



Sub Committee for Anthropology
Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences Curriculum Development

Name of Institute: Symbiosis School for Liberal Arts (SSLA)

Course Name: Soundscapes of Pune City

Course Code:

(UG/PG): UG/ Elective

Number of Credits: 4

Level: 2

Introduction

The city resounds with sounds, all profoundly connected to social and cultural identities. The goal of this course will be to explore the complex interactions between sound, place, and culture, by first listening to and documenting the soundscapes of the city and their possible meanings. How does sound, which includes but is not limited to music, echo, amplify, drown out, clash with, and otherwise make audible, people's everyday engagement with the larger forces that structure society? Students will develop mini-ethnographies of sound, that will contribute to an ongoing, publicly accessible, and web-based archive towards this question, through a series of staged assignments. Students will gain skills in field work methods and ethnographic writing, as well as an understanding of the issues that inform these practices. At the end of this course, students will be better prepared to evaluate the "found sounds" they will encounter throughout their lives, and creatively engage them as responsible members of global and local communities.