Syllabus template

Semester: VI	
Programme : Sociology	
Course : Religion and Society	
Paper code: C3SO230621T	**Credits: 4**
Hours/week : 4	
Category: Core/MDC/SEC/VAC : Core	
Theory / Practical / Composite : Theory	
No of Modules : 2	

Course Overview: The course will introduce students to the theoretical understanding of religion from sociological and anthropological perspectives. It will explore religion through a critical lens in order to interrogate the varying elements of religions. It will engage with the contemporary debates around secularism, religion and non-religion in order to develop a nuanced approach to the question of religion.

Course Outcome:

1. Recognize comprehensive theoretical foundations of religion from sociological and anthropological perspectives.
2. Interpret concepts of magic, science, body, ritual in relation to religion.
3. Demonstrate conceptual framework for understanding religion.
4. Analyze the elements of religion and its linkages with other relevant fields of knowledge/practices.
5. Evaluate the concept of non-religion vis-a-vis religion.
6. Develop contemporary theoretical interventions to make sense of religion and related issues.

Prerequisites: ***Basic knowledge about any prior course***

SYLLABUS

UNIT/Module	CONTENT	HOURS or NUMBER OF CLASSES	CO Mapping	COGNITIVE LEVEL
I.	**Module 1** ● **Conceptualizing Religion** ● **Classical Conceptualizations: Durkheim, Weber, Marx** ● **Anthropology of Religion : Clifford Geertz, Talal Asad**	**2**	**CO1 CO2 CO3 CO4 CO5 CO6**	**K1 K2 K3 K4 K5 K6**
II.	**Module 2**	**2**	**CO1 CO2**	**K1 K2**

	• **Magic, Science and Religion: Malinowski and Tyler** • **Body and religion** • **Rituals** • **Non-Religion**		**CO3** **CO4** **CO5** **CO6**	**K3** **K4** **K5** **K6**

Text Books

1. Bryan S Turner (ed.), The New Blackwell Companion to Sociology of Religion. Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell. 2010
2. Kunin and Miles-Watson, Theories of Religion: A Reader, Edinburgh University Press. 2006.
3. Asad, T. Formations of the Secular, Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2003.
4. Glazier and Flowerday (Ed.) Selected Readings in the Anthropology of Religion: Theoretical and Methodological Essays, Praeger, 2003.
5. Tambiah, Stanley Jeyaraja. 1990. Magic, science, religion and the scope of rationality. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, (Chapters of Malinowski & Edward Tyler)
6. Geertz 1993. 'Religion as a Cultural System' in The Interpretation of Cultures: Selected Essays by Geertz , Fontana Press
7. Lee, Lois. Recognizing the non-religious: Reimagining the secular. OUP Oxford, 2015.
8. Bell, Catherine. 1997. 'Basic Genres of Ritual' in Ritual: Perspectives and Dimensions. Oxford University Press. New York

Suggested readings

1. Stein, Rebecca and Philip Stein. 2017. The Anthropology of Religion, Magic, and Witchcraft (4th Edition). Routledge. London (Select Chapters)
2. Robert A. Segal (2003) 'Clifford Geertz's Interpretive Approach to Religion' in Glazier & Flowerday (Eds.) Selected Readings in the Anthropology of Religion
3. Purkiss, Diane. 1996. The house, The Body, The Child; in The Witch in History: Early Modern and Twentieth Century Representations. Routledge, London

Web Resources

1. **https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/concept-religion/**
2. **2.**
3. **3.**
4. **4.**

Evaluation

Theory CIA: 30
Semester Exam: 70

Paper Structure for Theory Semester Exam Module :

Modules -2 (35 marks each)
Module A
1 long question out of 2:1X15=15
2 short questions out of 4: 2X10=20
Module B
1 long question out of 2: 1X15=15
2 short questions out of 4: 2X10=20

Course outcomes (COs) and Cognitive Level Mapping

COs	CO Description	Cognitive levels
CO1	Recognize comprehensive theoretical foundations of religion from sociological and anthropological perspectives.	K1
CO2	Interpret concepts of magic, science, body, ritual in relation to religion.	K2
CO3	Demonstrate conceptual framework for understanding religion.	K3
CO4	Analyze the elements of religion and its linkages with other relevant fields of knowledge/practices.	K4
CO5	Evaluate the concept of non-religion vis-a-vis religion.	K5
CO6	Develop contemporary theoretical interventions to make sense of religion and related issues.	K6