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Distinguished Lecture Series

Organized by
International Office, Utkal University

TOPIC: Languages and the Internationalisation of Higher Education

Prof. Vasumathi Badrinathan

**Department of French Studies
Banaras Hindu University (BHU)
Varanasi**



Abstract: The lecture on “*Languages and the Internationalisation of Higher Education*” explores the growing importance of multilingualism in shaping global academic collaboration and intercultural understanding. As higher education increasingly crosses national borders, the role of languages becomes central to building inclusive, culturally responsive, and globally competitive institutions. The session will highlight how language learning fosters international mobility, enhances communication, and strengthens educational diplomacy. Drawing from extensive research and international experience, Dr. Vasumathi Badrinathan will discuss the evolving pedagogies of foreign language teaching, the integration of technology in language learning, and the necessity of developing linguistic competence as a core component of internationalisation in universities.

Dr. Vasumathi Badrinathan is a Professor in the Department of French Studies, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi. She holds a Ph.D. in French and Applied Linguistics from the University of Lille 3, France. Her areas of expertise include foreign language didactics, multilingualism, and technology in language learning. She is a recipient of the Fulbright Fellowship and the Erasmus Mundus Fellowship. Dr. Badrinathan has served as Visiting Professor at several international universities, including in France, USA, China, and Azerbaijan. She co-edited a pioneering French publication on “*Legitimacy and Identity of Non-Native Foreign Language Teachers*.” Her translation of Tamil classic *Tiruppavai* into French (Editions Banyan, Paris, 2019) is widely acclaimed. She received the Chevalier de l’Ordre des Palmes Académiques award from the Government of France. A noted teacher trainer and researcher, she contributes significantly to French pedagogy in India. Beyond academics, she is an accomplished Carnatic classical vocalist with international performance experience.



**7th November 2025
11:00 AM – 01:00 PM
Friday**



**G9, CII Building
New Academic Block
Utkal University**



Prof. J. Dandapat
Vice Chancellor and
Director International office
Utkal University



Prof. Mitali Chinara
Chairperson, PG Council
Utkal University