

# VIDYASAGAR UNIVERSITY

## M.Phil Course in Sociology

### Syllabus

**Programme Duration:** 2 Years (4 semesters)

The components to be taught in classroom shall be normally completed within two semesters. Guided dissertation will be completed by the next two semesters.

**Programme outcome:** This programme helps to improve the standards of research by applying the advance concepts and theories and relating it to the social nexus. It will help in applying knowledge of Sociology in all the fields of learning including higher research and its extensions.

1. Acquire the advance knowledge in the field of Sociology.
2. Familiarise the students with the concepts of research methods.
3. Motivating the students for appearing in the competitive exams.

**Total Marks: 500**

#### Marks Distribution

##### **Semester-I**

Four core papers (Each paper 50, Total- 50 x 04=200)

##### **Semester-II**

Four core papers(Each paper 50, Total- 50 x 04=200)

##### **Semester-III**

Dissertation

##### **Semester-IV**

Dissertation (70 + 30= 100)

**No. of Seats-15**

##### **Eligibility of Candidates:**

As per University norms. PG-55%

**Subject Background:** *Sociology*

**Medium of instruction and writing:** *English.*

**Total credits=40 Credit.**

<b>Semester</b>	<b>Paper Code</b>	<b>Title of the Paper</b>	<b>Credit</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Semester</b>	SOC 111	Debates on Classical Theories in Sociology	4
	SOC 112	Critiquing Modern Sociological Theories	4
	SOC 113	Discourse on Research Methodologies	4
	SOC 114	Tools and Techniques of Sociological Studies	4
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Semester</b>	SOC 211	Feminism: Theories and Debates	4
	SOC 212	Media and Society	4
	SOC 213	Industry and Society	4
	SOC 214	Issues in Indian Society	4
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Year</b>	SOC 221	Dissertation & Viva-Voce	8
<b>Total</b>			40

**Debates on Classical Theories in Sociology**

**Course outcome:** This course provides an introduction to the history of sociological thought. The sociological perspectives of Marx, Durkheim and Weber which provide an exposure to European social history and the formation of modern social thought are covered comprehensively. The ideas of these classical thinkers are discussed in the context of philosophical traditions, so as to develop a social and political understanding of the society.

**Unit I: Emile Durkheim**

- Individual and Society
- The Sociology of religion
- The Sociology of Knowledge
- Functional explanation

**Unit II: Talcott Parsons**

- The System theory
- Theory of action
- Pattern variables

**Unit III: Karl Marx**

- Historical method
- Class theory
- Alienation
- The Sociology of Knowledge
- Dynamics of Social Classes

**Unit IV: Ralph Dahrendorf**

- Functions of Conflict Theory
- ICA

**Unit V: Karl Manheim**

- The Sociology of Knowledge
- The Sociology of Planned Reconstruction

**Readings**

- Abraham M. Francis. Modern Sociological Theories: An Introduction

- Aron Raymond: Marx Currents in Sociological Thought
- Coser. A. Lewis: Masters of Sociological Thought
- Durkheim. Emile: The Rules of Sociological Method edited with an Introduction by Steven Lukes translated by W. D. Ha.
- Marx. Karl & Friedrich: The German Ideology
- Shil. A. Edward & Finch. A. Henry: On the methodology of the Social Science (translated & edited)
- [http://www.social\\_sciences\\_and\\_humanities.com/pdf/docemnts/weber](http://www.social_sciences_and_humanities.com/pdf/docemnts/weber_on_methodology) on methodology.

### **Critiquing Modern Sociological Theories**

**Course outcome:** This course provides a critical approach towards modern sociological theories. The sociological perspectives of Blumer, Schutz, Goffman, Garfinkel which provide an exposure to modern social thought. The ideas of these modern thinkers are discussed in the context of contemporary sociological trends, so as to develop a critical perspective of social and political understanding of the society.

#### **Unit I: Symbolic Interactionism**

- Herbert Blumer

#### **Unit II: Phenomenology**

- Alfred Schutz

#### **Unit III: Ethnomethodology**

- Erving Goffman
- Harold Garfinkel

#### **Unit IV: Modernity**

- Reflexivity and Modernity and risk society: Anthony Giddens, Ulrich Beck
- Liquid Modernity: Zygmunt Bauman

#### **Unit V: Network and Space Theory**

- Network theory and spaces of flows: Manuel Castells
- Accumulation through Dispossession: David Harvey

#### **Readings**

- Bauman, Z. (2012) Liquid Modernity, Cambridge, Polity Press
- Beck, U. (2000) The cosmopolitan perspective: Sociology in the second age of modernity British Journal of Sociology 151: 79–106
- Beck, U. (2008) World at Risk, London: Polity Press, (Ch. 1 and 11)
- Blumer, H. (1969) Symbolic Interactionism. Englewood Cliffs, N.J, Prentice Hall
- Castells, M. (2002) The space of flows in Ida Susser (ed.) The Castells Reader on Cities and Social Theory. Oxford: Blackwell, 314-366.
- Garfinkel, H. (1967) Studies in Ethnomethodology (Social and political theory). Prentice Hall
- Giddens, A. (1990) The Consequences of Modernity. Stanford: Stanford University Press. (Part I and VI)
- Goffman, E. (1959) The Presentation of Self in Everyday Life. Anchor Books

- Harvey, D. (1987) Flexible accumulation through urbanization: Reflections on 'post-modernism' in the American city *Antipode* 19 (3): 260-286. Harvey, D. (2010)
- Harvey. D. Accumulation through dispossession
- Schutz. A (1967) *Phenomenology of Social World (Studies in Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy)*. Northwestern University Press

**Discourse on Research Methodologies**

**Course Outcome:** This course begins with a discussion on the epistemological basis of understanding of social phenomenon and proceeds with positivism and appropriate research strategies in social research.

**Unit I: Issues in the Theory of Epistemology**

- Nature of Social Reality
- Philosophy of Social Science
- Science and Logic
- Logic in Sociological Inquiry
- Structure of Scientific Revolution (Kuhn).
- Paradigm and Theory building Issues

**Unit-II: Positivism and its Critique**

- Positivism: Contribution of Comte, Durkheim and Popper
- The Problem of Objectivity in Social research
- Ethical Issues in Social research

**Unit III: Research strategy**

- Methodological concepts and frame- Concept, variable, statement, format, theory.
- Hypothesizing, Generalization in sociology.

**Readings**

- Adams, Bert N. and R.A.Sydie (2001), Sociological Theory, New Delhi.
- Atal, Y.: Indian Sociology from Where to Where, Rawat publication, New Delhi, 2003
- Baker, T.L. : Doing Social Research McGraw -Hill pub, 1988
- Bose, Pradip Kumar (1995), Research Methodology, New Delhi: ICSSR.
- Bryman, Alan (1988), Quality and Quantity in Social Research, London: Unwin Hyman.
- Bryman, Alan : Social Research Method, Oxford University press, 2004
- Colin Robson : Real World Research, Blackwell pub. 1993
- Czaja and Blair : Designing Surveys: A Guide of Decision and Procedures, Pine Forge press Sage Publication New Delhi, 2005
- Durkheim, E : The Rules of Sociological Methods, Free press, 1982
- Earl Babbie : The Practice of Social research (10th ed.), Thomson Wadworth, 2004
- Gadamer and : Truth and Method (2nd ed.), Reocour Continuum International Publishing Group, 2005
- Giddens, Anthony (1977), New Rules of Sociological Method, London: Hutchinson of London.
- Giddens, A. : New Rules of sociological Methods, Stanford University Press, 1993.
- Goode, W.J. and P.K. Hatt. 1962. Methods in Social Research. New York: McGraw Hills

- Haralambos and: : Themes and perspective in Sociology, Holborn Collins, London, 2000
- Hollis, Martin (2000), The Philosophy of Social Science: An Introduction, London: Cambridge University Press.
- Hughes, John (1987), The Philosophy of Social Research, London: Tavistock.
- Kuhn, T.S. (1970), The Structure of Scientific Revolution, London: The University of Chicago Press.
- Kuper, Jessica (ed.) (1987), Methods, Ethics and Models, London: Routledge and Kegan Paul.
- Max Weber: Methodology of social sciences. Free Press, 1949
- David Nachnias&ChavaNachnias , 'Research Method in Social Sciences,' St. Maitin's Press.
- P.V. Young : Scientific Surveys and Research, Prentice Hall, 1984
- Popper, Karl : Conjectures and Refutations: The Growth of Scientific Knowledge, Routledge and Kegan Paul, London, 1969
- Sjoberg, Gideon and Roger Nett (1997), Methodology for Social Research, Jaipur: Rawat Publications.
- WilkinsonT.S. and P.L.Bhandarkar (1984), Methodology and Techniques of Social Research, Bombay: Himalaya Publishing House.
- W.L Neuman : Social Research Method: Qualitative and Quantitative Approach (5th ed.), Allyn and Bacon, 2002

## Tools and Techniques of Sociological Studies

**Course Outcome:** This course provides an outline of qualitative and quantitative research methods. As part of this course, identification of research problems, different types of research design, various issues of measurement, collection, organization and understanding of quantitative data are discussed.

### Unit I: Identification of Research Problem

- Fundamentals of research
- Inductive and Deductive logic - Basic principles of research
- Theory building
- Review of literature
- Hypothesis and research questions

### Unit II: Research Designs

- Types of research
- Social research
- Ethics in research

### Unit III: Tools and techniques of research- Quantitative approach

- Interviews, Questionnaire, Observation, checklist
- Sampling methods
- Data analysis
- Tabulation and graphical representation
- Basic statistics – central tendency, correlation, regression, chi-square testing, etc. and nonparametric tests

### Unit IV: Tools and Techniques of research- Qualitative approach

### Unit V: Research Reporting

- Reporting of research in thesis/dissertation
- International style of bibliographic citation
- Evaluation of research
- Technical writing

## Readings

- Singh V K. Outline of social research methodology. 2013 Cyber Tech Publications New Delhi
- Panneerselvam R. Research methodology. 2010 PHI Learning New Delhi.
- KhasnabisRatanSahaSuvasis. Research methodology. 2015 Universities Press Hyderabad.
- Taylor Bill Sinha GautamGhoshalTaposh. Research methodology : a guide for researchers in management and social sciences. 2006 PHI Learning New Delhi.
- Kumar Ranjit. Research methodology : a step-by-step guide for beginners. 2014 Sage Publications London.
- Chitnis K.N. Research methodology in history. Atlantic Publishers and Distributors New Delhi.
- Dash Priyaranjan. Research methodology with SPSS. 2011 Vrinda Publications Delhi.
- Taylor Bill Sinha GautamGhoshalTaposh. Research methodology: a guide for researchers in management and social sciences. 2008 Prentice Hall of India New Delhi.
- Gomm Roger. Social research methodology :a critical introduction. 2008 Palgrave Macmillan Houndmills.
- Smagorinsky Peter. Speaking about writing: reflections on research methodology. Sage Publications California.

**Feminism: Theories and Debates**

**Course Outcome:** This course provides an idea of feminist approaches of Sociology. This course attempts to enhance the feminist consciousness and create the importance of women's empowerment among students.

**Unit I: Introducing Feminist approach to Sociology**

- Feminist approach: Concept, Nature and Scope;
- Gender and Patriarchy;
- Status of Women in Society

**Unit II: Feminist theoretical debates**

- Liberal Feminism
- Radical Feminism
- Structural Feminism
- Post-modernist Feminism

**Unit III: Feminist Conciousness and Movements with special reference to India**

- Waves of feminism
- Pre and Post Independent feminist movement in India
- Ecofeminism- Chipkomovementand Narmada BachaoAdolon
- Dalit women's movement in India

**Unit IV: Women's Empowerment**

- Meaning of empowerment
- Need, Importance and nature of Women's Empowerment and its socio-historical perspectives aspects of Women empowerment- Vanadana Shiva, Maria Mies and NailaKabir
- Challenges for women in the new millenium

**Unit V: Approaches to women development:**

- Women in Development
- Women and Development
- Gender and Development
- Women Empowerment

## Readings

- S. Jackson and J. Jones (eds). *Contemporary Feminist Theories*, New York, 1998
- Eisenstein, H. *Contemporary Feminist Thought*. Boston, 1984
- Mazumdar, Rinita. *A Short Introduction to Feminist Theory*. Kolkata, 2001
- Mazumdar, Rinita. *Understanding Gender*. Kolkata, 2004
- Sangari, Kumkum and SudeshVaid eds. *Recasting Women*. New Delhi, 2009
- KrishnarajMaithreyi, ed. *Women's Studies in India: Some Perspectives*. New Delhi: Popular Prakashan, 1986
- Mazumdar, Vina. *Emergence of Women's Question in India and Role of Women's Studies*. New Delhi: CWDS, 1985
- Bhasin, Kamala. *What is Patriarchy?* New Delhi: Kali for Women, 1986
- Bryson, Valerie. *Feminist Political Theory: an Introduction*. Basingtoke: Macmillan, 1992
- NailaKabeer (1999) Resources, Agency for women empowerment

**Media and Society**

**Course Outcome:** This course helps to conceptualizes media as an important social institution and it intends to generate analytical mind to understand the role of media in society and the influence of dominant ideological structure.

**Unit I: Conceptualising Media**

- Mass media and society
- Importance of media
- Critical analysis of the role of media
- Impact of media on society
- Social responsibility of media

**Unit II: Theorizing Media and Society**

- Mass media and public interest
- A critical study of media
- Analysis of media contents through semiotics, critical discourse analysis and content analysis
- Its role in serving public; marginalized groups.
- Role of media in social movements: political – cultural movements, national integration, communal harmony.

**Unit III: Media and Social Control**

- Ownership of media, content – control, Internal and external threats
- Pressures on media – media regulations
- Issues of social class, poverty, development and public health.

**Unit IV: Analyzing digital Media**

- Screening of movies.
- Sociological reviews on films based on contemporary social issues.

**Readings**

- Aggarwal VirBala (ed) : Media and Society: challenges and opportunities.
- Berger Arthur Asa: Media and Society.
- Campbell.Richard: Media and culture an introduction to mass communication.
- Dominick Joseph : Dynamics of mass communication: Media in Transition.
- Doris, Graber.( 1980): Media power in politics –
- Howard.Ross: Conflict sensitive journalism -
- Jankowski Nicholas(ed) New Media and Society.Pub: Sage Publications

- Hovland CI, / Hovland I.L Janies/Kelly. H.H: Communication and Persuasion, Yale University ,Newyork, 1953
- OddmanGeorge: Mass media issues analysis and debate – JeorgeOddman
- Media and Democracy in Asia - An AMIC compilation, 2000

### Industry and Society

**Course Outcome:** This course attempts to provide a historical background of the development of industrial society along with a shift towards post industrial society and including recent changes in the nature of industry.

#### Unit I: History of Industrial society

- Evolution of industrial society
- Industry and industrialization
- Class and work in modern industrial societies
- Family in industrial society

#### Unit II: Technology and Industry

- Technology and new economy
- Formal and informal sector
- post-industrial society

#### Unit III: Work and Industry

- Classical theories to understanding work and industry
- Understanding Work, Work Ethic and Work Culture

#### Unit IV: Important changes in industry

- Equalization of opportunities and the flattening of the world
- Outsourcing as a business strategy
- Rise of IT sector and BPO industry
- Issues of work-life balance
- Job satisfaction and stress
- Corporate social responsibility

#### Readings

- S.R Parker et al: The Sociology of Industry(4th Edition), George Allen &Unwin, London 1981
- Watson K Tony: Sociology, Work and Industry, RoutledgeKeganpaul ,London 1995.

- Raymond Aron: Main Currents in Sociology Thought, (Vol.1 & Vol.2), Penguin Books. 1980.
- Gouldner: Alvin W: Patterns of Industrial Bureaucracy, Free Press. 1954.
- Stalker, Peter : Workers without Frontiers. 2000.
- Stigilitz, Joseph E: Making Globalization Work. 2006.
- Stigilitz, Joseph E: Globalization and its Discontents. 2003
- Ramaswamy, E.A.: The Worker and His Union: A Study in South India, Allied Publishers, Mumbai 1977.
- Matoria C.B and Memoria, R 1992 Dynamics of Industrial relative in India, Himalay Publication House, Mumbai
- Laxmanna, C et al 1990. Workers Participation and Industrial Democracy Global Perspective. Ajantha Publications, New Delhi
- Philip, Hancock, Melissa Taylor,2001. Work post Mordernism and Organization. Sage India.

**Issues in Indian Society**

**Course Outcome:** This course aims at providing an overview of competing approaches of Indian society. It will enable the students to understand the dynamics of Indian social structure, change and development in rural and urban society.

**Unit I: Studying Indian Society**

- An overview of competing approaches.

**Unit II: Reviewing the emerging class structure:**

- Against the backdrop of Agrarian Reforms and Industrial development.

**Unit III: Issues in Contemporary Indian Society:**

- Changing role of castes, tribes
- Dynamic role of backward classes and Dalits.

**Unit IV: Marriage and Family in India**

- Classical theories and contemporary concerns
- Shifting patterns of marriage
- New marriage & family
- Genetic science
- New reproductive technologies

**Unit V: Exploring the dynamics in Rural and urban Development in India**

**Readings**

- Beteille, A.: The family and the Reproduction of inequality.
- Desai, R. A. (1969) (ed): Rural Sociology in India, Popular Prakashan.
- Desai, R. A. (1966): Social Background of India Nationalism, Popular Prakashan, Bombay.
- Espstein Scarlwt (1976): Economic Development and social change London ELTS.
- Ghurye, G.S (1993): Caste and Race in India Popular parkashan.
- Guha Ranajit, ed. (1992). Subaltern Studie, Oxford University Press.
- Galantir Marc. (1989). Competing Equalities, low and the backward classes of India, Oxford University Press
- Jefferlot Christophe. (2000). The Rise of the Other Backward Classes in the Hindi Belt.
- Madan, T.N (1994): pathways: Approaches to the study of Society in India, Delhi, Oxford University Press.
- Patel Tulsi (edt) (2005): The family in India: Structure & Practice. Sage Publication

- Uberoi Patricia(ed)(1993). Family, Kinship and Marriage in India, Oxford University Press.
- Uberoi Patricia.(2006) Freedom & Destiny: Gender, family & Popular Culture in India. Oxford University Press.