

Programme Curriculum

Goa: a space and society to theorise about and to theorise from

Goa is simultaneously a society embedded within the Indian Union and also, in many ways, distinct from the Indian mainstream. For some travellers, it symbolises the exotic Orient, while for others, it is an enclave of Western-influenced modernity with India. It shares a colonial past with India but then not the same colonial past; unlike India's approximately 100 years of British rule, this region's colonisation spanned 450 years of Portuguese rule, which began during the pre-European Enlightenment and ended after more than a decade after India's independence. This long colonial legacy is partly responsible for the region's unique socio-cultural character.

Goa is a society and space that is notoriously elusive to define. Goa conjures up notions of verdant environs, idyllic countryside and golden beaches, earning it the distinction of being India's most popular holiday destination. Many find it surprising to learn that Goa is also India's most urban state. While the coast is popular with tourists, traversing from west to east, one experiences unique – yet networked – ecological niches from the sea to the coast, floodplains, rivers, plateaus and the Western Ghats. Representations of Goa are usually replete with images of Catholic Churches – earning it the title 'The Rome of the East' – however, its population is predominantly Hindu, alongside a significant Muslim population. It is one of India's richest states but also has a history of civil society movements, some of which have witnessed spectacular successes and have generated new debates on what constitutes 'development'. There are numerous attempts to define Goan identity, yet more than a third of the population is diasporic, and it receives twice the number of visitors compared with the resident population. Goa has one of the highest economic growth rates in the country but, ironically, also has a rate of unemployment that is more than double the national average.

This course is based on the premise that Goa is simultaneously a society/space to *theorise about* and to *theorise from*. The seeming paradoxes of history, culture, society and economy that Goa throws up compels researchers and commentators to unpack pre-held conceptual models and propose novel approaches. This kind of academic engagement is useful both in order to make sense of Goa (i.e. *to theorise about Goa*) but can also compel a researcher to re-visit and re-imagine her own personal inquiries in other locales (thus studying Goa becomes a prompt *to theorise from*). This course is a pedagogic exercise designed to prompt re-visiting, unpacking, and reimagining pre-held conceptual frameworks and research interests. It involves a combination of lectures, site visits and reflective exercises.

Programme Curriculum

Week -1

Days	Time	Topic of Lecture / Field Visit	Resource person
<i>History & Heritage</i>			
Monday	09:00 -10:15	Lecture 1: Goa's History & Heritage-1	Prof. Lakshmi Subramanian
	10:15-10:30	Break	
	10 30- 11:45	Lecture 2: Goa's History & Heritage-2	
	11:45-13:00	Reflections	
	13:00-14:30	Lunch	
	14:30-16:30	Field visit: Old Goa & Temple belt	
	16:30-17:00	Reflections	
<i>Culture</i>			
Tuesday	09:00 -10:15	Lecture 1: Goan Literature (At Carpe Diem, Majorda)	Prof. Nilak Datta/ Ms Shona de Silva
	10:15-10:30	Break	
	10 30- 11:45	Lecture 2: Goan dances (At Carpe Diem, Majorda)	
	11:45-13:00	Reflections	
	13:00-14:30	Lunch	
	14:30-16:30	Field visit: Goa Chitra Museum, Benaulim	
	16:30-17:00	Reflections	
<i>People and Culture through Cuisine-1</i>			
Wednesday	09:00 -10:15	Lecture 1: Goan Cuisine	Prof. Amitendu Bhattacharya
	10:15-10:30	Break	
	10 30- 11:45	Workshop: Goan cuisine	
	11:45-13:00	Reflections	
	13:00-14:30	Lunch	
	14:30-16:30	Workshop: Goan Tribal Cuisine	
	16:30-17:00	Reflections	
<i>People and Culture through Cuisine-2</i>			
Thursday	09:00 -10:15	Field Visit: Spice Plantation	Dr. Solano Da Silva
	10:15-10:30	Break	
	10 30- 11:45	Field Visit: Spice Plantation	
	11:45-13:00	Reflections	
	13:00-14:30	Lunch	
	14:30-16:30	Field visit: Feni Museum, Cuelim	
	16:30-17:00	Reflections	
<i>Ecology</i>			
Friday	09:00 -10:15	Lecture 1: Goan Ecology-1	Prof. Rajiv K Chaturvedi/ Dr. Aaron Lobo
	10:15-10:30	Break	
	10 30- 11:45	Lecture 2: Goan Ecology-2	
	11:45-13:00	Reflections	
	13:00-14:30	Lunch	
	14:30-16:30	Field visit: Dr. Salim Ali Bird Sanctuary, Chorao	
	16:30-17:00	Reflections	
Saturday		Break	
Sunday		Break	

Programme Curriculum

Week -2

Days	Time	Topic of Lecture / Field Visit	Resource person
<i>Economy & Land-use</i>			
Monday	09:00 -10:15	Lecture 1: Goa's Economy & Land Use-1	Dr. Solano Da Silva
	10:15-10:30	Break	
	10 30- 11:45	Lecture 2: Goa's Economy & Land Use-2	
	11:45-13:00	Reflections	
	13:00-14:30	Lunch	
	14:30-16:30	Field visit: Panaji through the Ages	
16:30-17:00	Reflections		
<i>Goa in the context of Climate Change</i>			
Tuesday	09:00 -10:15	Lecture 1: Goa's Climate Change Action Plan	Prof. Rajiv K Chaturvedi
	10:15-10:30	Break	
	10 30- 11:45	Field Visit: Urban organic gardens	
	11:45-13:00	Reflections	
	13:00-14:30	Lunch	
	14:30-16:30	Field visit: Art for Conservation	
16:30-17:00	Reflections		
<i>Environment interactions</i>			
Wednesday	09:00 -10:15	Lecture 1: Goa's Khazan System-1	Dr. Sayantani Sarkar
	10:15-10:30	Break	
	10 30- 11:45	Lecture 2: Goa's Khazan System-2	
	11:45-13:00	Reflections	
	13:00-14:30	Lunch	
	14:30-16:30	Field visit: Goa's Khazans and Salt Pans	
16:30-17:00	Reflections		
<i>Goa through Art</i>			
Thursday	09:00 -10:15	Lecture 1: Goan Art-1	Prof. K A Geetha
	10:15-10:30	Break	
	10 30- 11:45	Lecture 2: Goan Art-1	
	11:45-13:00	Reflections	
	13:00-14:30	Lunch	
	14:30-16:30	Workshop: On Art	
16:30-17:00	Reflections		
<i>Handicrafts and Healing</i>			
Friday	09:00 -10:15	Lecture 1: Goa's Traditional Fishers	Prof. Amitendu Bhattacharya
	10:15-10:30	Break	
	10 30- 11:45	Lecture 2: Goa's Weaving culture	
	11:45-13:00	Reflections	
	13:00-14:30	Lunch	
	14:30-16:30	Field visit: Ayurveda	
16:30-17:00	Reflections		
Saturday		Break	
Sunday		Break	