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Lectures & Conferences

Invited Lectures and Panels

Dec 2025	“Lifting the Veil: Human Labor behind Artificial Intelligence,” University of Connecticut (Course: Society in a Global Perspective, Dr. Bandana Purkayastha)
Nov 2025	“Feminist Scholars and Global Advocacy at the United Nations,” Bloomfield College of Montclair State University, New Jersey.
Nov 2025	“Technology and Education in India: An Access Problem.” Southfield College, Darjeeling, India (Seminar organized by Sociology and Education departments)
Mar 2025	“High-Income Cheap Labor: Indian Immigrant Tech Workers in the US.” University of Massachusetts, Amherst (Course Sociol 244: Sociology of Immigration).
Aug 2023	Panel: How to Conduct Research Internationally and Navigate the US Academy as an International Academic, SWS Summer Meeting, Philadelphia.
Mar 2023	“Indian Women in Tech: Workplace, Communities and Unions.” Women’s and Gender Studies Lecture Series, International Women’s Day Panel: “Gender and Technology: The Digital Divide and Women in Tech.” Eastern Michigan University.
Jan 2023	“Milestones in Graduate School.” Proseminar for the first-year graduate students in Sociology, University of Connecticut (Coordinator: Andrew Deener)
Mar 2022	“Creating Bridges rather than Building Walls: Feminist Activism.” Mini conference organized by the Sociologists for Women in Society (East) at the Eastern Sociological Society Annual Meeting (online)
Feb 2022	“Tech Industry in India and Indian Tech Workers.” Undergraduate course on India Studies, Department of Sociology, University of Connecticut (Course coordinator: Manisha Desai)
Oct 2021	“Doing Interdisciplinary Research: Opportunities and Challenges.” School of Liberal Arts and Culture Studies, Adamas University, Kolkata, India (online).
Oct 2021	“Writing across Disciplines: Paradigms and Practices.” Department of English, Banaras Hindu University, Benares, India (online).
Apr 2021	“Human Rights for Posthumans: Social Media, Surveillance and Privacy.” Department of Mass Communication, St. Xavier’s University, Kolkata, India (online).
Feb 2021	“Tech Industry in India: A Tale of Hope and Resistance.” Undergraduate course on India Studies, Department of Sociology, University of Connecticut (Course coordinator: Manisha Desai)
Feb 2021	“Social Media Surveillance: Who is Watching us in the Digital Age?” Department of Journalism and Mass Communication, Jagran Lakecity University, Bhopal, India (online).

Conference Presentations

Sep 2025	“Reclaiming the Space, If Not the Rights: How Indian Tech Workers Unionize against Corporate Takeover of Urban Spaces.” Society for Social Studies of Science, Seattle, Washington, USA (presented online).
Aug 2025	“From Workers to Elite Citizens: Indian Tech Workers’ Identity Spectrum in Activism.” American Sociological Association (Labor and Labor Movements Section Paper Session), Chicago, Illinois, USA.
Aug 2025	“Indian Tech Workers’ Identity Discourses in Activism in India and the United States.” Society for the Study of Social Problems, Chicago, Illinois, USA.

Jul 2025	“A Gendered Subclass within the CEO MDR: Indian Tech Workers on ‘Nonimmigrant’ Visas in the United States.” International Sociological Association, Rabat, Morocco (presented online).
Apr 2025	“Protector or Pacifier? The Role of the State in Regulating Artificial Intelligence.” Southern Sociological Society, Charlotte, North Carolina, USA.
Mar 2025	“Highly Skilled but Not Empowered: Indian Women in Tech in the Context of Beijing Platform for Action.” Sociologists for Women in Society, Parallel Event at United Nations 69 th Commission on the Status of Women, New York City, USA (presented online).
Mar 2025	“Ideal and Aspiring Citizens: Indian Tech Workers Organizing against Informalized Work in India and the United States.” Eastern Sociological Society Annual Conference, Boston, Massachusetts, USA.
Apr 2024	“Covert Carcerality: How Racialized Tech Workers’ Privilege Disguises Coercion.” British Sociological Association Annual Meeting (Virtual).
Jan 2024	“Privilege as Evidence of Inequality: Queering the Methodologies of Studying High-Skilled and High-Wage Indian Tech Workers.” Roundtable at Sociologists for Women in Society, Santa Ana Pueblo, New Mexico.
Sep 2023	“Logging into In-Person Protests: How Indian Tech Workers’ Unions Grapple with Remote Work.” Work, Employment and Society, British Sociological Association, Glasgow, UK.
Jul 2023	“Unseen by All: The Invisibility of High-Skilled Temporary Indian Immigrants in the US during Covid.” Loreto College, Department of Geography, Kolkata, India. (Second presenter: Bandana Purkayastha)
Jun 2023	“‘Online is Just a Backup’: Shortcomings of Virtual Protests for Tech Workers’ Unions in India.” International Sociological Association (RC 44), World Congress of Sociology, Melbourne, Australia.
Jun 2023	“To Wear or Not to Wear: Hijab, Feminists, and Fundamentalists.” International Sociological Association, World Congress of Sociology, Melbourne, Australia. (First presenter: Manisha Desai)
Feb 2023	“Seeking Change for Dignity: High-skilled Indian Immigrant Women’s Activism in the US.” Eastern Sociological Society, Baltimore, US.
Jan 2023	“Expanding the Diversity Framework: High-Skilled Indian Women Immigrants Organizing in the US.” Roundtable at SWS Winter Meeting, New Orleans, US.
Aug 2022	“Politics, Insularity and Comparative Precarity: Why Indian Tech Workers Tend to Avoid Unions” Paper Session at ASA Annual Meeting, Labor and Labor Movement Section, Los Angeles, US.
Aug 2022	“Fighting Precarity with Politics: How Indian Tech Unions Mobilized during the COVID-19 Pandemic.” Paper Session at Mini Conference, ASA Labor and Labor Movement Section, Los Angeles, US.
Jun 2022	“The Local Turn in Transnational Movements: How Indian Tech Unions Organize.” Alternative Futures and Popular Protest, University of Manchester (Movements@Manchester) (virtual).
May 2022	“Local Networks, Global Reflections: Solidarity in Indian Tech Unions.” Global South Graduate Student Conference. George Mason University (virtual)
Mar 2022	“Retelling Precarity: Analyzing Indian and Asian Indian Migrant Worker Experiences during COVID-19 Pandemic across Space and Occupational structure.” Boston Migration Workshop, Boston University (Soma Chaudhuri [first presenter], Elizabeth Chacko, Deepa Ebenezer, Bandana Purkayastha, Rianka Roy, Paromita Sanyal, S. Anandhi and Jaita Talukdar) (virtual)
Jan 2022	“Empowering Women the Neoliberal Way: Women’s Tech Groups in India.” Roundtable at <i>Sociologists for Women in Society</i> (virtual).

Sep 2021	“Precarity, Marginality and Solidarity: Indian Women-in-Tech during the Pandemic.” Feminism(s) in the Age of Covid-19 and beyond. University of Luxembourg, Faculty of Humanities, Education and Social Sciences (virtual).
Aug 2021	“Scholars Denied: The Theoretical Praxis of Savitribai Phule and the Women Activists of Satya Shodhak Samaj (Truth Seeker Society).” Scholar Activism and the History of Sociology: Celebrations, Critiques and Futures Past (sponsored by the ASA section on the History of Sociology and Social Thought) (Manisha Desai [first presenter] and Rianka Roy)
Apr 2021	“Between Nations and Rights: Transnational Tech Workers in India through the Pandemic.” Session: Working for ‘America’: Transnational Workers during the Pandemic. <i>Southern Sociological Society</i> (virtual).
Jan 2021	“Compliance, Resistance and Solidarity: Women-in-tech in India during the COVID-19 Pandemic.” Roundtable at <i>Sociologists for Women in Society</i> (virtual).
Aug 2020	“Social Distance and Digital Resistance: What Hyperdigitalization Brings to Indian Tech-Workers During the COVID-19 Pandemic.” Panel: <i>South Asia Communication Association</i> . Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Annual Conference (virtual).
Jan 2020	“Women in Tech Jobs: Cultural Anxiety and Workplace Heteronormativity in India.” Roundtable at <i>Sociologists for Women in Society</i> . San Diego, US.
Jan 2020	“Colonial Crisis and Digital Dilemma: Encoding Bengali as a Second Language.” Panel: <i>Digital Approaches to Second Language Writing</i> , organized by Modern Language Association. Seattle, US.
Jan 2020	“Digital Biopolitics and Surveillance at Workplace: Indian Tech Workers’ Perspectives.” Panel: <i>Being Human, Technology and New Media</i> , organized by Modern Language Association. Seattle, Washington, USA.

Discussant/Presider/Organizer

Organizer/Presider

Jul 2025	Paper session: “Tech Workers in Current Times: Contexts, Identities, and Action.” International Sociological Association, Rabat, Morocco.
Jul 2025	Paper session: “Between Piety and Protests: The Impacts of Religions and Fundamentalism and Attacks on Gender: Part 1.” International Sociological Association, Rabat, Morocco.
Jul 2025	Paper session: “Doing the Work of Decolonization” (co-organizer: Bandana Purkayastha). International Sociological Association, Rabat, Morocco.
Oct 2024	Professional workshop: “Navigating the Job Market in the US,” South Asian Sociologist, Community Supported by the American Sociological Association (online, co-organizer: Debadatta Chakrabarty).
Apr 2021	Paper session: “Working for ‘America’: Transnational Workers during the Pandemic.” Southern Sociological Society. (online)
Jan 2021	Paper session: “Persistence in the Digital World: Rights, Movements, Knowledge and Humanities.” Modern Language Association, 2021. (online) (Session selected for inclusion in the ‘MLA Presidential Theme’ by Judith Butler.)

Discussant

Aug 2021	Panel: “Women Empowerment and Gendered Communication in India.” South Asia Communication Association, Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication. (online)
Jul 2021	Talk (with Dr. Bryan Greene): “Pan-Africanism.” Department of Political Science, Surendranath College for Women, Kolkata, India (online)
Aug 2020	Panel: “Enhancing Media in South Asia and its Diaspora.” South Asia Communication Association, Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication. (online)

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