



Three Weeks Workshop on Geographical Methods

Venue

**Department of Geography,
Presidency University,
86/1, College Street, Kolkata - 700 073
West Bengal, India**

Workshop duration

4th December - 22nd December, 2017

organised by

**Department of Geography,
Presidency University, Kolkata**

Kindly contact for queries / registration application to:

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The Workshop's ethos...

Geographical research needs broad-based yet detailed understanding of inter-related phenomena, often spanning multiple spatio-temporal scales, which may be analysed through a slew of methods. The continual emergence of new instruments, geospatial datasets of different resolutions and the growing interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary nature of the subject too has made it incumbent for researchers to be aware of and be able to utilise wide ranging analytical skills to extract, visualise, analyse and present their findings. Workshops where such analytical skills are imparted in a hands-on manner through practical examples, with detailed explanations of the theoretical constructs that underlie them, present ideal opportunities to learn, interact, refine and resolve research ideas.

About the Department

The Department of Geography is one of the oldest such departments in the country, with its genesis in the 1949-50 academic session as part of the erstwhile Presidency College. Geography at Presidency University comes under the Faculty Council of Natural and Mathematical Sciences and only offers BSc (Honours) and MSc in Geography. The most recent taught syllabi was introduced from the 2014-15 academic session onwards, to meet the requirements of modern undergraduate and postgraduate courses in Geography, which seek to instill an understanding of the theoretical aspects while fostering marketable skills that may be applied in solving socio-environmental problems. The Department further offers a number of General Education courses for students majoring in other disciplines and has also commenced a Doctoral Programme since 2014.

The Department is driven by the following Vision:

To lead the development of academic, educational and research directions of human and natural systems, land cover/and land use change and geospatial information science, harnessing the integrative nature of geographic science to answer fundamental questions of global importance.

Towards this, the Mission of the Department remains committed wholeheartedly to:

- Conducting integrative research in Geographic Science across spatial scales with emphasis on geospatial perspectives of social and environmental issues in our country
- Equipping undergraduate and graduate students to meet the challenges in procuring and handling information necessary for policy making research
- Pursuing Geography as an academic and professional discipline to develop critical thinking, creativity and integrity among students to enable to thrive as individuals and professionals who make meaningful contributions towards society

About the Workshop

In keeping with the Department's goals, a **Three Weeks Workshop on Geographical Methods** has been organised, keeping in mind the rigorous demands and exacting standards to be met for conducting and publishing research at the international level in peer-reviewed, high impact factor journals of repute. The Workshop is three-pronged in nature, with detailed focus on-

i) Geospatial Information Utilisation ii) Statistical Data Analysis iii) Field & Laboratory Methods

These three facets are important for almost all geographical enquiries. Thus a Workshop where their aspects can be imbibed in a hands-on, collaborative manner, seems the ideal environment to inculcate new knowledge and nurture new research. The substantial length of the Workshop provides enough time to interact with the resource persons and experts on hand, follow up on instructed matter and self-teach other related concepts.

Workshop schedule and facilities available

The Workshop shall be held continuously from 4th December, 2017 till 22nd December, 2017, with breaks on intervening Sundays only. The tentative outline of the Workshop is as follows:

- **First week – Geospatial Techniques**
- **Second Week – Geospatial Techniques (concluding part) and Statistical Data Analysis**
- **Third Week – Statistical Data Analysis (concluding part) and Field & Laboratory Methods**

The Department has a state-of-the-art Geospatial Laboratory (with high speed internet connectivity, dedicated high-end computer systems and multiple licenses of geospatial industry preferred softwares) and dedicated Laboratories for Earth Materials Analysis (soil and water samples), along with precision land and hydrographic survey equipment and modelling apparatus (Total Stations, Bathymetry and Tide Gauges, Stream Tables). Participants shall be required to carry their own laptops for completing given exercises, outside instruction hours, for their timely submission.

Resource Persons

A number of reputed resource persons shall be on hand to instruct on the tripartite themes.

Geospatial Techniques: Dr. N. Neeti (TERI University), Dr. Mahesh Kumar Jat (Malviya NIT), Dr. Biswajit Giri and Dr. Basudeb Bhatta (Jadavpur University), Dr. Joy Sanyal and Dr. Koel Roychowdhury (Presidency University)

Statistical Data Analysis: Prof. Indrani Roychowdhury (JNU), Prof. Diganta Mukherjee (ISI, Kolkata), Dr. Saswata Ghosh (IDS, Kolkata), Prof. Sanat Kumar Guchhait (University of Burdwan), Prof. Mousumi Dutta, Dr. Atanu Kumar Ghosh, Dr. Saurav De (Presidency University, Kolkata)

Field & Laboratory Methods: Prof. Soumendu Chatterjee, Dr. Suranjana Banerji, Dr. Mery Biswas, and Dr. Priyank Pravin Patel (Presidency University, Kolkata)

Target participants and the application process

A total of **thirty seats** are on offer at the Workshop, and are solely intended for researchers who have a track record of published work in reputed, peer-reviewed journals and have presented the same at national and international conferences. Researchers in various stages of their doctoral and postdoctoral studies, career academicians and college and university teachers, who indulge in continuous research activities, are warmly requested to apply for the above Workshop. The final list of participants shall be drawn up on the basis of the applicant's publication track record, educational history and desire for engaging continuously in geographic research related activities. The guidelines and dates for the application process are as follows -

- **Period for submitting applications:** 15th November to 25 November, 2017
- **Notification of Final List of selected participants:** 27th November, 2017
- **Return mail from selected participants confirming participation:** 30th November, 2017
- **Workshop commencement date and submission of Demand Draft:** 4th December, 2017

Selected Participants shall be required to submit a **Demand Draft of Rs. 3,000/-** (Rupees Three Thousand only) **on the day of commencement of the Workshop** at the Department of Geography, Presidency University, Kolkata. **The Demand Draft of amount Rs. 3,000/- should be drawn in favour of "Presidency University" and be payable at Kolkata.** No TA/DA shall be provided to the Participants attending the Workshop. No accommodation shall be provided to out-station Participants, who shall however, be assisted in arranging the same. The Workshop timings shall be from 10:00 a.m. till 5:00 p.m. on all days, with a short break for lunch in between, which may be availed of by the Participants themselves, on payment, at the various University canteens.