ONE-DAY NATIONAL SEMINAR

GLOBALIZATION AND ECOLOGICAL CHALLENGES: RETHINKING SOCIETY AND SUSTAINABILITY

Organised by

The Department of Sociology
Vidyasagar University, Midnapore, West Bengal

22nd September, 2026

Conference Brochure

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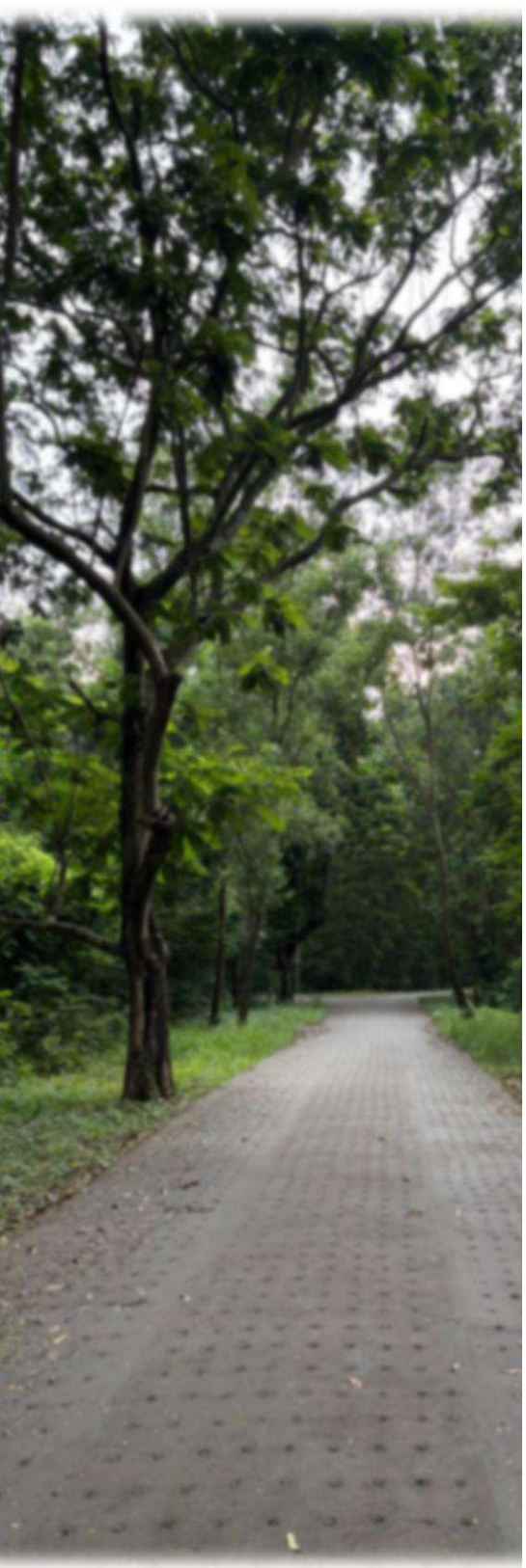

About Vidyasagar University

Established in 1981, it is a public university in the state of West Bengal. Named after the great 19th-century social reformer, educationist, and humanitarian Pandit Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar, the University is committed to promoting quality higher education, research, and community engagement.

Situated amidst a serene green campus in Midnapore, the University primarily serves the educational aspirations of students from the rural and semi-urban regions of the erstwhile undivided Midnapore district and neighbouring areas. Since its inception, it has played a significant role in expanding access to higher education, particularly for students from socially and economically marginalized communities.

The University offers a wide range of undergraduate, postgraduate, doctoral, and skill-based programmes across disciplines including humanities, social sciences, sciences, commerce, management, education, and law. With its emphasis on academic excellence, social responsibility, and inclusive development, Vidyasagar University continues to uphold the ideals of its namesake by fostering critical thinking, ethical values, and research-driven learning.

About The Department of Sociology

Founded in 2005, the Department of Sociology has gradually expanded in both academic scope and social involvement. Before adopting the CBCS framework in 2016, the department operated under the Semester System from 2009 to 2016, and now aligns with NEP 2020 from 2025 onwards. The department has been built on the M.A. program along with Ph.D., and the addition of an M.Phil. course (2019–2021). With the advent of digital ethnography during the pandemic and urban ethnography in 2025, ethnographic fieldwork has become essential to academic rigour since 2019.

Having completed 20 years of its academic journey in 2025, the Department of Sociology continues to uphold its commitment to quality education, ethical research, and social responsibility. Through innovative teaching, academic collaborations, and community engagement, the department strives to nurture socially conscious scholars and professionals capable of contributing meaningfully to society.

The ONE-DAY NATIONAL SEMINAR

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Dr. Debal K. SinghaRoy
Professor of Sociology
School of Social Sciences,
IGNOU, New Delhi

RESOURCE PERSONS

Dr. Eshita Boral
Associate Professor
Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

Dr. Amrita Sen
Assistant Professor
Humanities & Social Science, IIT KGP

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CONCEPT NOTE

Standing in the 21st century, globalization has emerged as one of the defining processes for transforming societies and cultures, economies, and political systems across the globe. Characterised by the increasing interconnectedness of nations, it has accelerated economic growth and facilitated the exchange of knowledge and practices. However, alongside its benefits, it has also generated significant ecological challenges that threaten environmental sustainability and social well-being. The extraction of natural resources has caused deforestation, reduced biodiversity, pollution, the decline of freshwater resources, and climate change. The emission of greenhouse gases and the activities of transnational corporations have further caused massive environmental degradation.

It is important to view such ecological crises from a sociological perspective, as these environmental problems are socially constructed, with ecological degradation said to be extensively related to the modes of production, consumption, technology, and governance. The recognition of ecological problems has brought out the idea of a 'sustainable society'- the one which tries to maintain a balance between economic development, social equality, and environmental protection by keeping the requirements of the present generation satisfied without undermining the future generations' requirements. Sociologically, sustainability encompasses community participation, equal access to resources, and resilience to ecological and economic shocks.

Globalization is changing the ways of environmental governance. Various international agreements such as the Paris Agreement, SDGs, and climate talks are proof of the fact that environmental problems cannot be addressed at the national level alone but require both global and local cooperation to solve. The global agenda for 2030 of UN is based on the principle of universality: 'Leave No One Behind'. CSOs, indigenous peoples, environmental organizations, and youth-driven climate activism have become important players in the process of achieving sustainability and environmental justice. Also, the use of digital technologies in communication has facilitated transnational environmental advocacy.

In developing nations like India, globalization and ecological change together have posed both new opportunities and threats. Matters like climate-induced migration, displacement, industrial pollution, and the impact of climate change on vulnerable groups are some of the areas where sustainable development policies need to be made.

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SUB- THEMES

- **Globalization, Development and Environmental Sustainability**
- **Climate Change and Social Inequality**
- **Political Ecology, Environmental Justice and Governance**
- **Urbanization, Rural Transformation and Ecological Change**
- **Climate-Induced Migration and Displacement: Social Challenges**
- **Urbanization, Smart Cities, and Environmental Sustainability**
- **Gender, Climate Change, and Sustainable Development**
- **Water Security, Resource Conflicts, and Sustainable Management**
- **Indigenous Knowledge Systems and Sustainable Resource Management**
- **Environmental Movements and Digital Activism**

CALL FOR PAPER

The seminar invites innovative papers with original thinking on the above-mentioned sub-themes from students (graduate and postgraduate), research scholars, and faculty from colleges and universities working in the discipline of social sciences.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

ABSTRACT- The abstract should be within 250 words with 5-6 keywords and must be accompanied by a cover page stating –

- **Title of the paper, Name and Designation of the author(s), E-mail address, and contact number.**

***Email id for Abstract submission*: socio.vidyasagar@gmail.com**

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SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

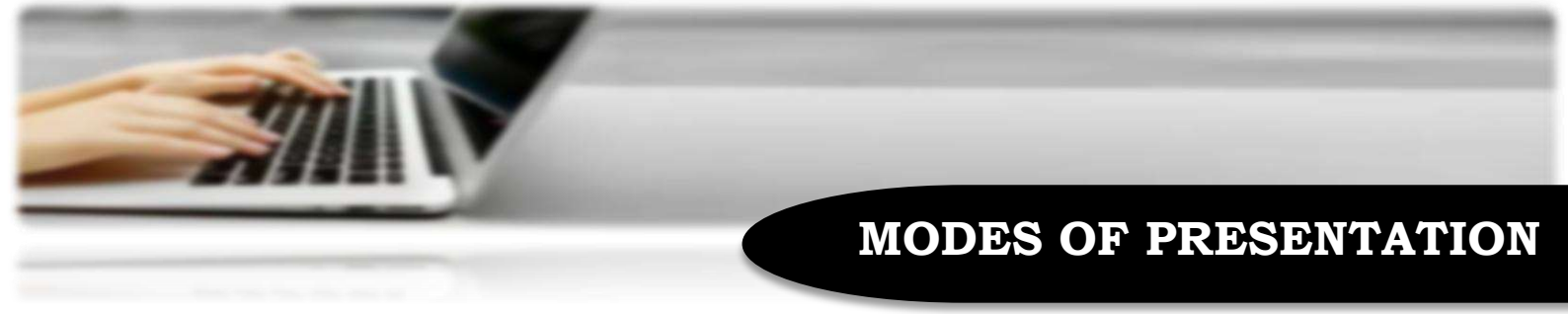
GUIDELINES FOR SUBMISSION OF RESEARCH PAPER:

1. **The manuscript should be of an average length of 6000 words *(maximum)*, typed in MS Word, with 1.5 line spacing, 12 Font size, Times New Roman.**
2. **The manuscript should carry an abstract of about 250 words with keywords.**

***Email id for Full Paper submission*: socio.vidyasagar@gmail.com**

IMPORTANT DATES

Submission of Abstract *(Last Date)*	**30 August, 2026**
Confirmation of Abstract	**05 September, 2026**
Last date of Registration & Fee Payment	**18 September, 2026**
Submission of Full Paper	**20 September, 2026**



MODES OF PRESENTATION

- **Paper presentations will be conducted in OFFLINE MODE only.**
- **One or two parallel presentation sessions will be organized, depending on the number of abstracts received.**
- **Presenters are kindly requested to bring their PowerPoint presentation on a pen drive along with a copy of research paper to ensure the smooth conduct of the sessions.**

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PAYMENT DETAILS FOR REGISTRATION

Registration Period	*Amount*
Early Bird – Till Sept 10, 2026	**INR 300/-**
Sept 10- Sept 18, 2026	**INR 400/-**
Spot Registration	**INR 500/-**

BANK DETAILS

- **Account Name: Department of Sociology, Vidyasagar University**
- **Account No.: 17480110102404**
- **IFCS Code: UCBA0001748**
- **Bank: UCO Bank, Vidyasagar University Campus**

REGISTRATION LINK

https://forms.gle/jvfKvJobxkGZT8eF9

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CONTACT US

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Vidyasagar University
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