

ETHNOGRAPHY LAB

*A Research Initiative to build an
Intellectual Community*



by Prof. Ranjana Raghunathan



The Ethnography Lab is an initiative of the School of Liberal Arts and Design Studies – anchored under the Vidyashilp Research Centre – to facilitate conversations on ethnographic research. It provides both faculty and students a platform to collaborate on ethnographic research with stakeholders inside and outside the university. It is also an intellectual community and resource centre for a wide community of researchers engaged in ethnographic research methods.

OBJECTIVES

1. Promote ethnographic research methods and practice, within and outside the university.
2. Community engagement and public knowledge sharing.
3. Create a thriving intellectual community grounded in fieldwork, conversations and practice of ethnography.

MEMBERS

The Principal Investigator for the Ethnography Lab is [Dr. Ranjana Raghunathan](#), who is an Assistant Professor at the School of Liberal Arts and Design Studies in Vidyashilp University.

Research on Urban Neighbourhoods

Urban Neighbourhoods – Areas of Bangalore (or any town/city) are rich with historical and anthropological insights. The research on urban neighbourhoods aims to trace the social life and transformations of select neighbourhoods around Bangalore, by using ethnographic methods (field observation, interviews, oral histories) and historical data. PhD and Post-doctorate research scholars are encouraged to apply to work on this research project, which aims to approach urban social life through diverse philosophical and theoretical lenses, such as gender, class, or religion to name a few. This project is a crucial pedagogical tool for the university undergraduate courses on research methods, community engagement, gender in India, and Indian cultures.

Events and Workshops

The Ethnography Lab will host a series of talks by experts from within the academia and beyond, on curated themes specific to ethnography. It is also a space for researchers to present their works in-progress, fieldwork encounters, or have conversations on ethnographic practice.

Teaching and Pedagogy

The university's foundational course on ethnography is anchored in the Lab. Please get in touch to explore collaborations for short training modules on ethnographic methods for non-academic researchers, such as journalists, heritage practitioners, market research firms, non-profit organisations and designers. The Ethnography Lab also welcomes collaborations with other universities and collectives to explore summer exchange or research projects.