

Syllabus template

Semester: VII				
Programme : Sociology				
Course : Forms of Economic Life				
Paper code: C4SO230721T				Credits: 6
Hours/week : 4 hours/week				
Category: Core/MDC/SEC/VAC : Core				
Theory / Practical / Composite : Theory				
No of Modules : 2				
<p>Course Overview: The course provides an in-depth sociological examination of economic systems, exploring how economic activities are shaped by social structures, cultural norms, and historical developments. Students will study foundational theories and diverse forms of exchange, as well as analyse various modes of production from pre-modern to post-modern, including the impact of neoliberalism and global capitalism. The course encourages critical evaluation of financialisation, privatisation, and recurring crises in capitalism, equipping students with the analytical tools to understand and address contemporary economic challenges in a globalised world.</p>				
Course Outcome:				
1. Remember key concepts and perspectives in economic sociology, including formalism, substantivism, forms of exchange, and modes of production.				
2. Understand the theoretical foundations and practical implications of reciprocity, gift exchange, market mechanisms, insurance, and money in various economic systems				
3. Apply sociological theories to analyse agrarian and modern modes of production.				
4. Analyse the processes of neoliberalism and global capitalism, drawing connections between historical and contemporary economic forms.				
5. Evaluate different perspectives on economic life, critically assessing the impact of global capital and neoliberal policies on societies and individuals.				
6. Develop informed arguments and syntheses regarding the evolution of economic systems, proposing solutions or alternatives to current challenges in global capitalism.				
Prerequisites:--				
SYLLABUS				
UNIT/Module	CONTENT	HOURS or NUMBER OF CLASSES	CO Mapping	COGNITIVE LEVEL
I.	<p>Module I:</p> <p>1. Perspectives in Economic Sociology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formalism and Substantivism <p>2. Forms of Exchange</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reciprocity and Gift • Market • Insurance and Money 	2 hours/week	CO1 CO2 CO3 CO4 CO5 CO6	K1 K2 K3 K4 K5 K6
II.	<p>Module II:</p> <p>3. Forms of Economy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agrarian 	2 hours/week	CO1 CO2 CO3 CO4	K1 K2 K3 K4

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industrial <p>4. Neoliberalism 5. Conceptualising Work</p>		CO5 CO6	K5 K6
III.				
Text Books				
1. Karl, Polanyi. <i>The Livelihood of Man</i> . New York: Academic Press, 1977. Chapters 1 & 2, —The Economistic Fallacy & Two meanings of Economics, Pp. 5-34				
2. Grint, Kieth. 2005. 'What is Work?', & 'Classical Approaches to Work: Durkheim, Weber and Marx', 'Work in Historical Perspective', <i>The Sociology of Work, Introduction</i> . Cambridge : Polity Press. Pp – 6-43, 85-108.				
3. Howes , D. (ed) , <i>Cross-Cultural Consumption: Global Markets and Local Realities</i> , Routledge, London, 1996, pp. 1-16.				
4. Harvey, D. (2005). <i>A brief history of neoliberalism</i> . Oxford University Press.				
Suggested readings				
1. Vidal, Dennis. 2006. 'Markets' in Veena Das (eds) <i>Handbook of Indian Sociology</i> . Oxford: Oxford University Press. Pp- 388-401.				
2. Mauss, M., <i>The Gift: Forms and Functions of Exchange in Archaic Societies</i> , London: Cohen and West, 1924, Introduction, Chapters.1 & 2, The Exchange of Gifts and the Obligation to Reciprocate (Polynesia) & The Extension of this System: Liberality, Honour, Money. Pp. 1 – 46.				
3. Zelizer, Viviana A. _Human Values and the Market: The Case of Life Insurance and Death in 19th Century America'. 1978. <i>American Journal of Sociology</i> Vol.84, No.3. pp. 591-610				
4. Parry, Jonathan. 1999. 'Lords of labour: working and shirking in Bhilai', in J. P. Parry, J. Breman and K. Kapadia (eds), <i>The worlds of Indian industrial labour, special issue of Contributions to Indian Sociology</i> , n.s. 33 (1&2): 107-40.				
5. Carrier, James G. <i>Gifts and Commodities</i> , London, Routledge, 1995. Ch. 1. Gifts and Commodities, People and Things. Pp. 19-39.				
6. Hann, Chris. and Keith Hart. <i>Economic Anthropology</i> . Cambridge, UK: Polity Press, 2011. Chapter 5. —After the Formalist- Substantivist Debate , pp. 72 – 99; Chapter 2. Economy from the Ancient World to the Age of Internet. Pp. 18 – 36.				
7. Harvey, David. 1982. <i>Limits to Capital</i> . Oxford: Basil Blackwell.				
8. Banaji, Jairus. (2010). <i>Theory as History Essays on Modes of Production and Exploitation</i> . Brill: Leiden & Boston.				
9. Smelser Neil J and Richard Swedberg (eds) (2005). <i>The Handbook of Economic Sociology</i> . Princeton: Princeton University Press.				
10. Granovetter, Mark (1985) Economic action and social structure: The Problem of Embeddedness. <i>American Journal of Sociology</i> , 91 (3): 481-510.				
11. Wallerstein, Immanuel. (1983). <i>Historical Capitalism</i> . Verso: London				
12. Belshaw, Cyril. S. (1969). <i>Traditional Exchange and Modern Markets</i> . Prentice Hall of India Private Limited: New Delhi.				
13. Castells, M. (1996). <i>The rise of the network society</i> . Blackwell Publishers.				
14. Ritzer, G., & Jurgenson, N. (2010). Production, consumption, prosumption: The nature of capitalism in the age of the digital "prosumer." <i>Journal of Consumer Culture</i> , 10(1), 13–36.				
Web Resources				

1. George Ritzer on McDonaldization and Prosumption by Labinot Kunushevci and George Ritzer. URL https://globaldialogue.isa-sociology.org/articles/george-ritzer-on-mcdonaldization-and-prosumption
2. Gifts That Keep Giving: The Kula Trade Ring. Bowers Museum. URL https://www.bowers.org/index.php/collections-blog/gifts-that-keep-giving-the-kula-trade-ring
3. Union Recruiting Poster, "Unionism not Fordism, Now is the Time to Organize!," 1935-1936. The Henry Ford Museum. URL: https://www.thehenryford.org/collections-and-research/digital-collections/artifact/97069/
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	Remember key concepts and perspectives in economic sociology, including formalism, substantivism, forms of exchange, and modes of production.	K1
CO2	Understand the theoretical foundations and practical implications of reciprocity, gift exchange, market mechanisms, insurance, and money in various economic systems.	K2
CO3	Apply sociological theories to analyse agrarian and modern modes of production.	K3
CO4	Analyse the processes of neoliberalism and global capitalism, drawing connections between historical and contemporary economic forms.	K4
CO5	Evaluate different perspectives on economic life, critically assessing the impact of global capital and neoliberal policies on societies and individuals.	K5
CO6	Develop informed arguments and syntheses regarding the evolution of economic systems, proposing solutions or alternatives to current challenges in global capitalism.	K6