

NAYANA KIRASUR

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[Google Scholar profile](#)

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Communication, Information, and Media | 2023-present

Rutgers School of Communication and Information, Department of Library of Information Science

Advised by [Dr. Britt Paris](#)

Dissertation Title: *Mapping the Documentary Infrastructure of Welfare Governance in Digital India*

M.A. in Media and Cultural Studies | 2018-2020

Tata Institute of Social Sciences | Mumbai, India

Dissertation Title: *Caste in Private Schools in India*

B.A. in Psychology, English and Communication Studies | 2014-2017

Mount Carmel College, Bangalore University | Bengaluru, India

RESEARCH

PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

3. **Kirasur, N.** & Jhaver, S. Making Caste Visible: An Examination of Support-seeking Discussions around Inter-caste Relationships on Reddit. **[under review]**
2. **Kirasur, N.**, & Paris, B. (2026). Developing a critical caste analysis within information science and technology: A research review: An annual review of information science and technology paper. *Journal of the Association for Information Science and Technology*, 1–20. <https://doi.org/10.1002/asi.70073>
1. Kirasur, N. (2025). Navigating the state from the margins: Understanding the material and affective aspects of women's engagement with identity documents in rural India. *Journal of Documentation*, 1–22. <https://doi.org/10.1108/JD-05-2025-0145>

REFEREED CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

1. **Kirasur, N.**, & Jhaver, S. 2025. Understanding the Prevalence of Caste: A Critical Discourse Analysis of Caste-based Marginalization on X. *Proc. ACM Hum.-Comput. Interact.* 9, 7, Article CSCW337 (November 2025), 35 pages. <https://doi.org/10.1145/3757518> **[Best Paper Award, represents 1% of all submitted papers]**

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

5. Kirasur, N. (2026). Understanding the Colonial and Caste Histories of India's Data-driven Governance. *Data Justice Conference: The Datafied State*. Cardiff, Wales.
4. Kirasur, N. (2025a). Navigating an Inscriptive State: Understanding the Documentation and Affective Practices Among Women in Rural India. *Annual Conference of The Society for Social Studies of Science (45)*, Seattle, Washington.
3. Kirasur, N. (2024a). Profiling Caste: Examining Caste (Re)articulations on Community Profiles on X. *NetSCI Lab Research Ideation*, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey.
2. Kirasur, N. (2024b). Reinscribing Caste Power on Social Media: Strategies of Community Profiles on X. *Research Café*, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey.
1. Kirasur, N. (2024c). Understanding the Mechanics of Caste Power on Social Media: Insights for DEI Research. *Communicating Diversity Conference*, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey.

SELECTED WORKSHOPS AND COLLOQUIA

2. **Oxford Internet Institute (OII) & UC Berkeley iSchool Summer Doctoral Programme**, Oxford, UK (2026). Competitively selected participant. Presented ongoing doctoral research.
1. **iConference Doctoral Colloquium**, Bloomington, Indiana. (2025). Presented and received faculty feedback on initial ideas for dissertation research.

PUBLIC WRITING AND MEDIA PROJECTS

10. **Kirasur, N., & Jhaver, S.** (2025). How does studying caste-based marginalization on social media expand our understanding of online harm? *ACM CSCW Blog*. <https://medium.com/acm-cscw/how-does-studying-caste-based-marginalization-on-social-media-expand-our-understanding-of-online-24cfaca71ea3>
9. Kirasur, N. (2022d). Wielding Informational Power as a Feminist Practice: Vignettes from Rural Mysuru. *IT for Change*. <https://itforchange.net/notes-from-field-wielding-informational-power-as-a-feminist-practice-vignettes-from-rural-mysuru>.
8. Kirasur, N. (2022c). What it Takes to Maintain Access to the Digital: Experiences of Adolescent Girls in Rural Mysuru. *IT for Change*. <https://itforchange.net/notes-from-field-what-it-takes-to-maintain-access-to-digital-experiences-of-adolescent-girls-rural>

7. Kirasur, N. (2022b). Recording the Unorganized Sector: Reflections on the e-Shram Database. IT for Change. <https://itforchange.net/notes-from-field-recording-unorganized-sector-reflections-on-e-shram-database>
6. Kirasur, N. (2022a). How Does Aadhaar-Enabled Welfare Delivery Exclude Women? IT for Change. <https://itforchange.net/notes-from-field-how-does-aadhaar-enabled-welfare-delivery-exclude-women>
5. Kirasur, N. (2021a). How Has the Pandemic Deepened Inequalities in India's School Education? *IT for Change*. <https://itforchange.net/has-pandemic-deepened-inequalities-india%E2%80%99s-school-education>
4. Kirasur, N. (2021b). What Our Textbooks Aren't Telling Us About Caste in India. *THE BASTION*. <https://thebastion.co.in/politics-and/education/syllabus-and-pedagogy/what-our-textbooks-arent-telling-us-about-caste-in-india/> **[Editors' Pick 2021 (Education)]**
3. Anand, O., Balachandran, V., Doke, M., **Kirasur, N.**, Usha Vijaykumar, P. (2020) Mumbai Mumbai, Majhi Priya Rande. Documentary. *Tata Institute of Social Sciences*. (A film that visualizes the city of Mumbai through Dalit Poetry keeping the politics of space, caste, class, and gender at the center.)
2. Anand, O., Haloi, P., **Kirasur, N.**, Pandey, P., Smrithi, A., Shrivastava, I. (2019) 119 People Per Seat. Documentary. *Tata Institute of Social Sciences*.
1. **Kirasur, N.**, Rakesh, L., Roy Chowdhry, S., Saraf, V., Shukla, A., (2019) Jaago Piya. Music Video. *Tata Institute of Social Sciences*.

ORGANIZED EVENTS AND PANELS

Doctoral Student Association., School of Communication and Information. *Let's Talk about the Academic Job Market!* | Fall 2024

INTERVIEWS / QUOTES / MEDIA MENTIONS

1. Ovadia, D. (25 November, 2025). *The Daily Targum* U. study finds social media app X spreads pro-caste system messaging in India. <https://www.dailytargum.com/article/u-study-finds-social-media-apps-like-x-spread-pro-caste-messaging-in-india-20251126>

AWARDS / GRANTS/ SCHOLARSHIPS

- **NEASIS&T Conference Support Award (\$1250) | 2026**

US Northeast Chapter of the Association for Information Science and Technology (NEASIS&T)

- **Tefko Saracevic Award (\$2295) | 2026**

Rutgers School of Communication and Information, Department of Library and Information Science

- **Doctoral Dissertation Proposal Scholarship (\$1000) | 2026**

Association for Information Science and Technology (ASIS&T)

- **Best Continuing PhD Student in Library and Information Science | 2026**

Rutgers School of Communication and Information

- **Post-proposal Dissertation Funding Award (\$2000) | 2026**

Rutgers School of Communication and Information

- Jhaver S., Kirasur, N (Assistant PI) **Grants for Individual Faculty Research (GIFR) | 2025**

for research on online information-seeking practices of people in inter-caste relationships, Rutgers School of Communication and Information (\$4,500)

- **Narayan Surve Silver Medal | 2020**

to the second-best student, Media and Cultural Studies, Tata Institute of Social Sciences

- **Waqar Pyare Khan Memorial Prize | 2020**

for the best media project group School of Media and Cultural Studies, Tata Institute of Social Sciences

RESEARCH POSITIONS

Graduate Research Assistant | Spring 2026 - present

Analysis of technology infrastructure providers for public sector

led by Dr. Britt Paris

Department of Library and Information Science, School of Communication and Information

- Reviewed and analyzed solution claims, value propositions, and conducted stakeholder analysis of IT infrastructure providers in the US.

Graduate Research Assistant | Fall 2023 - present

- Social Computing Lab directed by Dr. Shagun Jhaver
- Department of Library and Information Science, School of Communication and Information
- Projects focus on understanding how the internet – particularly the social media platforms – constructs and reifies social categories of caste and gender in India
- This work resulted in refereed conference publication #1 listed above in this CV.

Graduate Research Assistant | Fall 2023

RaveGuardian Review Project led by [Dr. Britt Paris](#)

Department of Library and Information Science, School of Communication and Information

- Conducted a privacy, data, and surveillance review of the RaveGuardian Personal Safety App.

Project Associate (Research and Communication) | January 2021 - July 2023

IT for Change, Prakriye | Mysuru, India

- Conduct extensive fieldwork-based research in rural Mysuru focusing on digital inclusion, gender, and governance
- Ideation, grant writing, and implementation of development projects including capacity-building for women and adolescents, funder reporting, and social media outreach
- This work resulted in public writing essays #5-9 listed above in this CV.

Intern | April - May 2019

CORO | Mumbai, India

- Conducted a film-based research documenting experiences of women running CORO's community resource centers that offer psycho-social aid to victims of gender-based violence
- Conducted an internal study that employed quantitative and qualitative analysis of gender-based violence cases reported at CORO's community resource centers
- Acquired an in-depth understanding of how issues of gender, class, and caste intersect in urban low-economic settlement.

TEACHING

Course: Human Information Behavior

Program: Master's in Information | Department of Library and Information Science |

Rutgers School of Communication and Information

- Teaching Assistant | Fall 2026

Course: Ethics, Values, & Change in Information Practices

Program: Master's in Information | Department of Library and Information Science |

Rutgers School of Communication and Information

Instructor of Record | Fall 2025 – Spring 2026

- Led instruction for select course modules and provided detailed assignment evaluations and feedback.
- *Instructor Rating (averaged across both semesters): 4.57/5.0 (Dept: 4.40) | Effectiveness (averaged across both semesters): 4.55/5.0 (Dept: 4.21).*

Course: Ethics, Values, & Change in Information Practices

Program: Master's in Information | Department of Library and Information Science |
Rutgers School of Communication and Information

Teaching Assistant | Spring 2025

- Led instruction for select course modules and provided detailed assignment evaluations and feedback.

Instructional Student Assistant (Grader) | Fall 2024

- Evaluated student assignments and provided structured feedback on coursework..

SERVICE

Co-convener, Global Asia's Anti-caste Thought Graduate Working Group, Rutgers University | 2026 - present

Core Committee Member, Rutgers University Anti-caste Collective (RUACC), Rutgers University | 2024 - present

Vice President, Doctoral Student Association, Rutgers School of Communication and Information | Fall 2024- Spring 2025

Conference and Journal Reviewer

- Association for Information Science and Technology (ASIS&T) | 2026
- Peace Review | 2025
- ACM CHI conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems | 2025 and 2026
- Cogent Arts & Humanities | 2025
- Hawaii International Conference on System Sciences (HICSS) | 2023

Professional Memberships

- Association for Information Science and Technology (ASIS&T) | 2026-present
- Association of Internet Researchers (AoIR) | 2026-present
- SIG on Computer-Human Interaction (SIGCHI) Membership | 2025-present
- Society for the Social Studies of Science (4S) | 2025 - present