

Course: Legal Literacy and Application in India Orientation

Semester: 5th

Credits: 4

Course Coordinator: Ishita Mehrotra (ishita.mehrotra@aud.ac.in)

Course Description: The course, Legal Literacy and Application in India, cuts across law, development and political studies. This course will explore how law operates as a system of political, economic and social control; as a tool to bring about a certain type of development; and, increasingly, how law serves as a site for reform through popular pressure. Understanding this today is particularly important in the Indian context, given the political dispensation in recent times which has resorted to the language of rights, to building laws as a development strategy itself and given the current scenario where law and development has morphed into this fuzzy category of governance understood as providing a technical fix which could imply anything – digitisation, simplification of laws or just doing away with rigid and obsolete laws.

Topics:

Understanding Constitutionalism and Constitutional Law

Law and Development: Polity (State)

Law and Development: Economy (Land and Labour)

Law and Development: Society (Caste and Gender)

Suggested Readings:

Mody, Zia. 2013. *10 Judgements that Changed India*. New Delhi: Penguin Group.

Khosla, Madhav, et al. 2016. *The Oxford Handbook of the Indian Constitution*. New Delhi: OUP.

Hasan, Zoya. Et al (eds.). 2002. *India's Living Constitution: Ideas, Practices, Controversies*. New Delhi: Permanent Black.

Benegal, Shyam. 2014. *Samvidhan*. Rajya Sabha TV (visual text).

Menon, Nivedita, ed. 1999. *Gender and Politics in India*. New Delhi: OUP.

Unit-wise readings will be given in class.

Evaluation: Mid-Sem Exam (40%), Presentation (20%), End-Sem Exam (40%)