

Mathematics as a Liberal Art: Teaching at the Brooklyn Institute for Social Research (BISR)

Suman Ganguli - New York City College of Technology (& BISR!)



About

THE BROOKLYN INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL RESEARCH is an interdisciplinary teaching and research institute that offers critical, community-based education in the humanities and social sciences. Working in partnership with local businesses and cultural organizations, we integrate rigorous but accessible scholarly study with the everyday lives of working adults and re-imagine scholarship for the 21st century.

Founded in 2012 with a single course on Aristotle and Plato in the back of a New York City bar, we work with national and international cultural organizations, local bookstores, cafes, businesses, and community spaces to offer a full curriculum of affordable seminars in subjects that range from philosophy and feminist theory to biology and economics. Our faculty are all gifted scholar-pedagogues with a broad array of expertise acquired through their doctoral work, academic and popular writing, industry experience, and in the classroom itself. As a labor-forward organization, 70% of all tuition fees go to supporting BISR faculty in their teaching and research endeavours.

Named after the Institute for Social Research in Frankfurt, Germany, BISR is actively pioneering a new model for scholarship in the twenty-first century that integrates a commitment to pedagogy, research, and public programming. The BISR Community Initiative, funded by public grants and private donations, brings classes and workshops to underserved communities. Through BISR Praxis and BISR OnSite we offer educational

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Visit by appointment only

General Inquiries

Your Name (required)

Your Email (required)

Math/CS Courses at BISR

Developed and led four courses, focusing on historical, philosophical & conceptual approaches to topics in mathematical logic and theoretical computer science:

- “Gödel’s Incompleteness Theorems: History, Proofs, Implications”
 - Spring 2013 & Summer 2016
- “Infinity: Mathematics, History, Philosophy”
 - Fall 2015 & Fall 2017
- “Alan Turing: Algorithms, Computation, Machines”
 - Spring 2017
- “Thinking Machines: An Introduction to Artificial Intelligence”
 - Spring 2018
- Seminar-style courses - readings & discussion
- Enrollment varies from 7-20 students per class
- Wide variety of backgrounds, ages, occupations

Fifth course next month...



September Courses

