

Department of Humanities and Social Sciences IIT Kanpur



A Research Scholars' Conference (2026)

7th and 8th February, 2026

Theme

Humanity in Transition: Creativity, Consciousness, and Society in a Changing World

Anviksha

Theme

Humanity in Transition: Creativity, Consciousness, and Society in a Changing World

We are living in a rapidly changing world. For the last many decades, the contemporary world has been undergoing fundamental shifts and transformations in the social structures, systems, organisations, institutions, values, norms, and functions of a society. These social changes are often driven by technological breakthroughs, the penetration of social media, economic globalisation, ecological crises, war, disease, disorder, and so on, along with shifts in cultural and social paradigms. As artificial intelligence, machine learning and digital media reconfigure collective consciousness, as ecological problems demand new ethical perspectives, and as emerging technological advancements challenge established notions of agency, identity, and creativity, we appear to stand at a critical threshold. These transitions in society at the multiscalar levels are reshaping the ways in which human beings think, create, relate, and exist. It is a profound change widely affecting all aspects of social relations and the culture of any society. In this backdrop, this conference reflects the interconnectedness of the human experience and the different dimensions in a changing world that collectively define what it means to be human and being.

This conference invites doctoral scholars to explore the evolving landscape of human experience through interdisciplinary lenses. We seek extended abstracts (up to 800 words) that critically engage with how creativity, consciousness, and social structures are being redefined in this transitional era, offering meaningful insights into our endeavours, existence, and well-being.

Sub-themes for the conference include, but are not limited to:

- Literary Humanities and Globalisation
- Epidemics and Human Sciences
- Environment, Climate, and Sustainability
- Spatial Imaginaries: Embodiment, Boundaries, and Speculative Worlds
- Crisis, Resistance and Solidarities
- Narrative Innovations and Changing Literary Genres
- Future of work: precarity, creativity, and automation
- Global Capitalism and Labour in Relation to Justice and Inequality
- Linguistic Change in a Transitional World
- Memory, Creativity, and Cultural Reinvention
- Language Learning and Teaching Practices in Transition
- From Matter to Meaning in Shaping Human Consciousness
- Temporality and Spatial Transformations
- Interrelations between Manual and Mechanical Production
- Art Education through Transition
- Sensory Memory and Immersive Experiences
- Art in the Age of AI-led Reproduction
- Problems of Mind, Machines, Knowledge and AI Situated in the World
- Philosophical Logic, Language, and Science in the Age of Intelligent Technologies
- Epistemic and Data Justice in the Politics of the Changing World
- Transitioning Ecology and Moral Responsibility
- The Dialectics of Nature and Culture
- Aesthetics of Impermanence
- Philosophical and Existential Problems: Critiques of Digital World
- Organizational Psychology and Ethics in the Changing Workplace
- Psychosocial Negotiations of Life, Identity, and Community Transitions among Vulnerable Groups

- Behavioural, Personality, Motivational and Cognitive Dimensions of Creativity
- Shifting Political Frameworks in Mental Healthcare
- Human Affect and Cognition in Typical and Atypical Populations
- Innovative Technology Assisted Interventions for Psychological Disorders
- Energy Transition for Achieving Sustainability
- Shifting Dimensions in Urban and Rural Societies
- Changing Roles of Gender in Society
- Role of Social Control in Transitioning Societies

Important Dates:

- Deadline for Abstract Submission: December 20, 2025
- Notification of Acceptance: January 04, 2026
- Conference Dates: February 07-08, 2026

Registration fee: Rs. 800/- per presenter (Includes accommodation for one speaker per presentation on twin sharing basis as well as lunch and dinner during the two days of the conference)

Travel Allowance: Rs. 2000/- per presenter (Applicable only for one speaker per presentation on a reimbursable basis)

Link to abstract submission form: https://forms.gle/Gsh9FQjmpxjuVAaZ9

For queries, email us @arsciitk.26@gmail.com