Many application problems have multiscale nature. Due to disparity of scales, the simulations of these problems are prohibitively expensive. Some types of upscaling or model reduction techniques are needed to solve many multiscale problems. In this talk, we will discuss a few known techniques that are used for problems with scale separation and focus on Generalized Multiscale Finite Element Method (GMsFEM) that has been recently proposed for solving problems with non-separable scales and high contrast. The main objective of the method is to provide local reduced-order approximations for linear and nonlinear PDEs via multiscale spaces on a coarse computational grid. (Received September 16, 2014)