

ICON ARTS 2023 - SESSIONS SCHEDULE

MORNING SESSIONS

Session 1.A (11.00 am - 01.00 pm)

Venue: Faculty Boardroom, Faculty of Arts, University of Colombo

Theme: Dynamics of Economic Development and Poverty

Session Chair: Senior Professor Amala De Silva

Analysing the reciprocal relationship between passenger satisfaction and demand-related factors: A case study of long distance bus services on the Southern expressway in Sri Lanka

K. L. S. Abeywickrama, C. T. Danthanarayana

Characteristics of Moonlighting in Sri Lanka and opportunities to combat poverty

T. de Silva

The impact of occupational stress on job satisfaction of employees with reference to the apparel industry in Sri Lanka

M. H. S. Dilrukshi, I. W. Rathnayaka, J. M. I. S. Jayathunge, M. H. C. Dewinda

Poverty and social exclusion in Sri Lanka: A study of a high-rise relocation housing project in Colombo

Avanka Fernando

Low level of tax ratio in Sri Lanka: Causes and consequences

Kopalapillai Amirthalingam

Session 1.B (11.00 am - 01.00 pm)

Venue: Room 126, Faculty of Arts, University of Colombo

Theme: Trends in Demographic Transformations and Migration

Session Chair: Professor Sunethra Perera

Prevalence of cancer among children in Sri Lanka

B. Samudra Tharangani Bombuwalage

Health and wellbeing of senior citizens: A medical sociological study with special reference to the Thenmaradchi Divisional Secretariat in Jaffna District

G. Sarththiga

Associated factors of unintended pregnancies at advanced reproductive age span in rural married women: A case study of the Kuruwita Medical Officer of Health area in the Ratnapura District

H. A. C. Darshanee

Assessing the determinants of graduate migration decisions: A case study conducted in a state university in Sri Lanka

P. C. J. Nayanalochana, K. L. S. Abeywickrama, K. D. D. Hansani

Menstrual stigma: An assessment of the Sri Lankan perspective

T. N. Wijewickrama

Session 1.C (11.00 am - 01.00 pm)

Venue: Room 128, Faculty of Arts, University of Colombo

Theme: Trajectories in Second Language Teaching

Session Chair: Professor Dushyanthi Mendis

Accent in varieties of English: A study of the degree of preference and intelligibility among ESL undergraduates at the University of Kelaniya

G. G. C. Madushika

Empowering language fluency: Unveiling challenges and forging pathways for proficiency in English speaking among students

S. K. L. J. Ramanayaka

Personal practice in an English as a Second Language (ESL) classroom: A focus on teacher knowledge and reasoning

R. S. Pothupitiya

Enhancing learners' writing skills: The impact of formative assessment on Cognitive Academic Language Proficiency (CALP)

Vithuja Rajaram

Attitudes of tertiary level language learners towards the use of first language in the English language classroom

H. P. Amarasinghe

Session 1.D (11.00 am - 01.00 pm)

Venue: Room 302, Faculty of Arts, University of Colombo

Theme: Inclusive perspectives on Gender and Disabilities

Session Chair: Professor Subhangi Herath

The COVID-19 pandemic and transgender communities: A study of ICT-based social work intervention in Sri Lanka

H. D. Kaluarachchi, K. K. H. Pavithra

Dance as a holistic intervention for individuals with intellectual disabilities: A review of literature

Ashoka Bandula Weerawardhana

Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) for sustainable peace: Insights from Sri Lanka's peacebuilding efforts (2000-2022)

A. M. M. Ziyad

A study on integrating Design Thinking into social work practice in Sri Lanka

K. N. N. Jayathilaka

The ideal feminine form: A historical analysis of the Sri Lankan female body as a social construct

V. N. M. Fonseka

Economic reintegration challenges of ex-LTTE militants with conflict-related disabilities during the Sri Lankan economic crisis: A needs-based assessment in Cheddikulam Division, Vavuniya District

M. S. Anees

AFTERNOON SESSIONS

Session 2.A (2.00 pm - 04.00 pm)

Venue: Faculty Boardroom, Faculty of Arts, University of Colombo

Theme: Digital Public Sphere: AI, ICT, and Social Media

Session Chair: Dr. Ruvan Weerasinghe

Bridging the skills-employment gap in the ICT sector in Sri Lanka

H. G. Wijsekera

Integrating AI technology in ESL instruction to foster self-regulated learning:
Teachers' perceptions

Luxika Raguram

Social media and mental health: Exploring online support networks for
marginalised communities in Sri Lanka

I. G. Indurangala

The field affordance framework: How do social media platforms allow for
activism in Sri Lanka?

Craig Ryder

Session 2.B (2.00 pm - 4.00 pm)

Venue: Room 126, Faculty of Arts, University of Colombo

Theme: Democracy, Governance, Public Policy, and Civic Participation

Session Chair: Dr. Pradeep Peiris

Reforms in India and Sri Lanka: A comparative analysis of policy change

Rajni Gamage, Harindra B. Dassanayake

The women of the Aragalaya: Female representation at the Galle Face site during the Aragalaya 2022

Tinaz Amit

Election campaign financing and underrepresentation of women in local government authorities (LGAs)

M. Senanayake, N. C. R. Silva

Political participation of religious groups as a challenge to democracy in Sri Lanka: A sociological study

K. K. H. Pavithra, H. D. Kaluarachchi

Collaborative approach to prevent Islamic youth radicalisation in Sri Lanka: Integrating the role of religious actors in national policy and practice

S. Chandran

Session 2.C (2.00 pm - 4.00 pm)

Venue: Room 128, Faculty of Arts, University of Colombo

Theme: Religious Approaches to Social Cohesion

Session Chair: Venerable Professor Raluwe Padmasiri Thero

A study of the role of Buddhism in promoting peace and harmony in Sri Lanka:
Challenges and opportunities

N. W. M. K. T. Kavinda

Exploring conflict management through Buddhist perspectives: A path to
peaceful coexistence

Ven. B. Nandabodhi Thero

Environmental crisis and the human: A philosophical study with special
reference to Hua-Yen Buddhism

R. P. C. H. Perera

Universal Buddhist pantheon and Buddhist purifying process in post-war Sri
Lanka

M. G. L. M. Premarathna

Session 3.A (4.00 pm - 5.00 pm)

Venue: Faculty Boardroom, Faculty of Arts, University of Colombo

Theme: Linguistic Approaches to Exploring Languages

Session Chair: Dr. Kaushalya Perera

Taking a break from model building: A way forward for variety studies of English

K. K. S. G. Sylva

The significance of *Sphoṭa* of Sanskrit grammarian philosophers in the verbal cognition (*Śābdabodha*) and use of the language

W. M. S. K. Wijesundara

An analytical study of Sinhala-Hindi Anusvaara pronounced as the class nasal

H. I. Premathilake

Session 3.B (4.00 pm - 5.00 pm)

Venue: Room 126, Faculty of Arts, University of Colombo

Theme: Climate Change, Sustainability, and Disaster Risk Reduction

Session Chair: Senior Professor Lasantha Manawadu

Sustainability and creativity: Exploring innovative approaches for a sustainable future

Madusha Ariyasinghe

Flood susceptibility mapping through analytical hierarchy process: A study from the Attanagalu Oya river basin

G. N. Kaushalya, T. W. M. T. W. Bandara, V. P. I. S. Wijeratne

Utilising community participation as an inclusive approach to the collaborative governance of flood management with special reference to the Bolgoda river basin

W. G. K. Withana, R. U. K. Piyadasa

Session 3.C (4.00 pm - 5.00 pm)

Venue: Room 128, Faculty of Arts, University of Colombo

Theme: Revisiting Cinematic and Literary Approaches

Session Chair: Professor Saumya Liyanage

A study of the influence of digital technology on the visual quality of cinematic imagery

L. G. S. U. Sandaruwan, Dinithi Tharushika

Facilitating intercultural transfer through cultural adaptation: Dubbing *Doctor Dolittle* in Sinhala

H. K. D. S. S. Jayawardana, J. A. M. Hansani

From *Gamanaka Mula* to *Gamanaka Aga*: Revisiting the middle class of Sri Lanka through the lenses of Gunadasa Amarasekara

Punsara Amarasinghe, Nalaka Jayasena

An analysis of the portrayal of Black July, 1983 in Sri Lankan Tamil poetry with special reference to the poetry collection ‘Maranaththul Valvom’

A. K. Sivalingam

SIDE EVENT: SRI LANKA BAROMETER DISCUSSION FORUM

5.30 pm – 6.30 pm

Venue: Room 302, Faculty of Arts, University of Colombo

Theme: Reconciliation: A Prerequisite for Progress or a Remnant from the Past?
Applying an Interdisciplinary Lens to the Reconciliation Debate

The Sri Lanka Barometer (SLB) invites you to an interactive discussion forum to explore the questions of reconciliation, its relevance and necessity, the role it plays in the present crises in Sri Lanka, and the implications of reconciliation efforts for the future of Sri Lanka from varied angles bringing in social, political, economic, and environmental considerations.

The discussion aims to take an interdisciplinary approach to understand if reconciliation and social cohesion are still relevant in present-day Sri Lanka, how they impact other societal issues, and how they may or may not be a prerequisite for progress and development in the country's journey forward. The SLB will bring in findings from the Sri Lanka Barometer Public Opinion Survey on reconciliation and social cohesion as a basis for the discussion together with the inputs from guest speakers and the participation of the forum's audience.

About the Sri Lanka Barometer (SLB)

The SLB is a research initiative to deepen the understanding of how Sri Lankans perceive reconciliation and its most salient dimensions, as well as to track progress in each of these dimensions. The initiative consists of three components: nationally representative public opinion surveys; complementary qualitative research; and outreach work. The overarching objective of the SLB is to inform public discourse and policymaking in the country's pursuit of greater unity and inclusion. The SLB is steered and implemented by a consortium of partners, including the Institute for Justice and Reconciliation (IJR) in South Africa, the Centre for Poverty Analysis (CEPA), and the Strengthening Social Cohesion and Peace in Sri Lanka (SCOPE)

program, which is co-financed by the European Union and the German Federal Foreign Office and implemented by GIZ, in partnership with the Government of Sri Lanka.

Speakers:

Umesh Moramudali, Lecturer, Department of Economics, UOC

Nadiya Azmy – Research Professional, The Centre for Poverty Analysis

Moderated by Dr. Natasha Palansuriya – Consultant, Research and Advisory for SLB

