



In addition to part-I (General Handout for all courses appended to the time table) this portion gives further specific details regarding the course.

*Course No.* : HSS F361  
*Course Title* : Urban Policy and Governance  
*Instructor-in-Charge* : Harsh Mittal

### **Scope and Objective of the Course:**

The 'urban' constitutes an important scale and space for the study of public policy and governance as it brings to surface the complexity of our most pressing social, economic, and environmental issues. The objective of the course would be to understand urban issues through multiple case studies from various Indian cities, and thus help participants develop a perspective on the urban policy and governance challenges. Through case-studies, we would assess the usefulness of various concepts in understanding the urban processes in the Global South. These include: urbanization, suburbanization, agglomeration, urban sprawl, core-periphery, primate city, right to city and various drivers of urbanization. In our discussions, we would bring in the unique institutional elements (constitutional and others) in Indian (and other South Asian) contexts that have shaped and influenced urban processes.

### **Pedagogy:**

Lectures would be minimum. Classroom meetings would mostly be used for discussion and exercises. There would be extensive group work informing classroom meetings and assessments.

### **Text Book (TB)**

Amita Bhide and Himanshu Burte (eds.) 2018: *Urban Parallax: Policy and the City in Contemporary India*. Delhi: Yoda Press

### **Reference Book (RB):**

RB1: Srivastava, S., 2014. *Entangled urbanism: Slum, gated community, and shopping mall in Delhi and Gurgaon*. Oxford University Press

RB2: Jacob, B. and Jacob, S., 2022. *Governing Locally: Institutions, Policies and Implementation in Indian Cities*. Cambridge University Press.

RB3: Coelho, K., Kamath, L. and Vijayabaskar, M. eds., 2013. *Participolis: consent and*



*contention in Neoliberal Urban India*. Taylor & Francis.



## Course Plan:

Lec No.	Learning objectives	Topics to be covered	Material
1-3	To recognize the urban as a unique space of policy and governance action	Why an urban focus to policy and governance?	Textbook, Chapter one  Cochrane, Allan (2020). Urban Policy. In: Kobayashi, Audrey ed. <i>International Encyclopedia of Human Geography 2nd edition</i> , Volume 14. Elsevier, pp. 93–96.
4-12	To appreciate particularities of the India's 'urban' moment in economic, social, cultural, and political dimensions	Economic analysis of urbanization – agglomeration  Urban processes- assimilation, segregation, differentiation, suburbanization,	Textbook, Chapter two
		Factors of urbanization-  Natural growth, migration and re-classification	Textbook, Chapter three  Youtube Video: <a href="#">Urbanization from within: Circular migration and the subversive non-farm economy in "rural" Bihar - YouTube</a>
		Urban as space of political agency	Auerbach, A.M. and Thachil, T., 2022. <i>Migrants and Machine Politics</i> . In <i>Migrants and Machine Politics: How India's Urban Poor Seek Representation and Responsiveness</i> . Princeton University Press. Pg. 1-18
		Sociological study of urban	RB1, chapter one
		Urban processes connected to land, economy and municipalities	Benjamin, S., 2005. Touts, pirates and ghosts. <i>Sarai reader</i> , 5, pp.242-254.
		Urban as space of politico-cultural action	RB1, Chapter eight and nine  Patil, Varun. "Theorising Contestations over Decongesting Street Economies: Beyond Narratives of Inevitable Dispossession and Shared Commons." <i>The Social Life of Streets in India: Histories, Contestations and Subjectivities</i> (2022): 219.
13-19	To learn about the crucial local governance institutions in Indian cities	Municipal acts  Institution of municipal engineers	Mittal, Harsh and Solomon Benjamin (forthcoming). "Entangled realms of Urban Policy and Governance." In <i>Cities Untold: Spatial Stories, Negotiations and Imaginations</i> , edited by

		<p>Councilors</p> <p>Gender and municipal leadership</p>	<p>Solomon J. Benjamin and FF Collective. India since the 90s. Tulika Books.</p> <p>RB2, Chapter one, three, and four</p> <p>RB3, chapter four</p> <p>Björkman, L., 2018. The engineer and the plumber: Mediating Mumbai's conflicting infrastructural imaginaries. <i>International Journal of Urban and Regional Research</i>, 42(2), pp.276-294.</p> <p>Tanya Jakimow (2019) The “Servants” of Dehradun: A Changing Relationship between Municipal Councillors and Voters in India, <i>Journal of Contemporary Asia</i>, 49:3, 389-409,</p>
20-24	To familiarize with the key policy interventions in Indian context	<p>Urban policy history in India</p> <p>JNNURM</p> <p>AMRUT</p> <p>Smart Cities Mission</p> <p>Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban)</p>	<p>Shetty, P. (2014, April). Notes from the Mission. <i>BARD Studio</i>.<a href="https://bardstudio.in/notes-from-the-mission/">https://bardstudio.in/notes-from-the-mission/</a></p> <p>Benjamin, S., 2010. Manufacturing neoliberalism: lifestyling Indian urbanity. <i>Accumulation by dispossession: Transformative cities in the new global order</i>, pp.92-124.</p> <p>Mittal, Harsh, George Kandathil, and Navdeep Mathur. 2023. “Beyond the Technology-Centric and Citizen-Centric Binary: Ontological Politics of Organizing in Translation of the Smart City Discourse in India.” <i>Organization</i> 0 (0): 1-20</p> <p>Truelove, Yaffa, and Kathleen O’Reilly. "Making India’s cleanest city: Sanitation, intersectionality, and infrastructural violence." <i>Environment and Planning E: Nature and space</i> 4, no. 3 (2021): 718-735.</p>
25-29	To understand the constitutional amendments with regards to urban governance and associated debates	The constitutional and political dimensions of urbanization in India;	<p>Textbook, Chapter seven</p> <p>Sivaramakrishnan, K. C. "Revisiting the 74th Constitutional Amendment for better metropolitan governance." <i>Economic and Political Weekly</i> (2013): 86-94.</p>
30-34	To familiarize with ongoing debates around	Fiscal federalism	RB2, Appendix 2A and Chapter six

	decentralization and citizen participation in urban governance	Municipal Bonds Citizen Participation Industrial Township	Textbook, Chapter eleven RB3, Chapter one and five De Bercegol, R., 2017. Section 2.2.2: Towns and Cities in a Poor State: urban Imbalances and Poor Services. In <i>Small Towns and Decentralisation in India</i> . Springer.
35-40	To understand how the digital technology is shaping urban policy and governance	Future of urbanization in India. Big-data collection in governance	Datta, A. (2020). Self(ie)-governance: Technologies of intimate surveillance in India under COVID-19. <i>Dialogues in Human Geography</i> , 10(2), 234–237.

### Evaluation Scheme:

Sl. No.	Component	Duration	Weightage (%)	Date & Time	Nature of Component
01.	Project - 1 <sup>st</sup> submission	-	15	Brief would be shared along with all deadlines	Open Book; Involves group work and <b>continuous assessment</b>
02.	Mid term	90 minutes	25	10/10 - 2.00 - 3.30PM	Closed Book
03.	Project- final submission	-	25	TBA	Open Book; Involves group work and <b>continuous assessment</b>
04.	Comprehensive	180 minutes	35	11/12 FN	Partially Open Book

**Chamber Consultation Hour:** Chamber Number K-101, HSS Department, Time: 3:30-5 pm, Tuesday and Thursday.

**Notices:** Google classroom will be used for notices and circulation of material

**Make-up Policy:** The make-up for an evaluation component will be given only in genuine cases.

**Academic Honesty and Integrity Policy:** Academic honesty and integrity are to be maintained by all the students throughout the semester and no type of academic dishonesty is acceptable.

Harsh Mittal  
**INSTRUCTOR-IN-CHARGE**

