

DEPARTMENT OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL
SCIENCES, IISERB



CURIOSITY AND EDUCATION

Numerous assessments of classroom competencies have revealed that Indian students consistently underperform compared to their peers in other countries, with learning outcomes showing little progress over the years. Despite higher school enrollment rates in India, overall learning levels remain stagnant. A key factor contributing to this issue is the lack of student motivation within the classroom environment. Curiosity-driven learning has emerged as a promising approach to address this challenge. Research highlights that fostering curiosity by promoting autonomy and competence, ensuring the relevance and coherence of learning material, integrating elements of fantasy, and highlighting manageable knowledge gaps can significantly enhance student motivation. This talk will explore strategies to integrate these components into Indian classrooms to drive better engagement and learning outcomes. In addition, the session will provide insights into how curiosity research translates into practical classroom interventions, shapes policy advocacy, and fosters interdisciplinary collaborations.



DATE
28 OCTOBER, 2024



VENUE: L8
AT 03:00 PM - 04:30 PM

Dr. Jaison Manjaly is the Jasubhai Memorial Chair Professor of Philosophy and Cognitive Science at IIT Gandhinagar. His research explores significant themes of curiosity, embodied cognition, and moral cognition, focusing on their applications in education and understanding emotional regulation. It also addresses societal issues like dehumanization and prosocial behaviour, examining the cognitive antecedents of emotional expressions and the effects of environmental factors on self-disclosure. As Principal Investigator of the Curiosity Lab, he develops interventions to foster curiosity in classrooms. Dr Manjaly holds a PhD from IIT Kharagpur and completed his postdoctoral fellowship at the Centre for Behavioral and Cognitive Science Allahabad. He has authored numerous publications in esteemed journals, including Sage Open, Frontiers in Psychology, and Journal of Cognitive Psychology. A seasoned academic leader, Dr Manjaly has served as the former Dean of Student Affairs and played a crucial role in founding the Centre for Cognitive and Brain Sciences at IIT Gandhinagar. He currently coordinates Alumni Relations and heads the Humanities and Social Sciences department. Dr. Manjaly's contributions have earned him the Excellence in Institution Building Award at IIT Gandhinagar.



Prof Jaison A Manjaly
Jasubhai Memorial Chair Professor and Head
Humanities and Social Sciences, IIT Gandhinagar