



MHRD – GIAN
Global Initiative for
Academic Network



**Indian Institute of
Technology Delhi**
Department of
Humanities & Social
Sciences

CRITICAL PHILOSOPHY OF RACE

GIAN Certificate Course

13 – 17 November 2017

OVERVIEW

The modern world was formed to a significant extent by slave trade and colonialism which were accompanied by the ideologies of race and racist practices, and resulted in genocides, and enforced migration and segregation of people. These atrocities and racism in many forms continue in the contemporary world, and in many parts racial tensions are on the rise. Critical philosophy of race, a new sub-discipline within philosophy, has developed in an effort to try to understand the persistence of racism and to investigate the relative success of the different strategies deployed to combat it. Drawing on the resources of a variety of disciplines from history and sociology to legal theory and psychotherapy, critical philosophy of race shows that racism is often defined too narrowly. First, the focus tends to fall on biological racism at the cost of its cultural and religious forms. Secondly, the focus also tends to remain on racist acts and slurs to the neglect of the institutional, environmental, and systemic forms that serve to produce those acts and slurs and give them their meanings. These tendencies are often promoted by the limitations of the forms of reasoning used to identify racism, which is why philosophy comes to play a central role in the fight against racism in spite of – and to a certain extent because of – the prominent role of certain canonical Western philosophers, such as Locke, Kant, Hegel, and Nietzsche, in promoting racism. Critical philosophy of race goes beyond critical race theory, which takes its starting-point in legal frameworks and so tends to be nation-based. It also takes a longer historical view because new racisms are layered over and interlaced with old racisms.

One goal of this course is to give participants a familiarity with the present state of discussion of these issues within critical philosophy of race. But critical philosophy of race in its current form can rightly be criticized for taking a perspective that is too heavily Western in orientation and the course also aims to play a role in correcting that narrowness. It will dwell on the relation between race, gender, caste, colonialism and migration. This is an intensive course for which prescribed texts have to be read before commencement. It will discuss political concepts such as intersectionality and biopower, and also study literary articulations of different forms of racism. Participants will be invited to bring their own perspectives to bear so that they can come to understand how they might themselves be able to contribute to ongoing research in this thriving area.

MODULES

The course will be conducted over 1 week with 2 hr. lectures and 2 hr. tutorials daily. Number of participants for the course will be limited to fifty.

Fee (to be paid at CEP IITD after shortlisting):

Students/Research Scholars: Rs. 2000/-

Faculty/Academic Organisations: Rs. 3000/-

Industry/Research Organisations: Rs. 15,000/-

Participants from abroad: US \$ 500/-

Faculty

PROF ROBERT BERNASCONI

Edwin Erle Sparks Professor of Philosophy and African American Studies, Penn State University, USA. His areas of expertise include Nineteenth and Twentieth Century Continental Philosophy (Kant, Hegel, Husserl, Heidegger, Levinas), Critical Philosophy of Race, Social and Political Philosophy, Ancient and Medieval Philosophy, Ethics, and Aesthetics.



DR. DIVYA DWIVEDI

Assistant Professor, Department of Humanities & Social Sciences, Indian Institute of Technology Delhi. Her research interests include Metaphysics, Philosophy of Literature, Narratology and Political philosophy.



TO APPLY

For participants both within and outside IIT Delhi, a one-time fee of Rs.500/- will be charged for registration at the GIAN portal for all future courses in subsequent years.

- LOGIN and APPLY at <http://www.gian.iitkgp.ac.in/GREGN>
- SUBMIT 500-800 words of statement of purpose before 5 October, 2017.

Selected candidates would be informed on October 8, 2017 and required to pay the fee by 14 October 2017

COURSE CO-ORDINATOR

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