

## **'Media'ted Human Rights: Gender, Race and Coloniality**

**Course Title:** 'Media'ted Human Rights: Debates on Gender, Race and Coloniality

**Credits:** 3

**Professor:** Carmel Christy K J

In the media saturated environment we live in, our perception about various issues, including those concerning human rights are shaped and negotiated through diverse media forms. This introductory course aims to equip students with a critical lens to understand the institution of media, human rights discourse and representational practices around it.

The specific focus of the course is to discuss issues related to the intersectional making of gender, race and coloniality as human rights debates and the way in which media create, respond and circulate them in order to retain or subvert existing perceptions. Media, situated at the intersections of being a service and industry, often generate debates that align with interests of the dominant and powerful sections. However, in popular culture, we also encounter examples of subverting the same power structures based on gender, sexuality, race or other forms of coloniality. As human rights framework increasingly engages with debates beyond state paradigms, the course intends to deliberate on these debates in diverse contexts, not just in relation to colonial empires, but also as continuing systems of dominance. In addition to understanding media as the site of these debates, the course would also discuss examples of media repression by the state and overpowering capitalist markets in a global context.

Three major themes/readings of the course would include critically understanding media (as an institution and as a site of repression), human rights with reference to gender, race and coloniality; and representational practices. In addition to lectures based on the readings, film screenings, podcasts and discussion would be part of the course.