SYLLABUS (Honours) of

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY
ST. XAVIER’S COLLEGE
(Autonomous)
CALCUTTA
2006
SOCIOLOGY (HONOURS)

**First Semester: Two Modules**

I  Introducing Sociology

II  Introducing India

**Second Semester: Two Modules**

III  Classical Sociological Thinkers 1: Beginnings, Comte, Marx, Pareto

IV  Social Interactions and Social Relationships

**Third Semester: Two Modules**

V  Classical Sociological Thinkers 2: Durkheim, Weber, Simmel

VI  Culture, Socialization, Social Control, Deviance, Crime

**Fourth Semester: Two Modules**

VII  Sociological Theory 1: Functionalism, Conflict, Critical

VIII  Social Institution 1: Kinship, Marriage, Family, Education, Religion

**Fifth Semester: Four Modules**

IX  Sociological Theory 2: Symbolic Interaction, Phenomenology, Feminist, Post-modern

X  Social Institution 2: Work, Market, State, Media and Entertainment

XI  Research Method 1

XII  Social Stratification and Mobility

**Sixth Semester: Four Modules**

XIII  Research Method 2

XIV  Change, Development, Globalisation

XV  Social Challenges

XVI  Dissertation
INTRODUCING SOCIOLOGY
Semester 1/Module 1 (50 Marks)

**Sociological Perspectives**
- Substantive
- Methodological

**Perspectives in Sociology**
- Divergence
- Convergence

**Contextualising Sociology**
- Modernity
- Late Modernity

**Importance of Sociology**
- Theoretical
- Practical

**Readings List:**
- Giddens, A: The Consequences of Modernity
- Giddens, A.: Sociology
- Bilton, T. et al: Introductory Sociology
- Bauman, Z: Thinking Sociologically
- Mills, C.W.: Sociological Imagination
- Berger, P.L: Invitation to Sociology
- Parker, J. et al: Social Theory – A Basic Tool Kit
- Henslin, J.M: Essentials of Sociology – A Down-to-Earth Approach
- Albrow, M: Sociology
- Schaefer & Lamm: Sociology
- Dhanagare, D.N.: Themes and Perspectives in Indian Sociology, Rawat, 1998
- Singh Y.: Sociology
- Inkles Alex: Indian Sociology, Social Conditioning and Emerging Concerns
INTRODUCING INDIA  Semester 1/Module 2  (50 Marks)

Continuity and Change through
Tradition and Modernity
Structural Elements: Caste, Class, Kinship, Family, Power
Gender

Diversity and Integration through
Cultural Elements: Gender, Language, Religion, Ethnicity
Self-fashioning Identities
Composite Culture
Rural
Urban

Reading List:

Beteille, A: Social Inequality, Part I Chps: 1,2,7,9
Beteille, A: Backward Classes in Contemporary India
Beteille, A: Society and Politics in Contemporary India
Beteille, A: Six Essays in Comparative Sociology
Beteille, A: Sociology and Social Anthropology in Das (ed) The Oxford India Companion to Sociology and Social Anthropology pp 37-61
Sathyamurthy, TV: Region, Religion, Caste, Gender and Culture in Contemporary India
Marriott, M (ed): Village India
Niranjana, S: Gender in India
D’Souza, P: Contemporary India
Brass, P: Political Change in Independent India
Khilnani, S: The Idea of India
Kolenda, P: Caste in Contemporary India
Das, AN: India Invented
Dumont: Homo Hierarchichus
Ghurye, GS: Caste and Race in India Chps: 1-5, 8-10
Inden, R: Orientalist Construction of India (MAS, Vol 20, No 3 pp 401-446
Mukherjee, DP: Diversities
Desai, AR: Relevance of Marxist Approach (article)
Oommen, TK: Indian Sociology
Srinivas, MN: Indian Village
Srinivas, MN: The Dominant Caste and Other Essays
Dube, SC: Indian Society
Guha, R: Subaltern Studies, Chp1
Madan TN: Pathways – Approaches to the Study of Society in India
Rao, MSA: Urban Sociology
Singh, Y: Modernisation of Indian Tradition
Singer, M: When A Great Tradition Modernises
Oommen, TK: The Relevance of the Perspective from Below in Dahiwale (ed) Understanding Indian Society -- The Non-Brahmanic Perspective
Khan, Rasheeduddin (ed): Composite Culture of India and National Integration
Cohn, B: India – Social Anthropology of Civilization
Uberoi, P (ed): Family, Kinship and Marriage in India
Deshpande, S: Contemporary India – A Sociological View
Stern, R: Changing India
Seidman, S & Alexander, J.C: The New Social Theory Reader (Selected Chapters)
Explaining the Emergence of Sociological Thought
Enlightenment and the idea of the 'social' as a distinctly modern concept
Industrial and French Revolutions

Auguste Comte
Positivism
The Law of Three Stages of Development.

Herbert Spencer
Social Darwinism

Karl Marx
Dialectical and Historical Materialism
Base and Superstructure
Ideology
Class and Class Struggle,
Capitalism, theory of Surplus Value, Commodity Fetishism
Alienation

Vilfredo Pareto
Circulation of Elites

Reading List
Ray, L.J: Theorizing Classical Sociology. (Chapters 1 & 2)
Swingewood, A: A Short History of Sociological Thought
Zeitlin, I: Ideology and Development of Sociological Theory (Preface, Chapters on Enlightenment and Marx)
Coser, L: Masters of Sociological Thought (Chapters on Comte and Marx)
Giddens, A: Capitalism and Modern Social Theory (Chapter on Marx)
Aron, R: Main Currents in Sociological Thought (Chapter on Pareto)
Bottomore, T. et al: A Dictionary of Marxist Thought

ADDITIONAL READING LIST FOR TEACHERS:
Nisbet, R: The Sociological Tradition
Hall S. et al (ed): Modernity (Section on Formations of Modernity)
Collins, R. & Makowsky: The Discovery of Society
Nature and Importance of the Study

Interaction
Sensation, perception, communication, interpretation
Symbolic Interactionism, dramaturgy, transactionalism Analysis

Relations
Binaries and beyond (Public-Private)
Qualitative Analysis

Developing Social Skills
Interaction skills
Relationship skills

Reading List:
Giddens, A.: Sociology
Giddens, A.: Transformations of Intimacy
Karp, D. & Yoels, W.: Sociology in Everyday Life
Burton, G. & Dimbleby, R.: Between Ourselves
Young, R.: Understanding Misunderstanding
Perlmar, D. & Duck, S (ed): Intimate Relations
Hendrick, C (ed): Close Relationships
Bauman, Z: Thinking Sociologically
Bauman, Z: Life in Fragments
Bauman, Z: Liquid Modernity
Beck, U: The Normal Chaos of Love
Pahl, R: On Friendship
Tomlinson, J: Globalisation and Culture
Ben-Ze’er, A: Love Online
Goffman, E: The Presentation of Self in Everyday Life
Berne, E: Games People Play
CLASSICAL SOCIOLOGICAL THINKERS 2  Semester 3/Module 5
(50 marks)

**Emile Durkheim**: Sociological Method; Study of Suicide; Mechanical to Organic Solidarity: The Division of Labour in Society; Study of Religion; Social context of Durkheim’s ideas.

**Max Weber**: Critique of Positivism; Social Action; Types of Authority; Methodology; Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism; Rationalization and Disenchantment.

**Georg Simmel**: Critique of Positivism; Formal Sociology; Individual and Society;

**Reading List:**

Coser, L: Masters of Sociological Thought (Chapters on Durkheim, Weber and Simmel)
Fenton, S: Durkheim and Modern Sociology
Freund, J: The Sociology of Max Weber
Giddens, A: Capitalism and Modern Social Theory
Ritzer, G: Sociological Theory (Chapter on Simmel)
Swingewood, A: A Short History of Sociological Thought
Gerth H.H & Mills, C.W: From Max Weber (Introduction)

**ADDITIONAL READING LIST FOR TEACHERS:**

Bendix, R: Max Weber – An Intellectual Portrait pp 49—69; 298—328
Cladis, M: Emile Durkheim – A Communitarian Defence of Liberalism OR
Lukes, S: Emile Durkheim – His Life and Works
Frisby, D: Georg Simmel
Runciman, WG: Sociology of Max Weber
Tiryakian, E: Emile Durkheim in Bottomore and Nisbet (ed): A History of Sociological Analysis
CULTURE, SOCIALISATION, SOCIAL CONTROL, CONTESTATIONS, CONFORMITY, & CRIME

Culture- Meaning and Types:

I. Body and Culture
Socialisation – significance, principles, agents, individual personality

II. Production and Reproduction of Culture
Social Control
Conformity and Non-conformity

III. Cultural Contestations
Deviance and Crime
Role of the State

Reading List:

Giddens, A.: Sociology
Bilton, T. et al: Introductory Sociology
Henslin, J.M: Essentials of Sociology – A Down-to-Earth Approach
Turner, J: Sociology
Du Gay, P (ed): Production of Culture/Cultures of Production
Turner, B.S: The Body and Society
Shilling, C.: The Body and Social Theory
Woodward, K. (ed): Identity and Difference
Bauman, Z: Thinking Sociologically
Bauman, Z: Freedom
Bauman, Z: Intimations of Post-modernity
Bauman, Z: Globalisation
FUNCTIONALISM:

Major Proposition
The intellectual roots: The influence of Durkheim, Malinowski, Radcliff-Brown.
Criticism.
Criticisms.

CONFLICT:

Major Proposition
Dialectics of Conflict: Ralph Dahrendorf.
Functional analysis of Conflict: Lewis Coser.

CRITICAL-FRANKFURT SCHOOL:

Major Proposition
Critical Theory and the Nature of Social Science
Criticism of Marxian Theory, Positivism, Sociology, Modern Society, Culture, Social Change.
Critical ideas of Subjectivity, Dialectics.
Ideas of Horkheimer, Adorno, Marcuse and Habermas
Criticism of Critical Theory.

Reading List:

Adam, B.N. & Sydie, R.A.: Sociological Theory
Turner, J. : The Structure of Sociological Theory
Coser, L.: Masters of Sociological Thought
Collins,R. : Four Sociological Traditions, Selected Readings
Bottomore, T.: Frankfurt School and its Critics
SOCIAL INSTITUTIONS 1: Kinship, Marriage, Family, Education, Religion, State

Semester 4/Module 8
50 marks

KINSHIP:
Structural Principles: Systems of Descent and Affinity
Kinship in India

MARRIAGE:
Affinal Prestations and the Stability of Marriage
Symmetrical and Asymmetrical Exchange
Marriage Practices in India

FAMILY:
Nature of Family: Essential Functions
Family and Household
Family Structure and Composition
Elementary and Extended Family
Domestic Cycle of the Family
Family System in India, Indian family in Transition

EDUCATION:
Sociology of Education: Theoretical Perspectives
Education and Inequality: General and with specific reference to India

RELIGION:
Sociology of Religion: Theoretical Perspectives
Magic, Belief, Religion, Secularisation, Revivalism (at global and local levels)

Reading List:

1
International Encyclopaedia of Social Sciences, 1968
Fox, R: Kinship and Marriage – An Anthropological Perspective
Radcliffe-Brown, AR: Structure and Function in Primitive Society
Levi-Strauss, C: The Elementary Structure of Kinship
Goody, J: Kinship
Keesing, RM: Kinship and Social Structure
Bohannan, P: Social Anthropology
Dube, L: Women and Kinship – Comparative Perspective on Gender in South and South East Asia.
Majumder D.N & Madan, T.N: An Introduction to Social Anthropology
Inden, R:
Shah, AM: The Family in India – Critical Studies
Uberoi, P (ed): Family, Kinship and Marriage in India
Parkin, R & Stone, L: Kinship and Family – An Anthropological Reader
II.
Brookever, : Sociology of Education
Musgrave, PW: Sociology of Education
Brown, : Educational Sociology
Charles, P: Foundations of Educational Sociology
Banks, O: Sociology of Education
Russell, B: Education, Culture and Social Order
Robinson, P: Perspectives in Sociology of Education – An Introduction
Illich, I: De-schooling Society
Blackledge, D & Hunt, B: Sociological Interpretations of Education
Chanana, K: Socialisation, Education and Women – Explorations in Gender Identity
Dreze, J & Sen, A: Indian Economic Development and Social Opportunity
Giddens, A: Sociology
Bilton, T et al: Introductory Sociology
Haralambos, H: Sociology – Themes and Perspectives

III.
Malinowski, B: Magic, Science and Religion and Other Essays
Mazumder: India’s Religious Heritage
Madan T.N (ed): Religion in India
Baird, R: Religion in Modern India
Keith, AR: Religion in Sociological Perspective
O’dea, T: Sociology of Religion
Giddens, A: Sociology
Bilton, T et al: Introductory Sociology
Haralambos, H: Sociology – Themes and Perspectives
Taylor, S (ed): Sociology – Issues and Debates
Mahajan, G: Secularism in Das (ed): The Oxford India Companion to Sociology and Social Anthropology
Thapan Meenakshi: Life at School An Ethnographic Study,. Oxford University Press 2006
SYMBOLIC INTERACTIONISM:

General Argument
Intelectual Roots: The influence of Max Weber, George Simmel, Cooley and Mead.
Historical Roots: Pragmatism, Behaviourism, Reductionism and Sociologism.
Symbolic Interaction of H. Blumer and M. Kuhn
Social Psychology of Erving Goffman, Criticism
(The emphasis has to be more on Mead and Goffman and less on Blumer and Kuhn)
Criticism

PHENOMENOLOGICAL SOCIOLOGY:

General Argument
Alfred Schutz & Harold Garfinkle

POST MODERN:

Characteristics of post modernity (Post modern- a phase, a condition congruent with late modernity)
Features of post modern society

FEMINISM:

Emergence of Gender as the central concern of Sociology.
Varieties of Feminist theories: Liberal, Radical, Marxist.
Feminist Identity Theory: Black, Dalit Feminism
Third Wave Feminism (a brief introduction)

Readings:

Adams, B.N. & Sydie, R.A.: Sociological theory
Browning, G. et al (ed) : Understanding Contemporary Society
Powell, J.: Post modernism for beginners
Lash, S.: Sociology for post modernism
Bilton, T. et al.: Introductory Sociology
Ritzer, George.: Sociological Theory
Turner, J.: The Structure of Sociological Theory
Jones, P.: Introducing Social Theory
Scott and Jackson (ed): Gender: A sociological reader
Smith, D.E.: A woman-centred perspective
Hill-Collins, P.: The outsider within
Pilcher, J.: 50 key concepts in gender studies
Rege, S.: Dalit Feminist Standpoint
Guru, G.: Dalit Women Talk Differently
Walby, S.: Theorizing Patriarchy.
Scott: Post Modernism
Held, Modernity
Chakravarty Uma
V Geetha
Chaudhuri Maitrayee
SOCIAL INSTITUTIONS 2: Work, Market, State, Media and Entertainment
Semester 5/Module 10
(50 Marks)

I. WORK:
Conceptual Definition
Significance of Work in Terms of Capitalist Transformation
Emergence of Organization
Influence of Technology on Work and Organization

II. MARKET:
Market as an Institution
Emergence of Markets
Processes of Global Exchange and Consumption
Impact of the Market

III. STATE:
State as an Institution
Dimensions of Power
Legitimacy and the State
Challenges to the State

IV. MEDIA:
Meaning and Role of Mass Media
Media and Culture

Reading List:
Wolf, N: Work
Salaman, G: Working
Worsley, P” Introducing Sociology
Taylor, S: Sociology – Issues and Debates
Etzioni, A: Modern Organization
Giddens, A: Sociology
Bilton, T et al: Introductory Sociology
Fincham & Rhodes: Individual, Work, Organization
Dant, T: Critical Social Theory
Miller Eric , Rice, AK ------ Gauranga Chattopadhay
Economic Sociology
Smelser, N: The Sociology of Economic Life
Berthoud, G: Market in Sachs (ed) Development Dictionary
Buberman Leo: Man’s Worldly Goods
Polanyi: Market Transformation

2. Research Process: Concepts, Variables, Propositions and Hypothesis, Hypothesis formation and verification, Conceptualisation, Indicators, Operationalization and Measurement- Nominal, Ordinal, Interval, Ratio, Validity and Reliability- meaning and types, Research Design: definition of research design, purpose of research design, goals of analysis- ecological fallacy and the fallacy of reductionism, factors affecting research design.

3. Theory Construction: The creation of theory, deductive and inductive theory construction, link between theory and research.

4. Statistical Reasoning

5. The definition of statistical analysis: definition, types of statistical analysis, definition, types of statistics-descriptive and inferential, the place of statistics in social science research.

**Reading List:**

1. T. Baker: Doing Social Research
2. Earl Babbie: The Practice of Social Research
3. Gideon, Sjoberg, Roger Nett: Methodology for Social Research
4. F. Bechhoffer and Lindsay Paterson: Principles of Research Design in the Social Sciences
5. Goode and Hatt: Methods in Social Research.
6. D. K. Lal Das: Practice of Social Research
7. L. Blaxter, C. Hughes, M. Tight: How to Research
8. Bryman: Quality and Quantity in Social Research
9. Kothar: Research Methodology: Methods and Techniques
10. Plummer: Documents of Social Life
11. Max Weber: The Methodology of Social Science
12. Young: Scientific Social Surveys and Research
13. Shipman: The Limitations of Social Research
15. Thapan Meenakshi: Anthropological Journeys: Reflections from the Field
SOCIAL STRATIFICATION AND SOCIAL MOBILITY

Semester 5/Module 12
(50 Marks)

Theories of Stratification: Functionalist, Weberian, Marxist, Feminist.

Social Class: Types, Social Closure, Social Reproduction, Significance of class in contemporary society

Caste and Ethnicity: Intertwining of caste and class in India
Caste inequality and social reproduction in contemporary India, Caste as Ethnic formation, Ethnicity in terms of tribes.

Gender & Sexuality: Sex and Gender, Gender division of labour, Theories of gender inequality – functionalist and feminist, Problematizing masculinity: Connell’s Gender Hierarchy; Sexuality, Inequality and Violence.


Social Mobility
Types; Mobility through Miscegenation; Cross-cultural studies of social mobility;

Reading List:

Beteille A. Inequality among Men
Bilton, T et al: Introductory Sociology
Giddens: Sociology (4th edn.)
Gilroy, P: There Aint No Black in the Union Jack in Giddens (ed) Human Societies
Sharma, U: Caste
Sharma, KL: Social Stratification and Social Mobility
Gupta, D: Social Stratification, Hierarchy, Difference and Social Mobility
Chakravarti, A: Some Aspects of caste in Rural India in Beteille (ed) Equality and Inequality
Chakravarti, U: Gendering Caste Through a Feminist Lens
Deshpande, S: Contemporary India – A Sociological View (Chapters on Caste Inequality and the Middle Classes)
Fuller, CJ: Caste in Das (ed) Oxford India Companion to Sociology and Social Anthropology
Fletcher and Gapasin – The Politics of Labour and Race in the USA in Socialist Register 2003
Scott and Jackson (ed): Gender – A Sociological Reader (Selected Readings)
Kemp and Squires (ed): Feminisms (Selected Readings)
RESEARCH METHOD 2: Semester 6/Module 13 (50 Marks)

1. Sources and Techniques of Data Collection: Quantitative and Qualitative Data -
   a) Survey: Definition, Art and Science of Survey; general components of a survey, types of survey-questionnaire, interview schedule, validity and reliability of field research
   b) Field Research: definition, art and science of field research, the design of field studies, validity and reliability of field studies
   c) Humanist Method: variety of life documents, substantive and research contribution of life documents
   d) Experiment
   e) Ethnography
   f) Case Study
   g) Conversational Analysis
   h) Discourse Analysis

2. Data Analysis and Concluding Processes: Secondary and Content Analysis and their components, Testing validity and reliability

3. Ethics in research

Reading List:

5. Alan Agresti, Barbara Finlay: Statistical Methods For The Social Sciences.


14. Mauss Marcel:

15. Seale Clive: Researching Society and Culture,
CHANGE, DEVELOPMENT AND GLOBALISATION
Semester 6/Module 14
(50 Marks)

CHANGE AND DEVELOPMENT

Meaning, Forms and Theories of Change:
Meaning in terms of both Continuity and Change
Form – Change in Structure and Change of Structure (in terms of Underdevelopment, World Systems, Post development)
Critique of Development (as evolving mode) : Evolutionary, Modernisation, Sanskritisation, Westernization (in terms of transformation through Progress, Secularization, Individual, Market, Mixed Economy and Reform)

GLOBALISATION

Characteristics of Globalisation (ethos of globalisation as reflected in freedom, individualism and consumerism)

Agencies of Globalisation

Impact of Globalisation

Reading List :

Etzioni, HE: Social Change
Smith, AD: The Concept of Social Change
Nisbet, RA: Social Change and History
Srinivas, MN: Social Change in Modern India
Singh, Y: Modernisation of Indian Tradition
Moore, W & Cook, R: Social Change
Kiely, R & Marflees P (ed): Globalisation and the Third World
Hoogvelt, A: The Sociology of Development
Escobar, A: Encounterin g Development – The Making and Unmaking of the Third World
Dreze, J & Sen, A: Indian Economic Development and Social Opportunity
Appadurai, A: Modernity at large – Cultural Dimensions of Globalisation
Giddens, A: Global Problems and Ecological Crisis in Introduction to Sociology
Giddens, A: Sociology
Bilton T et al: Introductory Sociology
Alavi, H & Shamin T: Introduction to the Sociology of Developing Societies
Black, CE: Comparative Modernization pp 320-348 (Articles by DC Tipps)
Harrison, D: The Sociology of Modernisation and Development
Webster, A: Sociology of Development
Walters, M: Globalisation and Culture
Steger, M: Globalisation – A Very Short Introduction
Barnett, T: Sociology and Development
Seidman, S & Alexander, JC: The New Social Theory Reader (Ch 23)
SOCIAL CHALLENGES  

Semester 6/Module 15  

(50 Marks)

1. **Population**: Fertility, Mortality, Migration, Population Policy, HIV/AIDS

2. **Violence**: Women, Children, Dalit, Terrorism


Reading List:

- Gulati : Fertility in India
- Mahadevan, K: Fertility Policies of Asian Countries
- Sharma, R: Demography and Population Problems
- Srivastava, OS: Demography and Population Studies
- Bose, A: Demographic Diversity in India
- Thompson & Lewis: Population Problems
- Wignaraja, P: New Social Movements in South
- Krishna, S: Environmental Politics – People’s Lives & Development Choices
- Shiva, V: Ecology and the Politics of Survival – Conflict Over natural Resources in India
- Guha, R: Social Ecology
- Burra, N: Born to Work
- Weiner, M: The Child and the State in India
- Sahoo, UC: Child Labour in Agrarian Society
- Baruah, A: Child Abuse
- Rudolph & Rudolph: In the Pursuit of Lakshmi
- Oommen, TK: State and Society in India
- Sharma & Dak (ed): Ageing in India – Challenges for Society
- Bagchi & Sengupta: Loved and Unloved
- Forbes, G: Women in Modern India
- Kumar, R: History of Doing,
- Umar, M: Bride-Burning in India – A Socio-Legal Study

Athrea & Chunkath: Literacy and Empowerment

Nayek: Alternatives in Development Education – Some Perspectives on Non-formal Education.

Kohli, A: The State and Poverty in India – The Politics of Reform

Sen,a: Poverty and Famines

Shah, G: Poverty Alleviation Programmes in India


Shah, G: Social Movements in India

Shah, G (ed): Dalit Identity and Politics

Kapadia, K: The Violence of Development
Banks, JA: The Sociology of Social Movements
Oommen, TK: Protest and Change
Rao, MSA: Social Movements in India
Dhanagare, DN: Peasant Movements in India
Omvedt, G: New Social Movements
Thapen Meenakshi, Uboei Patricia, Parliwala Rajani, Aggarwal Anuja (ed) Migration in Asia
Kaviraj, Sudipta; State and Politics in India. OUP Delhi.