



# School of Legal Studies

Online Certificate Course  
on

## Gender, Sexual Violence & Legal Justice

## A. Summary of Course

1. Course Title: Gender, Sexual Violence and Legal Justice
2. Department: School of Legal Studies, REVA University, Bengaluru
3. Course conducted by:
  - Dr. Amit Anand, Assistant Professor, School of Legal Studies, REVA University, Bengaluru
  - Akanksha Madaan, Assistant Professor, School of Legal Studies, REVA University, Bengaluru
4. Course Level: Undergraduate and Postgraduate students, early career researchers
5. Course Duration: 35 hours
6. Course Timings: Weekends (evening)
7. Start Date: October 4, 2024
8. Course Content: Refer to Annexure I
9. Course Fee: INR 1000/-
10. Platform: MS Teams

## B. Course Summary

This course aims to familiarize students with the fundamental issues and concepts related to sexual violence against women, with a primary focus on India. It delves into the causes, traits, and outcomes of sexual violence, examining the perspectives of both victims and perpetrators. Areas of discussion encompass examination of the complex relationship between gender and violence prevalent in the Indian society, through references of dowry-related violence, honour based crimes, violence against marginalized women. Through an intersectional approach, the course will analyze the socio-cultural factors contributing to the perpetuation of violence against women and the effectiveness of India's domestic criminal justice system in responding to violence against women.

## **C. Course Aim:**

This course explores different theoretical and conceptual approaches to violence from an explicitly socio-legal standpoint, drawing and building on gendered and intersectional experiences of Indian women in the context of violence against women. It is particularly concerned with the intersections between violence and gender, where gender is understood as it intersects with categories such as class, caste. Bearing in mind that gendered violence has a long history, and is often justified in most patriarchal cultures, this course will focus on the following questions in the Indian context: Is there a sociological dimension to understanding violence against women? What structural conditions give rise to violence against women? What are the implications of inequality, discrimination, and violence on the rights of women and finally, How far is the existing legal framework at the domestic level equipped in combating violence against women?

This course is also important because it is based on the 'law in context approach' (i.e., studying the law beyond the legal rules by understanding the 'systems' that govern it) which is one of the many pathways to achieving excellence in legal scholarship and research in the field of human rights law according to the School of Legal Studies, REVA University.

## **D. Targeted Group:**

The Course is planned for undergraduate and postgraduate students, early career researchers.

## **E. Course Learning Outcomes:**

After successfully completing this course the students should:

1. Be able to demonstrate a critical, nuanced understanding of gender based violence against women from an intersectional perspective.
2. Understand the socio-cultural dynamics contributing to gender based violence in India.
3. Analyze the legal frameworks and policies addressing gender based violence in India.
4. Evaluate the effectiveness of existing legal and institutional mechanisms in preventing and addressing gender based violence.

## F. About the Course Instructor:

- Dr. Amit Anand is presently working as an Assistant Professor at School of Legal Studies, REVA University, Bengaluru. He has completed his PhD (Law) from Lancaster University, U.K. in 2022 on the topic 'Unheard and Unnoticed: Violence Against Women in India (A Study of Practice of Witch-hunting, Honour Killing and Devadasi System)'. He holds LL.M (Human Rights) from the University of Reading, U.K. (2015) and B.A.LL.B. (Honours.) from National Law School of India University, Bengaluru (2014). He has presented several oral statements to separate United Nations Treaty Bodies. His most recent statement was presented before the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on "Equal and inclusive representation of women in decision-making systems". His joint submission on 'Measures to Prevent Sexual Abuse of Children in Residential Care Homes in India' to the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), September 2021 has also been cited by the UNCRC in its Children's Rights and Alternative Care - Background Document. Dr. Amit has also submitted written evidence to the Women and Equalities Select Committee, House of Commons, UK Parliament on 'Women's reproductive health in the UK', October 2023. His submission has been accepted by the Select Committee and has been published on the Committee's website. He also has several paper publications in both national and international peer reviewed journals. He has also presented his research at national and international conferences including at the University of Cambridge, UK. Dr Amit's research interests lie in the area of International Human Rights Law (particularly on the issue of gender based violence, caste discrimination).
- Akanksha Madaan is presently working as an Assistant Professor of Legal Studies, REVA University, Bengaluru. She has completed her LL.M from National Academy of Legal Studies and Research University of Law, Hyderabad in Intellectual Property Rights and B.A.LL.B from School of Law, DAVV, Indore. She also has diploma in Victimology and Victim Assistance from Tokiwa International Victimology Institute, Tokiwa University, Mito, Japan. She has submitted a written contribution for the purpose of half-day of general discussion to prepare the elaboration by the committee (CEDAW) of a General Recommendation on the equal and inclusive representation of women in decision – making system. She has total 4 years of experience in teaching and research and during that she has also assisted various students with Start Ups through incubation centre under Ministry of Education in India.

Her research interests lies in Intellectual Property Rights, Women and Children rights and Environmental Laws. She also has several publications in various domestic and international peer – reviewed journals. Her teaching expertise is Intellectual Property Rights, Criminal Law, Law of Contract.

## G. Registration Details:

Registration Commences - September 1, 2024

Registration Ends - September 30, 2024

### Mode of fee payment

Account Name: REVA UNIVERSITY

Bank Name: THE KARNATAKA BANK LTD

Account Number: 6662000100000901

Branch: REVA University Branch, Bengaluru

IFSC: KARB0000666

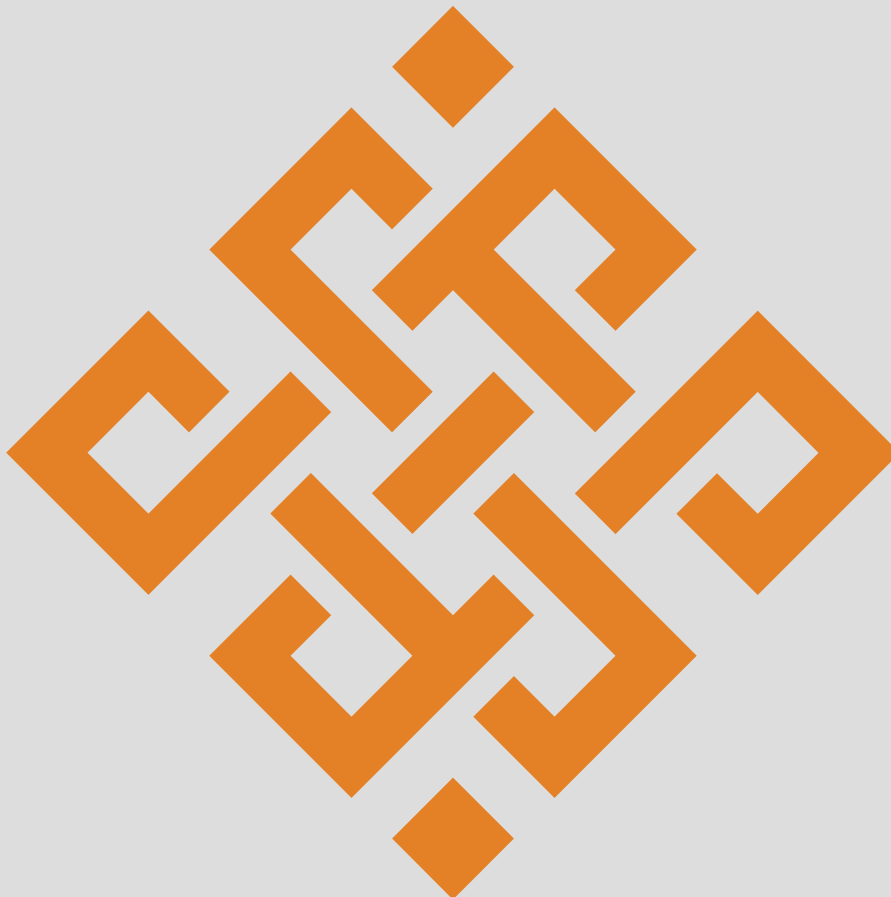
Registration Form

<https://forms.gle/AQgbRXQLA7uot9v29>

For any queries contact

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Note: Kindly fill the registration form (refer link above) post payment of registration fee and attach the payment receipt.



## Annexure – I

1. Introduction to the course – why look at gender and violence? This topic will provide an introduction to the course and examine some key ideas on gender and violence. A key question posed will be why gender is important for the study of violence and why gender based violence matters.
2. Theorizing gender and violence – This topic explores different understandings of gender and violence through varied theoretical concepts which conceptualize violence as fundamentally gendered and related to how societies are structured. The different theoretical concepts will help in the understanding of how power and control (within the context of violence) are overwhelmingly associated with men and masculinities.
3. Women and the law – This topic provides a brief overview and analysis of the existing international human rights law mechanisms in relation to protecting women from gender based violence.
4. Violence against women in contemporary India – This topic provides a brief overview of some of the current experiences and challenges faced by women in contemporary India in the context of violence against women. The focus particularly will be to highlight the legislative and policy gaps in addressing violence against women.
5. Dowry-related violence/climate change – This topic provides a brief understanding of the prevalence and forms of domestic violence particularly dowry-related violence and the societal attitudes towards dowry and its impact on women. Focus will also be on how climate change impacts, such as natural disasters, resource scarcity, and economic instability, can intensify the practice and consequences of dowry-related violence.
6. 'Culture', 'honour' and gender – This topic examines debates on the harmful practice of honour-based violence. It also considers how this practice has been explained within policy and practice.
7. Violence against marginalized women – This topic provides a brief overview of the intersectionality and vulnerabilities of marginalized women and the challenges they face in accessing justice.
8. Legal framework and policy - This topic will focus on the analysis of key legislations on dowry-related violence, honour based crimes etc., including the role of the judiciary in addressing gender based violence. Focus will also be on rehabilitation and support services for survivors.
9. Prevention and intervention strategies – This topic will focus on strategies for promoting gender equality and challenging patriarchal norms alongside highlighting the role of civil society organizations.

Note: The above is a tentative list of topics for this course.



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