Scheme for Promotion of Academic and Research Collaboration (SPARC)

Sponsored Workshop

on

Precarity and Human Life: Reflections of Artificial Intelligence in Literature and Popular Culture

Date: 11th-12th November 2024
Venue: Department of Humanities and Social Sciences
Indian Institute of Technology Patna

Resource Persons

Prof. Janet M Wilson
University of Northampton

Prof. Nirmala Menon
Indian Institute of Technology Indore

Prof. Maya Dodd
FLAME University Pune

Dr. Prabha S Dwivedi
Indian Institute of Technology Tirupati

Dr. Sweta Sinha
Indian Institute of Technology Patna

Prof. Nagendra Kumar
Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee

Dr. Rajendra N Paramanik
Indian Institute of Technology Patna

Dr. Argha Basu
SRM University Chennai

Organizer
Dr. Priyanka Tripathi
Indian Institute of Technology Patna

Concept Note

In the Anthropocene, as we face unprecedented ecological and social challenges, artificial intelligence (AI) has rapidly reshaped our lives and intensified precarity. Literature and popular culture offer a critical lens to examine the complex interplay between AI and human existence, as well as the societal structures that shape this relationship. What does it mean to be human in an AI-dominated world? Cultural narratives, from literature to cinema, provide an unsettling yet crucial space to explore these existential questions. Other intersecting domains, such as language, policy, and economics, are essential for a comprehensive understanding of precarity, each contributing to the broader precarity quotient. While this workshop focuses on the reflections of precarity in literature and popular culture, it also seeks to interrogate the wider crises that exacerbate these conditions. By adopting an interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary approach, this workshop offers a unique opportunity to explore precarity's multifaceted manifestations, both within cultural narratives and across broader societal structures.

Digital humanities play a pivotal role in examining how AI shapes various dimensions of society, providing tools to analyze vast datasets of texts, cultural artifacts, and other forms of media in ways that were previously unimaginable. Through AI-driven analysis, scholars can identify patterns, biases, and trends across multiple fields, shedding light on how AI is represented, critiqued, and integrated into broader societal frameworks. Moreover, digital humanities methodologies facilitate a critical examination of AI's impact on cultural production and social structures, revealing shifts in narrative forms, thematic concerns, and the representation of human experience in an increasingly digitized world. Through this interdisciplinary lens, digital humanities help bridge the gap between technological advancements and their societal implications, offering a deeper understanding of how AI reconfigures the socio-cultural precarity in contemporary contexts. This workshop thus facilitates a critical examination of how AI intersects with multiple forms of precarity, offering a comprehensive lens through which to explore the redefinition of human experience in the face of rapid technological change.

Day 1: 11th November 2024	
TIME	EVENTS
9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.	Registration
10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	Inaugural Session
11:00 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.	Lecture 1: Prof. Janet M Wilson, University of Northampton
12:00 p.m. - 12:45 p.m.	Lecture 2: Prof. Nirmala Menon, IIT Indore
12:45 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.	Lunch
3:00 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.	Lecture 3: Prof. Maya Dodd, FLAME University Pune
3:45 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Tea Break
4:00 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.	Lecture 4: Dr. Prabha S Dwivedi, IIT Tirupati
5:00 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.	Panel Discussion: AI, Precarity, and Cultural Narratives Moderator: Dr. Priyanka Tripathi, IIT Patna Panelists: Prof. Janet M Wilson, University of Northampton Prof. Nirmala Menon, IIT Indore Prof. Maya Dodd, FLAME University Dr. Rajendra N Paramanik, IIT Patna
DAY 2: 12th November 2024	
10:00 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.	Lecture 5: Prof. Nagendra Kumar, IIT Roorkee
11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Lecture 6: Dr. Argha Basu, SRM University Chennai
12:00 p.m. - 12:30 p.m.	Tea Break
12:30 p.m. - 01:00 p.m.	Book Discussion: *Practices of Digital Humanities in India: Learning by Doing* (2024), edited by Maya Dodd and Nirmala Menon Moderator: Dr. Priyanka Tripathi, IIT Patna
01:00 p.m. - 02:00 p.m.	Lunch
02:15 p.m. - 03:15 p.m.	Lecture 7: Dr. Rajendra N Paramanik, IIT

	Patna
03:15 p.m. - 04:15 p.m.	Lecture 8: Dr. Sweta Sinha, IIT Patna
04:15 p.m. - 04:30 p.m.	Valedictory by Dr. Sweta Sinha, IIT Patna
04:30 p.m. – 04:45 p.m.	Vote of Thanks by Dr. Priyanka Tripathi, IIT Patna

Call for Participation

We invite students, faculty, and researchers interested in these significant discussions to register at the following link: https://forms.gle/ue3VrTiuE4hxZsYE7 by October 31st, 2024.

Participation fee: Rs. 1000 /-

Payment link:
https://www.onlinesbi.sbi/sbicollect/icollecthome.htm?corpID=1968961

Mode: Hybrid

All participants shall receive certificates of participation.
Offline candidates are expected to arrange for their travel and accommodation.

For further queries, please contact:
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About IIT Patna

Indian Institute of Technology, Patna, is one of the new IITs established by an Act of the Indian Parliament on August 06, 2008. The campus is approximately 40 kms from the central city of Patna. Known for its vibrant academic environment, IIT Patna is committed to excellence in research, fostering cutting-edge innovations and advancements across various disciplines such as science, technology, and humanities.