

Syllabus template

Semester: I				
Programme : Sociology				
Course : Studying Society : Fundamentals of Social Science				
Paper code: M1SO230111T				Credits: 3
Hours/week : 3 hours/week				
Category: Core/MDC/SEC/VAC : MDC				
Theory / Practical / Composite : Theory				
No of Modules : 2				
<p>Course Overview: The course is structured to introduce to students the most basic tool kits for studying society in the social sciences. It will seek to inculcate critical thinking and make them rethink the idea of society in relation to social institutions, power, subordination and identities. The course will conclude by introducing students to three fundamental paradigms in social science research in order to understand the epistemologies that shape the construction of knowledge in social sciences.</p>				
Course Outcome:				
1. Identify fundamentals of society as the subject matter of social sciences				
2. Interpret society through understanding the workings of social institutions.				
3. Demonstrate how paradigms (Positivist, Interpretive and Critical) produce specific kinds of knowledge about society.				
4. Analyze power as a social concept and be able to appreciate how specific communities and individuals experience marginalization and oppression.				
5. Evaluate the role of institutions and social processes in the shaping of a society.				
6. Develop a comprehensive understanding of how everyday social institutions are products of social learning (socialization) and social construction.				
Prerequisites:				
SYLLABUS				
UNIT/Module	CONTENT	HOURS or NUMBER OF CLASSES	CO Mapping	COGNITIVE LEVEL
I.	<p>Module 1:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Society and Social Institutions 2. Socialization and Social Construction 	1.5 hours/week	CO1 CO2 CO3 CO4 CO5 CO6	K1 K2 K3 K4 K5 K6
II.	<p>Module 2:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identities and Power 2. Paradigm in Social Sciences 	1.5 hours/week	CO1 CO2 CO3 CO4	K1 K2 K3 K4

			CO5 CO6	K5 K6
III.				
IV.				
Text Books				
1. Berger, Peter & Brigitte Berger. 1976. Sociology: A Biographical Approach. New York: Penguin Books. pp: 56-78				
2. Henn, M., Weinstein, M., & Foard, N. (2005). A Short Introduction to Social Research. Sage.				
3. Giddens, Anthony. 2001. Sociology. Polity Press: UK.				
Suggested readings				
1. Ritzer, George. 2007. The Blackwell Encyclopedia of Sociology. Oxford: Blackwell Publishing. (Select Entries)				
2. Bilton, Tony et al. 1981. Introductory Sociology. 3rd Edition. Macmillan, UK. Pp-79-84				
Web Resources				
1. Sundar Sarukkai on the 'Philosophy of Science, the Scientific Method and Understanding the Social' on Doing Sociology (2025) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C_WqsOz4lms				
2. 'Identity' in Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy (2022) https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/identity/				
3. 'Feminist Perspectives on Power' in Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy (2021) https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/feminist-power/				
Evaluation :				
Theory				
CIA: 15				
Semester Exam: 35				
Paper Structure for Theory Semester Exam Module :				
Total Marks 35				
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	Identify fundamentals of society as the subject matter of social sciences	K1
CO2	Interpret society through understanding the workings of social institutions	K2

CO3	Demonstrate how paradigms (Positivist, Interpretive and Critical) produce specific kinds of knowledge about society.	K3
CO4	Analyse power as a social concept and be able to appreciate how specific communities and individuals experience marginalization and oppression.	K4
CO5	Evaluate the role of institutions and social processes in the shaping of a society.	K5
CO6	Develop a comprehensive understanding of how everyday social institutions are products of social learning (socialization) and social construction.	K6