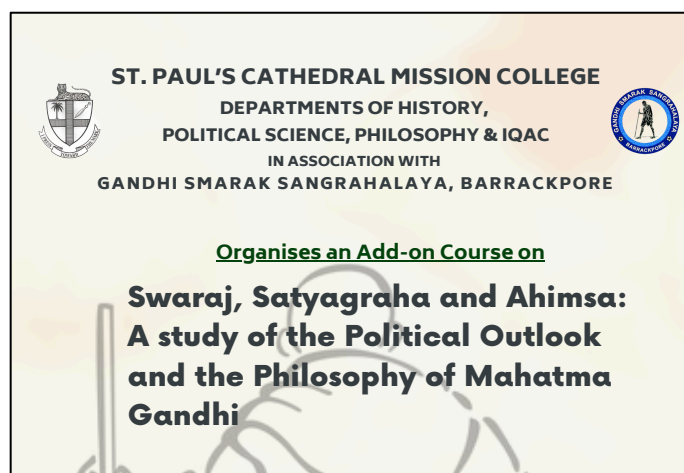
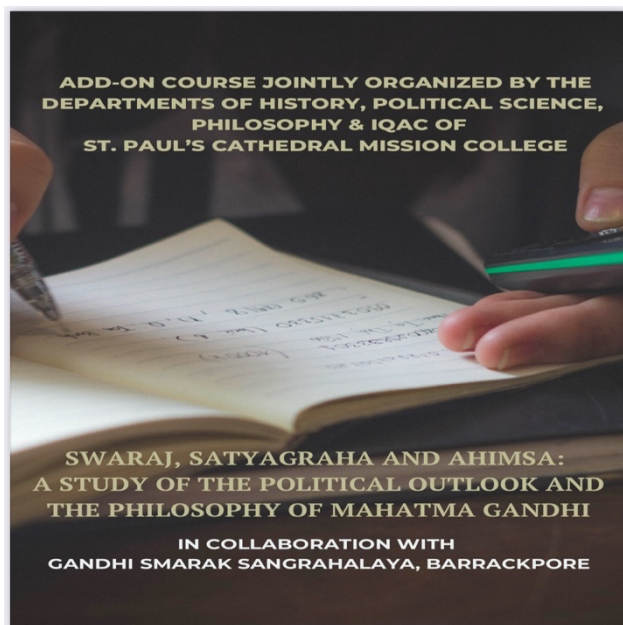


Add on Course ‘Swaraj, Satyagraha and Ahimsa: A Study of Political Outlook and Philosophy of Mahatma Gandhi,’
Jointly organised by Departments of History, Political Science and Philosophy
in collaboration with
Gandhi Smarak Sangrahalaya, Barrackpore.
13th November to 16th December 2024



ABOUT THE COURSE



Gandhi had a legion of admirers, but he was also the target of virulent criticism for his rather strident views on modernity, industrial civilization, materialism. Yet it was his very dynamic personality, his ability to lead movements with his sincere belief in Ahimsa that has made him a pivotal leader of the 20th century. Nelson Mandela, had once said, "In a world driven by violence and strife, Gandhi's message of peace and non-violence holds the key to human survival in the 21st century".

Mohandas Karamdas Gandhi, was the undisputed leader of India's struggle for freedom not only because of his political charisma in leading the masses against the British government but his philosophy driven by a 'moral spirit' hitherto unknown in the political sphere, what C.F. Andrews described as 'an avalanche of moral force' in a letter to Rabindranath Tagore. As early as February 1915, we find Rabindranath Tagore referring to Gandhi as Mahatma.

This Add on Course aspires to study Gandhi from multiple perspectives to develop a holistic understanding of a great leader who is the pride of our Nation. Through an interesting and well-planned mix of lectures, presentations, films, museum visit, it aims to study Gandhi academically and at the same time taking lessons from the life of Gandhi, this Add on Course, aspires to inculcate strong values in students while helping them to discover their latent skills in academic research.

The Department of History along with the Departments of Political Science and Philosophy organised a Joint Add-On Course on **‘Swaraj, Satyagraha and Ahimsa: A Study on the Political Outlook and Philosophy of Mahatma Gandhi,’** in collaboration with **Gandhi Smarak Sangrahalaya, Barrackpore** from 13th November to 16th December 2024.

Forty-nine students successfully completed the course that was conducted in blended mode along with assessments and feedback session followed up by an experiential learning trip to the Gandhi Museum in Barrackpore.

Programme Outcome:

Day One- 13.11.2024 (Wednesday)- Inaugural Lecture was delivered by **Dr. Kingshuk Chatterjee** on 'The Myth of the Mahatma,' in the College seminar room.

Day Two-16.11.2024 (Saturday)- Lecture was delivered by **Dr. Anamitra Sarkar** of the Department of History on 'Mahatma and Gurudev: Two Visions of Historic Consequence.'

Day Three- 20.11.2024 (Wednesday)- A Documentary titled, '**Then Came Gandhi**,' was screened and was followed by a compulsory Quiz for the registered students.

Day Four- 23.11.2024 (Saturday)- **Professor Mousumi Mukhopadhyay** of the Department of History spoke on, 'Gandhi and South Africa'

Day Five- 27.11.2024 (Wednesday) – **Dr. Sutapa Rani Dasgupta** of the Department of History, delivered a lecture on, 'The Political Strategy of Gandhi.'

Day Six- 30.11.2024 –(Saturday) **Dr. Indrani Banerjee** of the Department of Economics, delivered a lecture on 'Relevance of Economic Thought of Mahatma Gandhi in the 21st Century.'

Day Seven -03.12.2024 (Wednesday)- **Professor Vivas Das** of the Department of Philosophy, spoke on "The Evolution of Gandhi- God is truth, truth is God."

Day Eight - 5.12.2024 (Thursday)- **Professor Ayesha Dutta** of the Department of Philosophy delivered an online lecture on, 'Gandhi Through the Lens: Cinematic Depictions Over Time,'

Day Nine - 06.12.2024 (Friday)- **Prof. Jihiskel Naskar** of the Department of Philosophy delivered a lecture on 'Sarvodaya and Utilitarianism: A Comparative Study.'

Day Ten - 08.12.2024 (Sunday) - **Professor Santanu Banerjee** of the Department of History delivered an online lecture on, 'Gandhi: Some Psychoanalytical Perspectives.'

Day Eleven - 10.12.2024 (Tuesday)- A movie titled, '**Gandhi**' directed by Richard Attenborough was screened in the seminar room of the college.

Day Twelve- 13.12.2025-(Friday) Professor **Biswajit Prasad Hazam** of the Department of Political Science, delivered an online Lecture on Gandhi and RSS (online) @ 7 pm.

Day Thirteen- 14.12.2024 (Saturday)- The 41 registered candidates of the Add-on Course visited the Gandhi Smarak Sangrahalay along with five faculty members.

Day Fourteen- 15.12.2024 (Sunday)- **Prof. Jhelum Ghosh** of the Department of Political Science delivered an online lecture on, 'The Dalit Question: Gandhi and Ambedkar.'

Day Fifteen- 16.12.2024 (Monday)- **The Valedictory Speech** was delivered by **Dr. Pratik Ghosh, Director of Gandhi Smarak Sangrahalay**, Barrackpore, followed by the distribution of certificates to the students who successfully completed the course.

Course Outcome:

Add-on courses are crucial for holistic development, providing students with knowledge beyond their core curriculum. Twelve lectures on Mahatma Gandhi were organised from different perspectives which helped greatly in enriching knowledge of the great leader. The lectures covered a wide range of topics from Gandhi's philosophical ideas to political strategies, his relations with other political organisations such as the RSS, his understanding of Dalit problems and the rich bond fostered between Rabindranath Tagore and Gandhi bringing together two great minds.

The Course took recourse to audio visual platforms to make the lectures interesting and interactive. The visit to the Gandhi Museum provided an experiential learning experience for the students. A **report** was also prepared by the students on their experiences of the visit to the Gandhi Museum.

