

Report on Academic Reading and Writing Workshop

22nd Sept to 26th Sept 2025

Organized by Dept of Sociology, Nagaland University & Research Committee 01, ISS

Funded by Nagaland University and Prof. Aparajita Gangopadhyay Memorial Fund, Indian Sociological Society

Department of Sociology, Nagaland University Lumami organized a Five-Day Academic Reading and Writing Workshop for PhD Scholars, in collaboration with RC 01, Theory and Practice in Sociology and Indian Sociological Society from 22nd Sept to 26th Sept 2025. The key resource person, for the hands on training on how to read and write texts academically, was Prof. Satish Deshpande, Former Head and Professor, Department of Sociology, Delhi School of Economics. Prof. P. S. Vivek, the Treasurer, Indian Sociological Society also attended the Workshop. Through the five day sessions, mostly based on exercises focused on training the scholars to do active, conscious reading, deconstructing and reinterpreting the academic texts of various kinds. It highlighted the significance of pre-reading, quick overview, detailed overview, close reading, quotations, paraphrasing, citation, paragraph writing, role of AI in academic research.

The key focus of the Workshop was on addressing the following goals:

The workshop aimed to arm research scholars with the necessary basic techniques of academic reading and writing in the social sciences. Beginning with an introduction to the generic structure of academic texts, it had 4 sessions per day, for five days devoted to:

- i) Techniques of reading: pre-reading, quick reading, detailed reading, dealing with difficult passages, and how to seek internal and external help.
- ii) Writing techniques: elements of coherence and structure, the distribution of emphasis, paragraphs, quotation and paraphrasing.
- iii) Formal conventions of academic texts: competency in citation and referencing, current definitions of plagiarism and how to avoid it.
- iv) Essentials of standard academic formats: research proposals, literature reviews, elements of “publishability”, negotiating stylesheets, and writing for academic journals.

During the Inaugural Session at the Conference Hall, Prof. Temjensosang, Dept. of Sociology chaired the programme and introduced the resource person to the audience and stressed the significance of such workshops for the growth of scholarship in universities. Dr. Suraj Beri, the Organizing Secretary of the workshop highlighted the core objective of the research workshop, being the skills needed to do professional reading and writing in academics. There were 32 participants across different departments and universities. Prof. J. K. Patnaik, Hon’ble VC, Nagaland University delivered a speech on the occasion. In his speech, he remarked how fortunate the participants are, to be involved in such a professional-enriching programme, and encouraged them to make the most of it. A vote of thanks was delivered by Dr. Dipika Paul.

FIVE-DAY ACADEMIC READING AND WRITING WORKSHOP

22nd Sept to 26th Sept 2025



Organized by
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY, Nagaland University
in association with



**RC 01: Theory and Practice in Sociology,
& INDIAN SOCIOLOGICAL SOCIETY
& Prof. Aparajita Gangopadhyay Memorial Fund**

Resource Person



Prof. Satish Deshpande
Former Head and Professor,
Dept. of Sociology,
Delhi School of Economics

KEY THEMES

- Reading Texts ✓
- Structure of Text ✓
- Techniques of Writing ✓
- Writing Thesis ✓
- Writing for Projects ✓
- Plagiarism, Citation & References ✓

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Last date to Apply: 5th Sept. 2025

The valedictory session was chaired by Prof. Athungo Ovung, who acknowledged the valuable contributions of all speakers, with special mention of Prof. Satish Deshpande. He praised the participants for their academic enthusiasm and reflected on the workshop's success in fostering a reflective, rigorous, and inclusive learning space. An overview of the Workshop was presented by Dr. Suraj Beri, the Organizing Secretary. Dr. Suraj Beri noted the objectives of the workshop; i. e., 1) learning by doing, 2) agential reading within text and conscious writing, 3) knowing the unsaid within the text. The workshop aimed to equip participants of the necessary tools to read, understand, interpret and review academic texts systematically and methodically. Vote of thanks was delivered by Dr. Sandeep Gupta, acknowledging the key role of resource person, funding agency and team support provided by all the faculties, HoD, participants and the team of volunteers.

PROGRAMME SCHEDULE

5-Day Academic Reading and Writing Workshop

Organized by
Department of Sociology, Nagaland University
in association with
RC 01 – Theory & Practice in Sociology, Indian Sociological Society

22nd September, 2025

INAUGURAL SESSION (10:00 AM to 10.30 AM)

Chairperson: Prof. Temjensosang, Dept. of Sociology
About the Workshop: Dr. Suraj Beri, Organizing Secretary, Writing Workshop
Felicitatation of the Resource Persons
Special Number Devipila Sangtam, MA 3rd Sem Student
Chief Guest Address: Prof. J. K. Patnaik, Hon'ble Vice- Chancellor, Nagaland University

High Tea (10.30 AM to 10.45AM)

DAY	SESSIONS AND TOPICS	DESCRIPTION
DAY I 22.09.2025	Session 1: 10.45AM – 11.45AM <i>Introductory Session + Pre-reading</i>	Introduction to workshop objectives; Generic structure of academic texts (reader's perspective); Reading Strategy 1: Pre-reading
	Session 2: 12.00PM – 1.00PM <i>Pre-reading + Quick Overview</i>	Pre-reading exercises with various text types; Strategy 2: Quick Overview with short texts
	LUNCH (1.00PM – 1.40PM)	
	Session 3: 1.40pm – 3.10PM <i>Close Reading -1</i>	Strategy 3: Close Reading; Following argument in longer texts
	Session 4: 3.15PM – 4.45PM <i>Close Reading -2</i>	Dealing with difficult passages; Homework reading assignment
DAY II 23.09.2025	Tea & Snacks	
	Session 1: 9.30AM – 11AM <i>Close Reading -2 (continued)</i>	Discussion of difficult passages; Analyzing structure and seeking support within text or externally
	Tea Break	
	Session 2: 11.15AM – 12.45PM <i>Close Reading -3 (continued)</i>	Contextualizing the text within broader academic conversations
	LUNCH (12.45 PM – 1.30 PM)	

	Session 3: 1.30PM – 3.00PM <i>Close Reading -4</i>	Critically assessing texts; Strengths, weaknesses, omissions, scholarly views
	Session 4: 3.15 PM– 4.45PM <i>Quoting and Paraphrasing</i>	Quoting: why, when, how; Comparison with paraphrasing; Homework on paraphrasing
	Tea & Snacks	
DAY III 24.09.2025	Session 1: 9.30AM – 11AM <i>Paraphrasing</i>	Rules and conventions; Homework discussion; Borders with plagiarism
	Session 2: 11.15AM – 12.45PM <i>Plagiarism, Citation & References (I)</i>	Defining plagiarism; Avoidance techniques; Citation exercises
	LUNCH (12.45 PM – 1.30 PM)	
	Session 3: 1.30PM – 3.00PM <i>Plagiarism, Citation & References (II)</i>	Referencing systems; Bibliographies; AI tools and ethics
	Session 4: 3.15 PM– 4.45PM <i>Writing-I: Structure, Paragraphs</i>	Academic structure from writer's view; Coherence vs. segregation; Writing assignment
	Tea & Snacks	
DAY IV 25.09.2025	Session 1: 9.30AM – 11AM <i>Writing-II: Templates and Common Problems</i>	Problems like writing introductions, outlines, conclusions; Importance of drafts
	Session 2: 11.15AM – 12.45PM <i>Writing-III: Beyond Summaries</i>	Analysis, synthesis, argument building; Establishing credibility
	LUNCH (12.45 PM – 1.30 PM)	
	Session 3: 1.30PM – 3.00PM <i>Writing IV: Giving Feedback</i>	Techniques to give constructive comments on others' writing
	Session 4: 3.15 PM– 4.45PM <i>Writing Research Proposals</i>	Basics of format; Dos and Don'ts; Draft proposal as homework
	Tea & Snacks	
DAY V 26.09.2025	Session 1: 9.30AM – 11AM <i>Research Proposals - II</i>	Discussion of proposal drafts; Techniques to improve
	Session 2: 11.15AM – 12.45PM <i>Writing for Academic Journals</i>	Genre-specific tips; Dos and Don'ts
	LUNCH (12.45 PM – 1.30 PM)	
	Session 3: 1.30PM – 2.30PM <i>Writing for Academic Journals - II</i>	Reasons for rejection; Discussion and strategy
	Session 4: 3.00PM– 4.00PM	Collective self-evaluation;

26th September, 2025

VALEDICTORY SESSION (4:00 PM to 4.45 PM)

Chairperson:	Prof. Athungo Ovung, Dept. of Sociology
Reflection on the Workshop:	Participants' Reflection on Workshop
Overview of the Workshop	Dr Suraj Beri, Organizing Secretary
Special Address:	Prof. Joginder Singh, Director, IQAC, Nagaland University
Vote of Thanks:	Dr. Sandeep Gupta, Dept. of Sociology

Refreshments

ISS Budget expenses details: Funds received (Rs.50,000)

Air fare tickets for Prof. Satish Deshpande: $19323+20500=39823$

Honorarium to Prof. Satish Deshpande: Rs.20,000

Photos











