
<b>Course Code</b>	<b>LCS 128 [ELECTIVE]</b>
<b>No. of Credits</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Name of the Faculty Members</b>	<b>Parthasarathi M</b>
<b>Course Description: 150/200 words</b>	<p>Violence has increasingly become a structuring feature of our contemporary societies. The aim of this course is to revisit the important theoretical discussions/debates around the problem of violence to shed light on our contemporary times. The first module deals with the conceptual field of violence. Remaining modules deal with violence in relation to various topics such as Literary and Visual Representations; Language, Ideology and Discourse; Law and Justice; Nations and Borders; Ordinary Lives; Politics, Resistance and Alterity.</p> <p>Readings Include,</p> <p>Aamir Mufti, Alain Badiou, Achille Mbembe, Pierre Bourdieu, Raymond Williams, Robert Cover, Slavoj Zizek, Karl Marx, Hegel, Frantz Fanon, Fredrich Engels, Walter Benjamin, Jacques Derrida, Giorgio Agamben, Carl Schmitt, Hannah Arendt, Michel Foucault, René Girard, Antonio Gramsci, Sigmund Freud, Etienne Balibar, Judith Butler, Renata Salecl, Jean Jacques Lecercle, W J T Mitchel, Martin Jay etc.</p> <p>Screenings:</p> <p>Spike Lee (1989/English), Do the Right Thing  Krzysztof Kieślowski (1988/Polish), Short Film about Killing  Stephen Frears (2002/English) Dirty Pretty Things  Pushkar&amp; Gayathri (2017/Tamil) Vikram Veda</p>
<b>Evaluation</b>	<p>Internal 40% - Two classroom presentations, one short write up and active Classroom participation.</p> <p>External 60% - Final Assignment/Exam.</p>