Course Name: Tribal India, Indigenous Latin America
Course Number: HS-401
Credits: 3-0-0-3
Prerequisites: None
Students intended for: 3rd/4th year B. Tech
Distribution: Elective

Preamble: This course looks at tribal history of India in a comparative way by examining the parallel case of indigenous people in Latin America. Thus this course would be a good complement to courses that deal with Indian society and history, Latin American society and history and broadly speaking, courses that examine cultures of the world. Since part of the course also looks at contemporary issues of globalization, this course could also complement courses in globalization and development studies.

Course Outline: India and Latin America contain some of the highest populations of tribal or indigenous peoples in the world, 80 million and 28 million respectively. In both regions moreover, indigenous people comprise the poorest and most marginalized positions in society. In this course we will look at some of the main challenges facing indigenous people in today's world by comparing the experiences of indigenous in Latin America and India. Some of the main themes in the course would be looking at effects of colonialism, post-colonial nation-making, questions of indigenous/tribal identity and community, and contemporary challenges such as globalization, neoliberalism, tourism/eco-tourism and media representations.

Modules:
INTRODUCTION: (4 hours)
   I. Defining “tribal” and “indigenous”

HISTORICAL: (18 hours)
   a. Issues in Pre Colonial Period
   b. Issues in Colonial Period
   c. Post-colonial nation-making and tribal/indigenous

CONTEMPORARY: (16 hours)
   a. Globalization
   b. Resource wars and Bio-piracy
   c. Tourism and eco-tourism
   d. Representations (media and museums)

TRIBES IN THE HIMACHAL AREA (4 hours)
   a. Issues and challenges
   b. Comparisons with tribes in other parts of India (eg. the 'Central Indian tribes')
Textbooks:
There is no prescribed text-book for this course. Targeted readings including relevant book chapters, journal articles etc. will be provided for each day's lesson.

References:

2. Behera, Deepak Kumar (Ed.), Contemporary Society: Tribal Studies, 2005
5. Chaudhuri, B.B. (Ed.) Tribes, Forest And Social Formation In Indian History, 2004
14. Xaxa, Virginius, “Tribes as Indigenous People of India”, Economic and Political Weekly, 1999