CARLETON UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY

COURSE NUMBER/SECTION: PECO 5504
ACADEMIC YEAR/TERM: Winter 2025

COURSE TITLE: The Economic Sociology of Labour Regulation

Instructor: Dr. Sumeet Mhaskar

Dr. Mhaskar will be a visiting professor at Carleton in the winter term of 2025. He is a labour sociologist and a Professor at the Jindal School of Government and Public Policy at O. P. Jindal Global University, India. His research focuses on deindustrialisation, experiences of joblessness, labour markets, rural-urban migration, social and political movements, and the role of social institutions such as caste, religion, and gender in shaping livelihood opportunities.

Method of Delivery: in person

Course Description:
This course explores the interplay between law, economy and society and its implications for the regulation of labour. The British colonial state introduced various laws to regulate the labour. The labour laws include regulating the age of workers in the factories, providing health care facilities , introduction of maternity benefits, setting up crèches inside the factories, to banning bonded labour, regulating wages and other social security benefits. While most of these laws were introduced to cater to the needs of the capital, some of them were introduced due to the demands from the labourers themselves. The course will examine the social, political, and economic conditions that influenced the making of the past and present labour legislation, with examples from India and parallels drawn to other Commonwealth states, including Canada.