Course Objective

The course aims to provide a systematic introduction to sociology. It lays emphasis on the theoretical and methodological foundations of Sociology. Equal importance is given to a systematic introduction to the Sociological studies in India. Contributions of eminent Indian Sociologists and substantial themes of Indian Society are included in the syllabus. The students are exposed to divergent perspectives within sociology and acquire the necessary skills to understand various social phenomena through the perspectives of Sociology.
# COURSE STRUCTURE

## I SEMESTER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hrs/Wk</th>
<th>Marks</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SOC 131</td>
<td>Foundations of Sociology</td>
<td>5</td>
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## II SEMESTER

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<tr>
<td>SOC 231</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Study of Indian Society – I</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOC 431</td>
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<td>SOC 531</td>
<td>Analysis of Contemporary Social Issues</td>
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<td>SOC 532</td>
<td>Methods of Social Research</td>
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## VI SEMESTER

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<td>SOC 631</td>
<td>Sociology of Women</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOC 632</td>
<td>Study of Social Movements</td>
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### FOUNDATIONS OF SOCIOLOGY

#### SEMESTER I

**PAPER CODE – 131**

*75 Hrs*
Hrs / Wk 5 / Marks 100 / Credits 4

Module I : Sociology as the Study of Society

a) Individual in Society. Society as Constraint; The role of Culture and Socialization.
b) Defining Sociology-study of Patterned regularities in social life; social relationships and social change. (Jayaram N, Introductory Sociology, pp 1-13)  

15 Hrs

Module II : The Sociological Perspective

a) Sociology as viewing human action as elements of wider figurations; Sociology as a way of thinking about society; Sociology and common sense (Bauman, Zygmunt, *Thinking Sociologically*, pp 1-19)  

10 Hrs

Module III : Three Traditions in Sociological Perspective

a) Society as an ordered structure with functions; role of value consensus and conflict as aberration (Structural Functionalism)
b) Conflictual nature of society; fundamental contradictions of interests; Exploitation and oppression as inherent in society (Conflict Perspectives)
c) Society as a Construction; construction of meanings; negotiation of social roles (Interactionist Perspectives) (Haralambos, M & Heald. *Sociology: Themes and Perspectives*, pp 9-21)  

20 Hrs
Module IV: Social Stratification and Inequality

a) Social vs. Natural Inequalities; Stratification and reproduction of inequality.
b) Social Stratification – Functionalist explanation: Davis and Moore, Tumin
c) Social Stratification – Marxist Perspective: centrality of economic power
d) Social Stratification – Weberian Perspective: Class, Status and Power

(Haralambos, M & Heald. Sociology: Themes and Perspectives, pp 27-44)

15 Hrs

Module V: Deviance and Power

a) Deviance and Power – A Functionalist perspective: Social Structure and anomie,
b) Deviance and Power – A Marxist Perspective: Class, Law and Deviance.
c) Deviance and Power Interactionist Perspective: Labelling theory

(Haralambos, M & Heald. Sociology: Themes and Perspectives, pp 408-451)

15 Hrs

Essential Readings


Recommended Readings

This course is intended to introduce the students to the work of pioneering sociological thinkers. The major focus of the course will be on a critical evaluation of the contributions of Auguste Comte, Herbert Spencer, Emile Durkheim, Max Weber and Karl Marx. The major ideas of the respective thinkers will be examined in the context of their total philosophy.

Module I : Historical Context of the emergence of Sociology

   a) Transition from Social Philosophy to Sociology, b) Enlightenment and emergence of reason. Emergence of modernity, c) French Revolution and Industrial Revolution, d) Contributions of Auguste Comte and Spencer.

   15 Hrs

Module II : The Discovery and Study of Society

   a) Emile Durkheim (1858 – 1917) – Conception of society; sociology as study of social facts; the normal and the pathological; sociological explanation; Suicide as a study of social facts.
   b) Karl Marx (1818-1883) The primacy of production-Marx’s Method: the starting point the importance of practical/everyday life, individualism, action/structure dualism.
   c) Max Weber (1864-1920) The primacy of social action, Meaningful social action, Typology of social action, society/individual dualism, the ideal type.

   20 Hrs
Module III : Conceptions of Social Structure

a) Emile Durkheim (1858-1917) Types of Solidarity : The Division of Labour mechanical and organic solidarity; conscience collective, the nature of religion arguments in Elementary Forms

b) Karl Marx (1818-1883) Conception of human nature; Mode of Production, Base-Superstructure Model, Social Class The peasantry, The bourgeoisie, The proletariat, The lumpenproletariat; The continued significance of class.

c) Max Weber (1864-1920) fundamental concepts of sociology- Legitimacy, Conflict, Communal and Associative relationships, Corporate Groups, Class, Status and Party; Power, domination and authority.

20 Hrs

Module IV : History and Social Change

a) Emile Durkheim (1858-1917) Organic Analogy and Durkheim’s theory of history; The division of labour; social species, Anomie

b) Karl Marx (1818-1883) Historical laws and laws of history; modes of production. Asiatic mode of production, oriental despotism, ancient mode of production, feudalism, evolution from feudalism to capitalism; the dynamics of capitalism.

c) Max Weber (1864-1920) – Religion and Economy. The Protestant Ethic and the spirit of capitalism; Historical trends towards rationalization and bureaucratization

20 Hrs

Essential Readings :

Recommended readings

This paper focuses on the Development of sociology in India, its relationship to colonial anthropology, orientalism and Indology and a number of approaches that emerged in Indian sociology over these years. It introduces the students to the counter influences of power and knowledge especially during the time of colonialism. The paper also introduces students to the theoretical foundations of empirical, structural, Marxist and subaltern approaches to the study of Indian society. Along with these theoretical foundations this paper introduces a number of seminal works in each of these areas.

**Module I : Sociology and the study of Indian Society.**

a) Emergence of Anthropology and Colonialism in India, b) Role of Indologists, British Administrators and Christian Missionaries, c) Introduction to Edward Said and Orientalism.

**Module II : Foundational approaches to the study of Indian Society**

a) Indological understanding of Indian society., b) Critique of indological perspective; c) Structural Functional perspective and empirical approach, d) Critique of empirical perspective and structural approach

**Module III : Sociological studies on Caste in India.**

a) Indological account of caste system - G S Ghurye b) MN Srinivas and empirical studies on caste-Rampura village, Dominant caste, Sanskritisation, and westernization, c) Dumont on caste. Homo Hierarchicus; The thesis of purity and impurity, disjunction between power and status;, d) Diipankar Gupta; continuous hierarchies and Discrete groups, e) Nicholas Dirks; Caste as a modern phenomenon
Module IV : Village studies in India

a) Indological account of villages in India; Village as a little republic, b) Srinivas Dumont debate on the nature of Indian Village, c) Recent trends in Village studies

15 Hrs

Module V : Introduction to Subaltern Studies :

a) Subaltern studies as the critique of dominant forms of historiographies in India, b) contributions of Ranajit Guha.

10 Hrs

Essential Readings


Recommended Readings

STUDY OF INDIAN SOCIETY – II

SEMESTER IV

PAPER CODE  431 :

Hrs / Wk 5 / Marks 100 / Credits 4

Module I : Introduction to Indian Society

a) An introduction to Indian Society - S.C.Dube, b) Pluralistic Composition of Indian Society  
5 Hrs

Module II : Caste in India

a) Caste and its intersection with status and power in India – Beteille  
b) Caste and Politics in India – Rajni Kothari  
c) Caste inequalities in Contemporary India. – Satish Deshpande  
15 Hrs

Module III : Family and Kinship in India

a) Introduction to family and kinship, b) Approaches to the study of the family-Structural functionalist, Marxian and Feminist approaches, c) Kinship studies in India-Uberoi, d) Regional variations of kinship systems in India-Karve, Kapadia, Gough, Nongbri, e) Impact of legislations and socio-economic changes Agnes, Shah  
25 Hrs

Module IV : Tribes in India

a) Conceptualization issues, b) Tribal situation in contemporary India, c) Tribal movements for assertion of tribal identity – Jharkhand, d) Tribal Bill  
15 Hrs

Module V : Religions of India

a) Significance of religion, b) Plurality and pluralism, c) Religion in everyday life  
15 Hrs
Essential Readings


Recommended Readings :

4. N.K.Behura and Nilakantha Panigrahi Tribals and the *Indian Constitution Rawat Publication 2006*
ANALYSIS OF CONTEMPORARY SOCIAL ISSUES

SEMESTER V

PAPER CODE : 531

60 Hrs

Hrs / Wk 4 / Marks 100 / Credits 3

Module I : Sociological Analysis of Social Issues

a) Structural Functionalist perspective Social Pathology, Anomie, Social disorganization.
b) Study of ‘Social Problems’ Cultural Roots, relativity
c) Critical Analysis of Social Issues Power, Ideology and Hegemony

15 Hrs

Module II : Caste Oppression and Violence against Dalits

a) Violence against dalits in post Independent India, b) Practice of untouchability in contemporary India, c) case study of violence against dalits instances such as Karamdhedu, Chunduru, Kambalapalli, Khairlanji, role of state and civil society

15 Hrs

Module III : ‘Sub-National’ Struggles in India

a) Overview of the Concepts of Nationalism and ‘sub-nationalism’, b) Indian nation-state and right to self-determination, c) Case study of ‘sub-national’ struggles in Kashmir and Manipur

10 Hrs

Module IV : Violence of Development

a) Concepts of modernization and development
b) Crisis in Development and its critiques.
c) Issue of Urban poverty-Changing patterns of urban land use, Issue of slum, urban planning and marginalization-case study of Bangalore.
d) Agrarian crisis in India-Farmers suicide and the agrarian policy
e) People’s rights and cultural issues. Development related displacement Case studies of instances such as privatization of water, giant power projects, policy of SEZ etc

20 Hrs

Essential Readings

2. Shah, Ghanshyam, Cultural Subordination & Dalit Challenge Vol II

Recommended Readings

SOCIAL RESEARCH METHODS

PAPER CODE : 532

Hrs / Wk 4 / Marks 100 / Credits 3

60 Hrs

Module I : Fundamentals of Social Research

a) Human Inquiry and Science, b) Paradigms, theory and Social Research, c) Ethical and Political Issues in Social Research Anonymity, confidentiality; Objectivity and Ideology

15 Hrs

Module II : The Structure of Inquiry

a) Research Design, Purposes of Research Exploration, Description, Explanation; Units of Analysis; How to design a research study, elements of a research proposal.

b) Conceptualization, Operationalization and Measurement, c) The Logic of Sampling Probability and Non-Probability Sampling

15 Hrs

Module III : The Modes of Observation

a) Questionnaire types, design issues, administration, b) Participant observation and Interviewing. Principles of Ethnographic field research; Participant/Observer continuum; Strategies for entering, watching, listening and recording; Exiting the field; Maintaining a Journal, c) Interviewing types; Selecting respondents; rapport; the interview guide; the interview situation (probing, cross-checking); the interviewers journal, d) The case study method.

15 Hrs

Module IV : Analysis of Data

a) Coding and Tabulation in quantitative analysis, b) Qualitative Analysis – Types of coding; Analytic memos; questions of reliability and validity; strengths and weaknesses.

10 Hrs
Module V: The Research Report

a) Organization of the Report Purpose and Overview, How to write a review of literature, guidelines for reporting analysis, references, bibliography.

5 Hrs

Essential Readings


Recommended Readings

Module I : Introduction to Women’s Studies

a) Sexist, Patriarchal, Phallocentric, Critique of knowledge and need for development of women’s studies. b) Aims and objectives of women’s studies, c) Women’s studies in India.

Module II : Understanding gender

a) Sex and Gender. Biological sex and social gender. Social and cultural, b) Construction of gender, theories-[Cognitive Development theory and social learning theory], c. Patriarchy – Concept, Origin, and Theories on patriarchy. Identifying the role of patriarchy in popular culture

Module III : Feminist approaches to study women

a. Liberal feminism on equal opportunities and same civil rights, b. Marxist feminism on family and household under capitalism, and socialization of domestic labor v/s wages for housework., c. Radical feminism on reproduction and mothering, feminist sexuality, d. Socialist feminism on Dual system theory and Unified system theory

Module IV : Women and violence

a. Violence as a means of controlling and subjugating women’s body. b. Expressions of violence-Rape, Domestic violence, Dowry death, c. Responses from state civil and society Domestic Violence Bill
Module V: Gender and Development

a. Gender as a development issue, b. Patterns of gender inequality in rights, resources, and voice., c. Gender and poverty feminization of poverty.

7 Hrs

Module VI: Women and Empowerment

a. Education and empowerment – gender gap in education, b. Economic independence and empowerment – under valuation and underpayment of women’s work in both informal and formal sector, c. Political participation and empowerment – women in local bodies, debate over 33% reservation

10 Hrs

Essential Readings

2. Veena Majumdar, 1985, Emergence of women’s question in India & the Role of Women’s Studies, CWDS Occasional Paper-7.
STUDY OF SOCIAL MOVEMENTS

PAPER CODE : 632
Hrs / Wk 4 / Marks 100 / Credits 3

Module I : Introduction to the study of Social Movements

a) Social Movements and Social Change, b) Definitions and classification of social movements, c) Elements of Social movements; Ideology, organizational structure, Leadership and Life Cycle of Social movements.

10 Hrs

Module II : Social Movements and Sociological Theory

a) Theories of Collective Behavior, b) Resource Mobilization Theory, c) Marxian theories on Social Movements, d) Theories of New Social Movements

10 Hrs

Module III : Naxalite Movements

a) Ideological roots of Naxalism, b) Naxal Bari uprising of 1966, c) Spread and growth of the movement to other parts of the country, d) Naxalite movement and state response

15 Hrs

Module IV : Dalit movement in India.

a) Origin and growth of dalit movements in India, b) Non-Brahmin movement in Tamil Nadu, c) Ambedkar and Dalit Ideology, d) Fragmentation of the Movement.

15 Hrs

Module V : Environmental Movements in India

a) A brief history of Environmental Movements in India, b) Chipko Movement and Narmada Bachavo Andolan, c) Environmental movements and the state in India.

10 hrs
Essential Readings


Recommended Readings:

5. Guru Gopal, 2004 ‘New Dalit Politics’ in RajendraVhora and Suhas Palshikar ed *India; Democracy, meaning and practices* Sage Publication, New Delhi.