PONDICHERRY UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

Regulations for MA Programme in Sociology

(With Effect from the academic year 2014-2015 Onwards)

Aim of the Course

The course intends to familiarize the students with the major sociological debates relating to theoretical, conceptual and methodological issues. It tries to equip the students to develop critical perspectives and orient them to undertake empirical research.

Eligibility for Admission

Candidates seeking admission for the MA Sociology Course shall require to have passed with a Bachelor’s degree in any discipline with a minimum of 50% of marks. All SC/ST candidates who have passed the qualifying examination are eligible to apply for admission irrespective of the percentage of marks.

Duration of the Course

The normal duration of the M.A Programme is for two academic years of 4 semesters. However, the students shall be permitted to graduate in 4 years and not more than 8 semesters.

Medium

The medium of instruction shall be English.

Course Structure

The course structure of Hard Core and Soft Core papers. In addition, the candidate shall require completing a Project Work and undergoing a Viva-voce Examination.

Age Limit

The rules are as applicable to other M.A programmes offered by the Pondicherry University.
MA Sociology  
Course structure & Syllabus

Students must secure minimum 72 credits for the award of the degree. Students are free to choose any course offered by other departments as soft core during a particular semester and advised to seek the help of concerned faculty advisor to choose the soft core course.

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<th>Year</th>
<th>Semester</th>
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<th>Name of papers</th>
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<td>SOCL412</td>
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* The students will have a choice to select soft courses as listed below semester-wise which may be offered by the department depending on interest expressed by the students and convenience of the concerned faculty members.
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<td>Political Sociology</td>
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SOCL 411: FUNDAMENTALS OF SOCIOLOGY

Course objective:
This course gives a basic understanding of various fundamental concepts of Sociology. It aims to understand elaborate the important topics of Sociology. It helps the students to understand the importance of some of the social phenomena.

Course outline:

Unit I Emergence of Sociology: Basic Concepts - Society, Community, Groups, Institutions and Associations, Status and Role.

Unit II Social Processes: Associative Process (Cooperation, Accommodation, Assimilation) - Dissociative Process (Conflict, Competition).

Unit III Social Stratification: Characteristics of Social Stratification – Theories and Forms of Stratification.

Unit IV Culture: Conceptual Discussion - Cultural Lag - Culture and Civilization.


Suggested References:
SOCL 412: CLASSICAL SOCIOLOGICAL TRADITIONS

Course Objective:

This course is designed to acquaint students with the thought of the founders of sociology. It is intended to give students grounding in sociological theory that they can carry over and apply to all other courses on society.

Course Outline:

Unit I The Rise of Sociology in the 19th century: The Positivism of Saint Simon and August Comte
Unit II Karl Marx: Dialectical Materialism; Surplus Value; Alienation of labour; and Class Conflict.
Unit III Emile Durkheim: The Division of Labour; Rules of Sociological Method; Religion and Society; Study of Suicide
Unit IV Max Weber: Verstehen; Bureaucracy, World Religions and Western Capitalism
Unit V Comparing Marx, Weber and Durkheim: Methodology: Marx, Weber and Durkheim; Religion: Durkheim and Weber; Capitalism: Marx and Weber
Unit VI Vilfredo Pareto: Logical and non-logical Action; Circulation of Elites.

Suggested References:


SOCL 413: SOCIOLOGY OF INDIA

Course Objective:

The course addresses sociological studies of caste, religion, village, family, and kinship. As a precursor to these, the first section includes two essays on the institutional framework within which sociology and social anthropology developed in India along with an understanding of the approaches. The course is also meant as a prelude to a course on perspectives in understanding Indian society to be taken up in the following semester.

Course Outline:

Unit I  The rise of Sociology and Social anthropology in India; Approaches to the study of Indian society.

Unit II Caste Structure and Change: Varna and caste; caste and hierarchy; hierarchy and its critique; caste and race, caste and colonialism; caste and politics.

Unit III Village in India: Nature of Village community; Myth and Reality of the Indian Village.

Unit IV Kinship & Family in India: Nature of family and kinship; Family and Household; Nuclear versus Joint Family debate.

Unit V Tribes: Conceptualizing Tribes; Tribes as indigenous people; tribes and their transformation; caste and tribe.

Unit VI Religions of India: Sects, shrines and saints.

Suggested References:


23. Special Issue of Seminar 1960 devoted to Tribes in India.
SOCL 421: CONTEMPORARY SOCIOLOGICAL THEORIES

Course Objective:

The objectives of this course are (1) to offer a historical background within which sociological theories have emerged; (2) to accustom students with contemporary sociological theorists and their work; and (3) to develop critical thoughts and assessment of sociological theory.

Course Outline:

Unit I  Philosophical Background of Sociological Theory

Unit II  Functionalism and Neo-Functionalism: Talcott Parsons: Structural Functionalism; Robert K Merton: Revision of Functional Analysis; Jeffrey Alexander: Neo-functionalism

Unit III  Conflict Theory: Karl Marx and the origin of conflict; Ralf Dahrendorf: The Dialectical Conflict Model; Lewis A Coser: The Conflict Functionalism

Unit IV  Exchange Theory: George C. Homans: The Exchange Behaviourism; Peter M. Blau: The Structural Exchange; Richard Emerson: The Exchange Network Theory.

Unit V  Symbolic Interactionism, Phenomenology and Ethnomethodology: Contributions of G. H. Mead and Herbert Blumer; Contributions of Edmund Husserl and Alfred Schutz; Ideas of Harold Garfinkel

Unit VI  Recent Trends In Sociological Theorizing: Michel Foucault – Power; Jacques Derrida –Deconstruction; Pierre Bourdieu – Theory of Practice

Suggested References:

SOCL 422: INDIAN SOCIOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVES

Course Objective:

The course primarily focuses on the differing theoretical perspectives on Indian Society from late 19th Century to the end of 20th century and their role in shaping the field of sociology. It focuses on scholars with varying research trajectories and the threads that bind them together into a perspective. The course combines biography, institutional history, contribution and critical assessment of the sociologist.

Course Outline:

Unit I  Sociology in India: Past and Present

Unit II  Indological/Textual Perspective: G.S.Ghurye; Louis Dumont.

Unit III  Structural-Functional Perspective: M.N.Srinivas; S.C.Dube.

Unit IV  Marxist Perspective: D.P. Mukherji; A.R.Desai.

Unit V  Cultural and Civilizational Perspective: Yogendra Singh; N.K.Bose.

Unit VI  Subaltern Perspective: B.R.Ambedkar; Ranajit Guha.

Suggested References:


SOCL 423: RESEARCH METHODS AND STATISTICS

Course Objective:

This course provides philosophical underpinnings of the social research and familiarizes the students with methodological tools and statistical techniques, explaining quantitative and qualitative methods, which will help them to undertake empirical research independently.

Course Outline:

Unit I  Philosophy of social science research; Methods and methodology

Unit II  Quantitative Methods: Nature of quantitative research, Tools of quantitative methods - Hypothesis, Questionnaire, and Sampling.

Unit III  Qualitative Methods: Nature of qualitative research, Tools of qualitative methods - Observation, Interview, Interview Guide, Case study, Oral history, ethnography and Content analysis

Unit IV  Doing Research: Formulation of research topic, review of literature, skills in conducting field work, report writing.

Unit V  Descriptive Statistics: Measures of central tendency, measures of dispersion, Skewness, Kurtosis – Bivariate distributions, Characteristics of Association

Unit VI  Descriptive Statistics: Statistical tests - Chi square, t-test, Analysis of Variance, Correlation and Regression, SPSS.

Suggested References:


SOCL 511: SOCIOLOGY OF DEVELOPMENT

Course Objective:

The objective of this course is to explore dominant schools of development theories and to highlight issues related to development and its impact on society.

Course Outline:

Unit I Basic Concepts: Social Change, Evolution, Growth, Progress, Modernization and Development


Unit V Comparing Modernization, Dependency and World System Perspective: Comparison of the Dependency and Modernization Schools; Comparison of Dependency and World System Perspective

Unit VI Alternatives in Development: Gunnar Myrdal – Soft State; E. F. Schumacher – Small is Beautiful; Amartya Sen – Public Action; Mahatma Gandhi – Hind Swaraj.

Suggested References:

SOCL 512: AGRARIAN SOCIAL STRUCTURE IN INDIA

Course Objective:
This course provides a background of agrarian studies and its growth in Indian sociology. It tries to provide a comprehensive understanding to the students on agrarian structure and change in India particularly, under the impact of colonialism, planning and the recent neo-liberalism and the underlying conceptual and theoretical issues.

Course Outline:

Unit I  
Emergence of Agrarian studies: Emergence of Agrarian studies as a subject of Sociological inquiry; Agrarian studies in Indian Sociology, Approaches to study Indian agrarian social structure.

Unit II  
Conceptual Issues: The Concept of peasant and peasant society; Caste, tribe and peasantry.

Unit III  
Evolution of agrarian structure in pre-colonial and colonial India: Measures of Land Settlement (Permanent, Royatwari and Mahalwari); Commercialisation of Agriculture; Commodification of land and de-peasantisation.

Unit IV  
Agrarian Change in Post-Independent India: Land reforms; Green Revolution, Debate over mode of production and class differentiation in agriculture.

Unit V  
Economic Reforms and Agrarian Change: Agricultural productivity, Regional disparity; Farmer suicides.

Unit VI  
Agrarian Mobilisation and Movements: Peasant mobilization and movements in colonial and post colonial period; New farmers’ movements.

Suggested References:


SOCL 513: SOCIAL MOVEMENTS IN INDIA

Course Objective:

This course aims to inculcate students with sociological perspectives to study social movements. It provides an overview of conceptual and theoretical issues in the study of social movements. This course also illustrates certain significant social movements in India, stretching from pre-colonial to contemporary period.

Course Outline:

Unit I  Introduction: Components and stages of social movements; conceptual issues in the study of social movements;

Unit II Typology: Regressive movements; revolutionary movements; reactionary movements; reformatory movements; transformative movements; millenarian movements; expressive movements

Unit III Theories: Relative Deprivation; Structural Strain; Marxist; Post Marxist – Resource Mobilization and Contemporary debate.

Unit IV Tribal movements: Bodo Movement; Birsa Munda movement, Jharkhand movement.

Unit V Backward Class Movement: Self-respect movement; SNDP movement, Satyashodak Samaj Movement.

Unit VI New Social Movements: Women’s Movement; Environmental movement; Dalit movements; Anti-corruption movements; New Farmer’s Movement.

Suggested References:


SOCL 521: INDUSTRIAL SOCIOLOGY

Course Objective:
This course gives a scientific understanding of Industrial Society. It helps the students to understand the nature of Industrial problems. It also equips the students to prevent and to settle the Industrial problems.

Course outline:

Unit I  Industrial Sociology: Emergence of Industrial Sociology, Development of Industrial Sociology, Task of Industrial Sociology, Social Welfare and Social Relations.

Unit II  Rise And Development Of Industry: Early Industrialism - Types of Productive Systems - The Manorial or Feudal system - The guild system - The domestic or putting-out system - and the factory system - Characteristics of the factory system - causes and Consequences of industrialization.


Unit IV  Industrial Management: The Managerial Structure - Line and Staff Organizations - Functions of Line and Staff - Supervisors - White collar Workers - Blue collar Workers and Specialists.

Unit V  Industrial Disputes: Meaning - Forms: Strike and Lock-out - Types of Strike - Causes of Industrial Disputes (with reference to India) - Machinery of prevention - Joint Consultative Machinery - Works Committee - Code of Discipline - Standing orders - grievance procedure - Settlement of Industrial Disputes - Machinery (with reference to India) - Conciliation Machinery - Arbitration Machinery – Adjudication.


Suggested References:

3. Mamoria, C.B. and Mamoria. S, Dynamics of Industrial Relations In India.


SOCL 522: ECONOMIC SOCIOLOGY

Course Objective:

This course is based on a critique of the ‘mainstream’ economics, particularly the neo-classical economics and tries to explain the relationship between economy and society. It will enable the students to view economy and economic activities from sociological perspectives.

Course Outline:

Unit I Emergence of economic sociology: Emergence of economic sociology as a critique of main stream economics.

Unit II Classical sociological views of the economy: Marx: critique of political economy; Durkheim: division of labour; Weber: sociology of capitalism; Veblen: Conspicuous consumption.

Unit III Recent sociological interpretation of economy: Polanyi (economy as instituted process), Granovetter (Problem of embeddedness).

Unit IV Rise of new economic sociology: Approaches of new economic sociology, new economic sociology and classical economic sociology

Unit V Economic action and social structure: Varieties of embeddedness, social networks in economic behaviour.

Unit VI Socio-cultural context of economic development: Culture and development with special reference to India, Social background of business groups.

Suggested References:


SOCL 523 PROJECT WORK AND VIVA
SOFT CORE PAPERS
SOCL 414: SOCIOLOGY OF CULTURE

Course Objective:

The course seeks to provide students with a foundation in cultural sociology. It will survey major themes and issues in cultural sociology considering the sociological approach to culture, which entails answering the following questions: “What is culture and what does it do?” and “How is culture to be studied?”

Course Outline:

Unit I  Conceptualizing Culture
Unit II  Culture as Value and Norms
Unit III Culture as Ideology
Unit IV  Culture as Marker of Group Status
Unit V  Culture, Nationalism, Identity

Suggested References:


12. Hall, John R., Mary Jo Neitz, and Marshall Battani. 2003 *Sociology on Culture*


SOCL 415: SOCIOLOGY OF HEALTH

Course Objective:

This course intends to introduce the students to the social construction of health and the approaches to understanding health and illness. It looks at health from the sociological point of view by looking into the social inequalities in health status and social stigma of various physical conditions.

Course outline:

Unit I  Conceptual Analysis: Health, Sickness, Illness, Disease- Perspectives on Health and Illness.

Unit II  Perspectives on ‘Body’ in Health Care: Naturalist, Social Constructionist and Phenomenological.

Unit III Social Inequalities and Health Status: Class Structure and Health, Gender and Health, Ethnicity and Health.

Unit IV Health Problems and Stigma: Epilepsy, AIDS, Leprosy and Mental Health.

Unit V The State and Health in India: The History of Medicine in India, Indian System of Medicine: Past and Present, Health Policy of Govt. of India, Universal Health Coverage, Health Insurance, Privatization of Health Services.

Suggested References:

SOCL 416: SOCIOLOGY OF MUSLIM COMMUNITIES IN INDIA

Course Objective:

The study of India for a long time has been the study of Hindu India. This notion has led to the reification of Hinduism and the neglect of Muslim traditions. The course introduces the student to the diversity in/of the Muslim world, within a framework that views religion from an ethnographic and historical perspective rather than theological. The course will follow a historical / contextual approach in understanding various institutions and movements, with an emphasis on embeddedness.

Course Outline:

Unit I  Islamic world: A brief history of the emergence and spread of Islam in India; stereotyping of Muslims; approaches to the emergence of Islam and Muslim Societies.

Unit II  Muslim community: From Nationalism to Secularism.

Unit III  Islamic ideology & reform: Reform movements and resurgence of religious and cultural identity; the role of Madrasas.

Unit IV  Lived Islam in India: Regional and Sectarian variations among Muslims: Caste among Muslims; Religious practices, festivals. Sufism, shrines, and inclusive influence.

Unit V  Contemporary Issues: Sachar Committee report; Economic condition of Muslims in India. Community vs. citizenship debates.

Suggested References:


SOCL 417: SOCIOLOGY OF DISASTERS

Course Objective:

The objective of this course is to introduce students to sociological examination of disasters. This course begins with the premise that disasters are fundamentally social events that reflect the ways that we live and structure our communities and societies. It examines sociological theories about the causes and consequences of disasters.

Course Outline:

Unit I  Introducing Disaster: The Disaster Construct, Mainstream Topics of Hazards and Disaster Research, Conceptual Understanding of Societal Response to Disaster.

Unit II  Social Science Research Agenda for the Disasters: Theoretical, Methodological and Empirical Issues.

Unit III  Disaster Vulnerability and Social Marginality: Race, Class, Caste, Ethnicity, and Gender.

Unit IV  Sociological Studies and Disaster: Case Studies from India and Beyond.

Unit V  Disaster Prevention and Mitigation: Sustainable Reduction of Disasters.

Suggested References:


SOCL 418: SOCIAL DEMOGRAPHY

Course Objective:

The course examines the aspects of population composition, the theoretical perspectives and policy implications.

Course Outline:

Unit I

Unit II

Unit III
Fertility and Mortality: Concepts, Measurements and Determinants

Unit IV
Migration: Measuring migration-Types of Migration - Theories of Migration- Consequences of Migration.

Unit V

Suggested References:


**SOCL 424: SOCIOLOGY OF WORK**

**Course Objective:**

This course provides a sociological perspective in the understanding of work. It is also aimed at familiarizing the students with the theoretical approaches and get them acquainted with the transformation in the notion of work across time. The course also provides a preliminary understanding about the debates on women and work.

**Course outline:**

**Unit I**  

**Unit II**  
Approaches to Work: Marx, Weber, Durkheim.

**Unit III**  

**Unit IV**  

**Unit V**  
Work in the Era of Globalization: Labour Migration, Call Centres.

**Suggested References:**

7. Schneider, Eugene: *Industrial Sociology: The Social Relations of Industry and the Community*,
SOCL 425: SOCIOLOGY OF MEDIA

Course Objective:

Drawing upon various media including television, radio, books, film, and the internet, the course will examine the social, cultural and political underpinnings of media, the content of media messages, the relationship between media and the public, and the growth of new media technologies. The course assumes that mass media and the industries that produce media products play significant cultural and political roles in contemporary societies.

Course Outline:

Unit I  Introduction to Sociology of Media: Folk, Popular, Mass, and Alternate

Unit II  Theoretical Approaches to Media Studies: Cultural Studies, Public Domain and Semiotics

Unit III  The Politics of Media: Political Processes, Media and State, Building Political Reality

Unit IV  Globalization and Media: Neoliberalism, Visual Culture

Unit V  New Media: Technology, Creativity, Community, Internet, Alternative Identities

Suggested References:

SOCL 426: ECOLOGY AND SOCIETY

Course Objective:
The course takes a historical approach in tracing the emergence of environmentalism and the establishment of environment sociology as an academic discipline. The course also discusses significant theories and concepts related to the subject linking them through appropriate case studies to environmental problems, regulation/policy and movements.

Course Outline:

Unit I
The History of Environmentalism: colonial and post colonial eras

Unit II
Environmental sociology: theoretical precursors and conceptual shifts- Classical founders (Durkheim, Weber and Marx) and Pioneers (Radhakamal Mukerjee), Human Exceptionalism paradigm, New ecological Paradigm, Political ecology.

Unit III

Unit IV
Culture, Gender and Environment: Culture and Environment, Social Structure and Natural resources, Eco-feminism, Women and Protection of the Commons.

Unit V
Environmental Problems, Movements and Regulation: Climate Change; Environmental Health and Toxins-Disasters and Hazards-Risk society and Environmental Justice Movement, Industry, Dams, Mining and Displacement

Suggested References:


SOCL 427: SOCIOLOGY OF GENDER

Course Objective:
The course introduces the students to feminist theory and methodology. We then move to discuss the concerns of the women’s movement in India in which differences, of class, caste, and community and rural-urban divide are attended to. We also explore the gender gaps in development, employment, land distribution and inheritance. Finally, we explore women’s role in the political process where privilege and oppression may be grounded in identity defined through simultaneous claim and disavowal

Course Outline:

Unit I Basic Concepts and theoretical background to gender and feminist theory.

Unit II Understanding Women’s Movement in India.

Unit III Gender and Caste; Family; Work and Property.

Unit IV Gender and Development

Unit V Gender, Religion and Politics.

Suggested References:


SOCL 428: SOCIAL STRATIFICATION

Course Objective:

The objective of this paper is to develop a critical understanding of the approaches, theories and dimensions of social stratification. It contextualises social stratification in a caste-class-gender frame-work.

Course Outline:

Unit I Concepts: Inequality, Hierarchy, differentiation, Social Exclusion, Social Mobility and Social Stratification.

Unit II Theories: Karl Marx (Class and Social Change), Max Weber (Class, Status and Party), Kingsley Davis and Wilbert E. Moore (functionalist perspective).

Unit III Forms of stratification: Caste, Class and Estate.

Unit IV Gender and Social Stratification: Patriarchy and Gender; Factors perpetuating Gender Stratification; Globalization and Gender Inequality.

Unit V Social Mobility: the concept of social mobility, Conditions and Consequences of Social Mobility

Suggested References:

SOCL 514: SOCIOLOGY OF URBANISATION

Course Objective:

The objective of this course is to understand the Indian cities as living, lived-in entities. The course introduces the student to ideologies, attitudes, institutions and practices in cities across time.

Course Outline:

Unit I History of Urban Studies in India: Ancient and Medieval period, Colonial period, Post - independence period.

Unit II Approaches and theories of Urban Society: Approaches - Disorganization approach and Value orientation approach; Theory: Concentric zone theory and Sector theory.

Unit III Urbanization and Social Change: Urban influence on economic and political aspects of India and Puducherry, Urbanization in Puducherry.

Unit IV Issues of Urbanization: Growth of urban population in India, Problems of housing, Slums, profile of an Indian slum, Urban poverty, Urban violence.


Suggested References:


SOCL 515: SOCIOLOGY OF MIGRATION

Course Objective:

Migration continues to be an immensely important political, economic, social and cultural issue and one that is prone to social mobility. This course introduces students to the world of migration, mobility and migrant imagination. This course facilitates the participants understand the gender in migration and to examine critically the recruitment practices and institutional frameworks.

Course outline:

Unit I Migration: Conceptual issues, Typology, Migrant transnationalism.

Unit II Migration and social mobility: Migration, modernity and social transformation.

Unit III Gender and migration: Women on the move, Marriage and migration, Transformation of gender relations and female identities, Forced migrant women, Migrant women and domestic work.

Unit IV Migrant memory and imagination: Narrating the migrant life- Salman Rushdie, Bharati Mukherjee, V.S. Naipaul.

Unit V The migration and the institutional framework in India: The process of migration from India, Emigration governance and recruitment practices of India, Vulnerability, corruption and institutional framework.

Suggested References:


SOCL 516: GLOBALIZATION AND SOCIETY

Course Objective:

The course will give the students an overview of the emergence of globalization from socio-historical and politico-economic contexts, along with the main theoretical discourses. The students will also be apprised of the different socio-cultural consequences of globalization.

Unit I Conceptualizing Globalization. The historical and social context of Globalization; Political Economy of Globalization; Agencies of Globalization: TNC’s, IGO’s, INGO’s, Nation-State, Media.


Unit III Globalization, Culture and Communication. The three paradigms: homogenization, polarization and hybridization; ‘Medium is the Message’; Globalization and the resurgence of ethnic consciousness; multiculturalism.

Unit IV Social Consequences of Globalization- Case studies from India. Agriculture and Globalization; Food and Globalization; Occupational changes and Transnational Migration: Outsourcing, Software industry; Special Economic Zones; Response of the marginalized groups; Tourism- ecotourism, medical tourism.

Unit V Making Globalization Accountable: Anti-Globalization Movements, Transnational civil society

Suggested Reading:


SOCL 517: SOCIAL CAPITAL

Course Objective:

The paper will focus on the emergence of social capital and its implications in understanding society.

Course Outline:

Unit I  Emergence of Social Capital: Bourdieu’s theory of capital (economic, cultural and social capital) and Coleman’s Rational Choice Approach to Social Capital (Kinds of social capital).

Unit II  Civic Perspective on Social Capital: Robert D. Putnam’s concept of social capital – Elements of social capital – Characteristics of social capital – Bridging vs. bonding social capital – Critique of Putnam’s concept.


Unit IV The resource perspective: Nan Lin’s concept of social capital - Institutions, network and capital building in societal transformation.

Unit V Social Capital approach to development: role of social capital in economic and cultural development - Critical evaluation of social capital.

Suggested References:


SOCL 518: SOCIOLOGY OF CASTE

Course Objective:

The course endeavors to introduce the student to get a glimpse of narrative of caste in Sociology of India. It begins with the commonsense about caste and the need to move away from the contexts that enable the naturalization of this commonsense. It maps the modern lives of caste since the colonial times to the present.

Course Outline:

Unit I  Caste in contemporary India (Why bother about caste?)
Unit II  Theorizing Caste
Unit III  Caste and Colonialism: What does colonialism do to caste? (a vantage point from the historical perspective)
Unit IV  Sociologists evaluate change in caste (system).
Unit V  Modern lives of caste: How do diverse caste identities negotiate with the modern? Caste in politics; Caste in ‘globalisation’.

Suggested References:


SOCL 519: SOCIOLOGY OF TERRORISM

Course Objective:

The course is designed to give students an overview of terrorism and its impact on Indian society. It hopes to prepare the students to understand the contemporary problems associated with terrorism and to anticipate problems that society will face in the twenty-first century.

Course Outline:

Unit I  Introduction to Terrorism: Concept of terrorism and terrorist, Terrorists groups typologies.

Unit II  Approaches to Terrorism Analysis: The multi-casual approach, the political approach, the organisational approach, the physiological approach, the psychological approach.

Unit III  Poverty, Inequality and Terrorism Relationship: Understanding the root causes of terrorism, the role of religion in terrorism.

Unit IV  The Impact of communication and Technology in terrorism: Communication methods in terrorist organisation, Terrorists and internet, Emerging threat of cyber-terrorism.

Unit V  Terrorism in India: Causes, Consequences and Possible solution.

Suggested References:

SOCL 524: RELIGION AND SOCIETY IN INDIA

Course Objective:

The course introduces the student to the diversity in/of India’s ‘religions’ and traditions in everyday lives of people. The course also discusses the seminal theories in sociology of religion. It explores the relation between religion and politics, and introduces the thesis of secularization and the debate on secularism in India.

Course Outline:

Unit I Sociological approaches to the study of religion.
Unit II Religions in India; demographic profile; sects, cults, shrines and saints.
Unit III Religious movements in the colonial times and after.
Unit IV Religion, identity and politics.
Unit V Secularization and the debate on secularism in India

Suggested References:

6 and 7).


SOCL 525: YOUTH AND SOCIETY

Course Objective:

This Course is designed to acquaint students with selected sociological concepts, theories and their applications to problems in the sociology of youth.

Course Outline:

Unit I  Introduction to the study of Youth: Theories of Youth, Youth Culture and Subculture

Unit II Institutions and Youth: Family, Community, Socialization

Unit III Ethnicity, Identity and Youth: Social, Emotional and Personality Development, The Self and Identity, Gender, Sexuality, Moral Development, Values and Religion, Achievement, Careers and Work

Unit IV Inter and Intra group Behaviours: Peer Groups, Mass Behaviour, Delinquency and Remoteness, and Resilience

Unit V Youth and Globalization: Understanding globalization, Debates against and for globalization among youth

Suggested References:


SOCL 526: SOCIOLOGY OF CONSUMPTION

Course Objective:

This course attempts to outline the theoretical approaches in understanding consumption with a critical eye on the intersection of production and consumption in global culture. The course also seeks to evaluate attempts to influence social change through either consumer activism or resistance to consumerism and to analyse the complex social meaning of particular commodities.

Course outline:

Unit I  Introduction to Consumption: What we consume, Why we consume and How we consume

Unit II Theories on Consumption: Mary Douglas, Jean Baudrillard, Pierre Bourdieu, Thorstein Veblen, Arjun Appadurai

Unit III Traditional and Modern Consumption Patterns: Primitive Values, Ethics, Community Welfare, Colonialism, Industrialization, Private Ownership, Science and Technology

Unit IV Understanding Material Culture: Locating Material Culture, Material Culture and Identity, Objects and Meaning in Consumer Culture

Unit V Socio-Cultural Characteristic of Consumer Indulgence in India

Suggested References:


SOCL 527: SOCIOLOGY OF EDUCATION

Course Objective:

The objectives of this course are: (1) to explain the discipline of education in Sociological perspectives; and (2) to illustrate the role of education in desirable social change, sustainability and socio-economic development.

Course Outline:

Unit I  Introduction to sociology of education: Meaning and social functions of education; Education and development

Unit II  Theoretical approaches to sociology of education: Functionalist, Conflict, Symbolic integrationist, and Feminist.

Unit III  The Indian Tradition of Education: Colonialism and Education, Contribution of Nationalists.

Unit IV  Policies and Programmes: Objectives, Strategies, Achievements, and Shortfalls.

Unit V  Education and Globalization: Education and Social Inequality in the Global Culture.

Suggested References:

3. Channa, Karuna: Interrogating Women's Education, Jaipur and New Delhi, Rawat
5. Gore, M.S. et.all (ed.): Papers on Sociology of Education in India, New Delhi, NCERT, 1975.
SOCL 528: SOCIOLOGY OF AGING

Course Objective:
To understand and apply sociological perspectives on aging, particularly the life-course perspective; to understand the diversity of the older population and the impact of rural/urban differences, culture, race, ethnicity, social class, and gender; to understand the basis of stereotypes of aging and their impacts; to understand major substantive areas of aging such as politics, health, family relationships and care-giving, work and retirement and economic well-being.

Course Outline:

Unit I    Introduction to the Sociology of Aging: The field of the gerontology - Demographic trends of aging - Concept of life course and transitions.

Unit II   Theories and Perspectives of Aging: Theories of aging - Historical and cross-cultural perspectives of aging.

Unit III  Aging and Society: Poverty among the aged and social variables affecting inequality - Aged and politics.

Unit IV   Life Transitions and the Needs of the Aged: Social support - living arrangements - Work and retirement of the aged - Issues of aging in India and selected countries.

Unit V    Social Security and Health Care of Aged in India: Families and Community in providing care - Government policies and programmes - Role of Non-Governmental organizations in care of Aged.

Suggested References:
SOCL 529 POLITICAL SOCIOLOGY

Course Objective:
The course introduces the student to basic concepts, and approaches to the study of the political sociology. It discusses the complex patterns of change in democratic institutions. The transformations of state and society under capitalism and socialism are also discussed.

Course Outline:

Unit I  Nature and Scope of Political Sociology: Basic Concepts: Power and Authority; Consensus and Conflict; Elites and Masses; State and Stateless Societies; Political Parties and Pressure Groups.

Unit II  Approaches to the Study of Politics: Authority and Bureaucracy (Max Weber); Circulation of Elite and Political Elite (Pareto And C W Mills); Political Systems and Other Social Systems.

Unit III  Political Development: Political Socialization; Political Culture; Political Participation; Nation State and Nation Building;

Unit IV  Local Structures of Power: Varieties of Local Power Structure; Local Power Structures and the Wider Political System. State and Society under Capitalism; State and Society under Socialism.

Unit V  State and Society in India: Caste and Politics; Religion and Politics; Region and Politics; Ethnicity and Politics.

Suggested References:


