



Vidyasagar University
Midnapore-721102, West Bengal

The SYLLABUS for
POST-GRADUATE Programme

in

SOCIOLOGY

Under Choice Based Credit System (CBCS)
(Semester Programme)



[w.e.f. 2022-23]

Preamble

The Department of Sociology of Vidyasagar University is happy to present the updated MA Sociology syllabus from the academic year 2022-2023 onwards. MA Sociology is a two-year programme consisting of Four Semesters. The Syllabus is of 1000 marks with total 98 credits. All the courses are compulsory.

Programme Outcome (PO)

M.A in Sociology will help the students to

- Enhance the logical and analytical skills to understand the various problems which are faced by our society.
- Inculcate a research mind among the students.
- Contribute to nurture sensitivity, creativity and applied skills among the students.
- Basic and advanced theoretical and methodological knowledge will be acquired.
- Enhance skills and capabilities and provide possibility of employment.

Programme Specific Outcome (PSO)

The major objective of the course is to

- Acquaint the learners with the conceptual and theoretical orientations in sociology by providing updated knowledge on classical sociological thought, Post Marxian traditions, Classical Sociological Theories, and Modern sociological theories.
- Culture, gender, work, Indian Society, and social psychological issues provide the learners the orientation.
- Imparts knowledge on Research Methodology and social statistics.
- Provide the learners with hands-on experience in ethnographic fieldwork and dissertation, which will train them on field-level data collection, data coding and analysis, and completely executing a research project.
- Move ahead in higher studies in the subject or related disciplines.
- Improve the analytical and argumentative skills of the learners which are extremely essential for securing jobs today.

COURSE STRUCTURE

Semester	Paper Code	Paper title	Full Marks	No. of Lectures (hours)	Credit (Lecture – Tutorial - Practical) (L-T-P)
I	SOC-101	Classical Sociological Thought	50	50	5(4-1-0)
	SOC-102	Post-Marxian Traditions	50	50	5(4-1-0)
	SOC-103	Research Method – I	50	50	5(4-1-0)
	SOC-104	Social Statistics	50	50	5(4-1-0)
	SOC-105	Culture and Society	50	50	5(4-1-0)
TOTAL			250	250	25
II	SOC-201	Classical Sociological Theory	50	50	5(4-1-0)
	SOC-202	Modern Sociological Theory	50	50	5(4-1-0)
	SOC-203	Sociology of Space	50	50	5(4-1-0)
	C-SOC-204	Sociology of Health (CBCS)	50	40	4(3-1-0)
	SOC-205	Sociology of Gender	50	50	5(4-1-0)
TOTAL			250	240	24
III	SOC-301	Society in India: Contemporary Issues	50	50	5(4-1-0)
	SOC-302	Sociology of Work and Organization	50	50	5(4-1-0)
	SOC-303	Research Method - II	50	50	5(4-1-0)
	C-SOC-304	Sociology of Media and Society (CBCS)	50	40	4(3-1-0)
	SOC-305	Ethnographic Field Project	50	50	5(1-0-4)
TOTAL			250	240	24
IV	SOC-401	Sociology of Development and Globalization	50	50	5(4-1-0)
	SOC-402	Social Demography	50	50	5(4-1-0)
	SOC-403	Sociology of India	50	50	5(4-1-0)
	SOC-404	Dissertation and Viva Voce	50	-	5(0-0-10)
	SOC-405	Social Psychology	50	50	5(4-1-0)
TOTAL			250	200	25
GRAND TOTAL			1000		98

The total credit for the course is 98 and the Full mark is 1000.

Distinctive features of course content :

➤ **Value-added course:**

SOC-101	Classical Sociological Thought
SOC-105	Culture and Society
C-SOC-204	Sociology of Health (CBCS)

➤ **Employability / entrepreneurship/ skill development :**

SOC-103	Research Method – I
SOC-303	Research Method – II
SOC-104	Social Statistics
SOC-305	Ethnographic Field Project
SOC-404	Dissertation and Viva Voce
SOC-405	Social Psychology

➤ **Digital content:**

C-SOC-304	Sociology of Media and Society (CBCS)
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➤ **Ethics, gender, human values, environment & sustainability:**

SOC-205	Sociology of Gender
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➤ **The new course introduced:**

SOC-302	Sociology of Work and Organization
SOC-403	Sociology of India
SOC-105	Culture and Society

SEMESTER I

Course No: SOC 101: Classical Sociological Thought

50 Marks 5 credits

Course Outcome

This course provides an introduction to the history of sociological thought. The sociological perspectives of Marx, Durkheim, and Weber which provide exposure to European social history and the formation of modern social thought are covered comprehensively. On successful completion of this course, students will have ideas of these classical thinkers in the context of philosophical traditions which will help them to develop a social and political understanding of society.

Course Outline (Theoretical: 40 marks, Internal Assessment: 10 marks)

1. **Introduction:** Modernity and Sociological Theory: Social & Intellectual Forces.
2. **Emile Durkheim:** Social Facts, Division of Labour, Suicide, Religion.
3. **Karl Marx:** Class, Historical Materialism, Social change, Capitalism
4. **Max Weber:** Protestant Ethic and Spirit of Capitalism, Methodology, Social Action, Bureaucracy, and Rationality.
5. **George Simmel:** Formal Sociology, Individual and Society – Concept of Sociation, the Philosophy of Money.
6. **Vilfredo Pareto:** Logical and Non-Logical Action, Residues and Derivatives, Circulation of Elites.

References

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- Smith, D. (1996). The Conceptual Practices of Power. University of Toronto Press.
- Tucker, K.N. (2002). Classical Social Theory. Blackwell Publication. Oxford.
- Zetlin, I. (1981). Ideology and the Development Sociological Theory.

Course No: SOC 102: Post-Marxian Traditions

50 Marks 5 credits

Course Outcome

This course critically interprets the Marxian studies on ‘logic of culture’, ‘logic of capitalism’, class, state, etc. in light of post-Marxian realities. Furthermore, the paper extends the debates on the relevance of Marx in the globalized era.

Course Outline (Theoretical: 40 marks, Internal Assessment: 10 marks)

1. Background of Critical Theory

2. Frankfurt School

- i. Theodor W. Adorno and Horkheimer
 - a. Culture industry –standardization
 - b. Authoritarian Personality.
- ii. Marcuse: One Dimensional Man

3. Antonio Gramsci

4. Louis Althusser

5. Habermas’s Critical Perspective: Public Sphere and Communicative Action.

References

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- Chandhoke, N. (1995). *State and Civil society: Explorations in Political Theory*. Sage publication. (Chap. 4)
- Coser, L.A. (1977). *Masters of Sociological Thought*.
- Giddens, A. (1982). *Capitalism and Modern social theory*. OUP.
- Kaviraj, S., & Khilnani, S. (2001). *Civil Society: History and Possibilities*. Cambridge University Press.
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- Turner, S.B. (2000). *The Blackwell companion to social theory*. Wiley-Blackwell.
- Wallace, A.R., & Wolf, A. (1995). *Contemporary Sociological Theory – Expanding the classical tradition*. Prentice-Hall.

Course No: SOC 103: Research Method - I

50 Marks 5 credits

Course Outcome

This course attempts to introduce basic elements of quantitative methods employed in social research. Students will learn basic ideas about epistemology, and ontology in social research. It will also provide an understanding of social phenomena and proceed toward an application of these skills in social research.

Course Outline (Theoretical: 40 marks, Internal Assessment: 10 marks)

- 1. Introduction to social research:** Epistemological and Ontological Foundations of Research.
- 2. Situating Social Research and Problem Formulation:** Hypothesis formulation
- 3. Research Design**
- 4. Doing Survey research:** Nature and Scope; Steps in survey research, Tools of data collection
- 5. Sampling:** Meaning, Types and Strategies
- 6. Presentation of Research Results**

References

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- Halfpenny, P. (1982). *Positivism and Sociology: Explaining Social Life*. George Allen and Unwin.
- Manheim, H. L., & Simon, B. A. (1977). *Sociological Research: Philosophy and Methods*. Illinois. The Dorsey Press
- Moser, C., & Kalton, G. (1976). *Survey Methods in Social Investigation*. Heinmann.
- Seale, C. (2004). *Social Research Methods: A Reader*. Routledge.

Course No: SOC 104: Social Statistics

50 Marks 5 credits

Course Outcome

This course provides an outline of basic statistical methods including descriptive and inferential statistics. Through these, students will be able to understand, various issues of measurement, collection, organization, and understanding of quantitative data.

Course Outline (Theoretical: 40 marks, Internal Assessment: 10 marks)

1. Introduction to Statistics in Sociology

- i. Basic concepts
- ii. Linkage between statistics and sociology

2. Measuring Variables

- i. Levels of measurement
- ii. Reliability and validity in measurement.

3. Descriptive Statistics

- i. Frequency distributions and Graphing Techniques
- ii. Measures of Central Tendency
- iii. Measures of Dispersion
- iv. An introduction to Contingency Tables
- v. Correlation
- vi. Regression and Prediction

4. Inferential Statistics

- i. Testing statistical Hypothesis: Null and Alternative Hypothesis
- ii. Chi-square
- iii. t-Test
- iv. Analysis of variance.

5. Computer application in statistical analysis

- i. MS Excel
- ii. SPSS.

References

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- Maxim, P. S. (1999). *Quantitative Research Methods in the Social Sciences* (UK ed.). Oxford University Press.
- Wagner, W. E. (2014). *Using IBM® SPSS® Statistics for Research Methods and Social Science Statistics* (Fifth ed.). SAGE Publications, Inc.

Course No: SOC 105: Culture and Society

50 Marks 5 credits

Course Outcome

This course provides knowledge and understanding about social and cultural concepts and their application to personal, social, and cultural identity and interactions within societies and cultures. This course will help students to develop intercultural understanding and responsible attitudes toward indigenous culture.

Course Outline (Theoretical: 40 marks, Internal Assessment: 10 marks)

1. Basic concepts:

- i. Meaning and definition of culture
- ii. Elements of culture

2. Theories of culture:

- i. Raymond Williams: Culture is Ordinary
- ii. Stuart Hall: Cultural Studies

3. Visual Culture:

- i. Basic concept in semiology
- ii. Theory of Roland Barthes
- iii. Image and Power
- iv. Construction of meaning,
- v. Ideology and context

4. Indigenous Culture:

- i. Indigenous people
- ii. Indigenous culture
- iii. Knowledge and economic development
- iv. Indigenous people in the contemporary world

5. Globalization and Culture

References

- Barker, C., & Jane, E. A. (2016). *Cultural Studies: Theory and Practice* (5th ed.). SAGE Publications Ltd.
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SEMESTER II

Course No: SOC 201: Classical Sociological Theory

50 Marks 5 credits

Course Outcome

This course traces the development of sociological theory broadly from functionalism to Phenomenology and Ethnomethodology. The historical conjuncture marking the course is 1945, and essentially reviews the development of sociological theories in that context and thereafter which will provide the students to understand major theorists in various schools.

Course Outline (Theoretical: 40 marks, Internal Assessment: 10 marks)

1. Functionalism and Neo-Functionalism

- i. **Functionalism:** Talcott Parsons, Robert K. Merton
- ii. **Neo-Functionalism:** Jeffrey Alexander

2. Conflict Theory

- i. Randall Collins, Gerhard Lenski
- ii. Ralf Dahrendorf and Lewis Coser

3. Exchange Theory

- i. George Homans and Peter Blau

4. Interactionist and Phenomenological Perspective

- i. George Herbert Mead, Herbert Blumer, Erving Goffman
- ii. Edmund Husserl, Alfred Schutz

5. Ethnomethodology:

- i. Harold Garfinkel

References

- Adams, B.N., &Sydie, R.A. (2001). *Sociological Theory*. Sage Publications.
- Althusser, L., Brewster, B., & Jameson, F. (2001). *Lenin and Philosophy and Other Essays*. Amsterdam University Press.
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- Dahrendorf, R. (1979). *Class and Class Conflict in Industrial Society*. Routledge and Kegan.
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Course No: SOC 202: Modern Sociological Theory

50 Marks 5 credits

Course Outcome

This course traces the development of contemporary trends in sociological theory broadly from structuralism and post-structuralism to Post Modernity. It reviews the changes and development of sociological theories in the context of a new perspective which will provide the students with the knowledge essential to understanding social reality in the present-day context.

Course Outline (Theoretical: 40 marks, Internal Assessment: 10 marks)

1. Structuralism:

- i. Claude Levi Strauss

2. Post Structuralism:

- i. Jacques Derrida
- ii. Michel Foucault

3. Reflexive Modernity:

- i. Anthony Giddens
- ii. Ulrich Beck

4. Post Modernity:

- i. Zygmunt Bauman
- ii. Pierre Bourdieu
- iii. Jean Baudrillard

References

- Bourdieu, P., & Adamson, M. (1990). *In Other Words: Essays Toward a Reflexive Sociology* (1st ed.). Stanford University Press.
- Butler, C. (2003). *Postmodernism: A Very Short Introduction* (1st ed.). Oxford University Press.
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- Webb, J., Schirato, T., & Danaher, G. (2002). *Understanding Bourdieu* (First ed.). Allen & Unwin.

Course No: SOC 203: Sociology of Space

50 Marks 5 credits

Course Outcome

This course will provide a sociological perspective on the origin, development, and characteristics of rural and urban societies. The course will deal with both the structural and processual aspects of change in urban and agrarian societies.

Course Outline (Theoretical: 40 marks, Internal Assessment: 10 marks)

1. Different Types of Spaces

Rural Society, Urban Society, Industrial Society, Post-Industrial Society, Traditional and Modern societies, Peasantry, Agrarian Social Structure, Rural-Urban Continuum, Rurbanism.

2. Difference between Rural and Urban Spaces

The emergence of Social Differentiation, Occupational Specialization, Division of Labour, Urbanism as a Way of Life, City, and Village.

3. Rural and Urban Societies- Dichotomy vs Continuum Debate

Urbanization, Migration, Rural and Urban Development policies, effects of land reforms, Green Revolution.

4. Whither The Indian Villages- Debate and Discourse

Rural and Urban Poverty, Marginalized Groups (Bonded labour, Landless, Tenants, Artisans, etc), Uneven Development of Regions, Social Discontent and Movements.

References

- Bell, M. M. (1992). The Fruit of Difference: The Rural-Urban Continuum as a System of Identity. *Rural Sociological Sociology*, 57(1), 65–82. <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1549-0831.1992.tb00457.x>
- Desai, A. R. (1961). *Rural Sociology in India* (Third Edition). Popular Prakashan.
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Course No: C-SOC 204: Sociology of Health

50 Marks 4 credits

Course Outcome

This course aims at providing various perspectives on understanding the relationship between medicine, health, and society. The main objectives are: a) To sensitize students to health-related issues; b) To understand the issues related to community health; c) To understand the role of the State in the area of health.

Course Outline (Theoretical: 40 marks, Internal Assessment: 10 marks)

1. Introduction

Concepts - Health, Medicine, Illness, Sickness, Disease, and Society

2. Theoretical perspectives on health and medicine within sociology

- i. Functional approach
- ii. Conflict approach
- iii. Interactionist approach

3. Disease, illness, and sickness

- i. Natural history of the disease
- ii. Human environment
- iii. Social etiology
- iv. Social Epidemiology
- v. Ecology of disease

4. Community Health

- i. Concept of integrated health services
- ii. Community health problems in India
- iii. Public health care systems in India.

5. The State and Health

- i. National Health Policy
- ii. Right to Health
- iii. Health Insurance
- iv. Issues of Gender and Reproductive health

References

- Armstrong, D. (1983). *An Outline of Sociology As Applied To Medicine*(2nd ed.). Wright PSG Bristol London Boston.

- Bose, A., & Desai, P.B. (1983). *Studies in Social Dynamics of Health care*. Hindustan. Delhi.
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- Scambler, G. (2012). *Contemporary Theorists for Medical Sociology (Critical Studies in Health and Society) (1st ed.)*. Routledge.

Course No: SOC 205: Sociology of Gender

50 Marks 5 credits

Course Outcome

This course will critique androcentric social theory and introduce students to feminist theory and methodology. In the early part of the course, this course will focus attention on theoretical debates. In the latter half, it will explore gender inequalities in various institutional contexts and understand the women's movement in India and the issues that have been central to it. Contemporary gender issues get reflected in the media and students are encouraged to maintain a journal tracking media coverage of gender issues.

Course Outline (Theoretical: 40 marks, Internal Assessment: 10 marks)

1. Basic Concepts and Theoretical Background to Gender:

Patriarchy, Public-Private Debate, Gender and Sex, Equality difference: Sexuality

2. Feminist Theory: Different waves of feminism

- i. Liberal feminism
- ii. Marxist feminism
- iii. Socialist feminism
- iv. Radical feminism
- v. Eco-feminism

3. Understanding the Women's Movement in India

- i. The reform movement in India
- ii. Women's movement in Indian National Congress
- iii. Second wave women's movement in India

4. The Family as a Social Institution and its impact on Gender Relations

5. Gender and Violence

References

- Bhasin, K. (2000). *Understanding Gender*. Kali for Women.
- Biber, S. H. (2013). *Feminist Research Practice: A Primer* (Second ed.). SAGE Publications, Inc.
- Butler, J. (2006). *Gender Trouble: Feminism and the Subversion of Identity (Routledge Classics)* (1st ed.). Routledge.
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SEMESTER III

Course No: SOC 301: Society in India: Contemporary Issues

50 Marks 5 credits

Course Outcome

This paper attempts to understand how sociologists have grappled with social developments in India and have tried to contribute to sociological knowledge. This paper will introduce the students to various perspectives advanced by sociologists on Indian society and concludes by mapping the current debates in Indian sociology.

Course Outline (Theoretical: 40 marks, Internal Assessment: 10 marks)

1. **Historical context of Indian Society:** Colonialism and Nationalism
2. **Indian Society**
 - i. Caste
 - ii. Adivasi
 - iii. Family and kinship
3. **Basic Concepts:** Sanskritization, Dominant Class, Westernization, Dialectics of Tradition and Modernity
4. **Emerging Issues**
 - i. Communalism and Secularism
 - ii. Education
 - iii. Social Exclusion

References

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Course No: SOC 302: Sociology of Work and Organization

50 Marks 5 credits

Course Outcome

Work is a fundamental aspect of our daily life that defines us as individuals and our identity and self. Understanding work and organization is a central aspect of sociology. The objective of the course is to make the learners understand the nature and process of work in society along with the transformations undergoinglikework with a focus on work in modern situations.

Course Outline (Theoretical: 40 marks, Internal Assessment: 10 marks)

1. Work

- i. Definition and Forms
- ii. Gendered division of labour

2. Basic Concepts:

- i. Work and Work Ethics
- ii. Work culture
- iii. Work and occupation
- iv. The Post-modern view of work

3. Approaches to the study of organizations:

- i. Scientific Management
- ii. Human Relations
- iii. Post Fordism

4. Formal organizations: Organizations as rational systems

5. Technology, Globalization, and Work

6. Profession and Professionalism

References

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Course No: SOC 303: Research Method - II

50 Marks 5 credits

Course Outcome

Research Methods will deal with qualitative research methods, such as participant observation, interviewing, case study, oral and life histories, and continue with the discussion on epistemological issues.

Course Outline (Theoretical: 40 marks, Internal Assessment: 10 marks)

1. **Philosophy of Social Science Research:** Positivism, Interpretivism, Hermeneutics
2. **Historical Development of Qualitative Method**
3. **Interview**
4. **Focus Group Discussion**
5. **Visual Sociology**
6. **Documentary Research and Life history**

References

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Course No: C-SOC 304: Sociology of Media and Society

50 Marks 4 credits

Course Outcome

The course aims to provide students with a basic understanding of the social and cultural impact of the media on society. The course will encourage students to look critically at the media and to evaluate the direction it is taking, especially about issues such as democracy. It will also look at developments such as the new communication technologies to see how these are likely to impact society.

Course Outline (Theoretical: 40 marks, Internal Assessment: 10 marks)

1. Terms and Concepts

- i. Types of mass media
- ii. Concepts of ideology, hegemony, mass society, etc.

2. Approaches to the Study of Media and Society

- i. Frankfurt school
- ii. Active audience approach

3. Symbolic Meaning in Media Texts

- i. Semiotic approach
- ii. Discourse analysis
- iii. Analysis of selected texts

4. Impact of Information Technologies on Society

- i. Evolution, growth and impact of the internet
- ii. Debates on regulation and control

5. Issues in Media and Society: Contemporary Perspectives

- i. Media ownership and control
- ii. Globalisation
- iii. Social media: Issues of censorship and freedom
- iv. Regional press

References

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Course No: SOC 305: Ethnographic Field Project

50 Marks 5 credits

Course Outcome

The course aims to provide students with a basic understanding of ethnographic studies and field visits. The course will encourage students to take interest in fieldwork. This course also includes various techniques of data collection.

Course Outline (Term Paper: 30 marks, Viva-Voce: 20 marks)

- 1. Concept of Ethnography**
- 2. Importance and problems encountered**
- 3. Techniques of data collection**
 - i. Ethnographic Interview
 - ii. Participant Observation
 - iii. Case Study
 - iv. Digital Ethnography
- 4. Narrative analysis**
- 5. Ethical Issues: Plagiarism, citation rules**

References

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SEMESTER IV

Course No: SOC 401: Sociology of Development and Globalization 50 Marks 5 credits

Course Outcome

This course aims to give the students an understanding of the globalization process, the principal mechanisms of international economic connections through which it works, and the idea of some of the debates it has evoked. It helps to understand the historical process of globalization, develop an overview of the competing approaches to globalization, to examine the impact of the processes of globalization on the Indian society at large, and specifically on the marginalized sections, and understand the resistance and challenges posed by various movements looking critically at globalization.

Course Outline (Theoretical: 40 marks, Internal Assessment: 10 marks)

1. Concepts & History

- i. Concept- development, globalization
- ii. History, characteristics, and dimensions (economic, political, and cultural)

2. Theoretical Perspectives: Development

- i. Modernization Theory
- ii. Dependency theory: Emmanuel Wallerstein World System Theory
- iii. Neo liberal Theory
- iv. Post Development Theory

3. Theoretical Perspective: Globalization

- i. Anthony Giddens
- ii. Manuel Castells
- iii. David Harvey
- v. R. Robertson

4. Impact of Globalization

- i. Impact on society and culture
- ii. Rise of civil society

5. Consequences of Globalization and Development

- i. Environmental degradation: Displacement
- ii. Issues of Sustainable Development
- iii. Post Truth Regime

References

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- Featherstone, M., Lash, S., & Robertson, R. (Eds.). (1995). *Global Modernities*. Sage Publications.
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Course No: SOC 402: Social Demography

50 Marks 5 credits

Course Outcome

This course seeks to understand the relationship between demographic phenomena in the one hand and socio-cultural and economic phenomena on the other and provide the learner's idea about demographic processes and factors in India.

Course Outline (Theoretical: 40 marks, Internal Assessment: 10 marks)

1. The Field of Social Demography

- i. Demography and Population Studies
- ii. Social Demography-Basic Demographic Concepts
- iii. Sources of Demographic Data.

2. Theoretical Perspectives on Population

- i. The Classical and Neo-Classical Schools - Marx and other socialist perspectives
- ii. Natural/ Biological Theories
- iii. Social Theories
- iv. Optimum population Theory
- v. Theory of Demographic Transition

3. Age-Sex Composition

- i. Age and Sex Composition- Factors Affecting Age-Sex Composition
- ii. Consequences of Age-Sex Composition

4. Fertility

- i. Measures of Fertility
- ii. Determinants of Fertility
- iii. Differential Fertility

5. Mortality

- i. Measures of Mortality
- ii. History of Mortality Trends
- iii. Causes of Mortality
- iv. Differential Mortality

6. Migration

- i. Measures, types and determinants of Migration
- ii. Reverse Migration

References

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- Majumdar, P. K. (2010). *Fundamentals of Demography*. Rawat Publications.
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Course No: SOC 403: Sociology of India

50 Marks 5 credits

Course Outcome

This paper attempts to understand how sociologists have grappled with social developments in India and have tried to contribute to sociological knowledge. This paper introduces the learners to various perspectives advanced by sociologists on Indian society and concludes by mapping the current debates in Indian sociology.

Course Outline (Theoretical: 40 marks, Internal Assessment: 10 marks)

1. Emergence and Growth of Sociology in India

- i. Historical Perspectives
- ii. Institutions and Approaches

2. Approaches to the Study of Indian society

- i. G.S. Ghurye, Radhakamal Mukerjee
- ii. N.K. Bose, Surajit Chandra Sinha
- iii. A.R Desai, D.P. Mukherji
- iv. M.N Srinivas

3. Critical Perspectives on Indian Society

- i. Subaltern Studies
- ii. Feminist Perspectives

4. Contemporary Debates in Indian Sociology: 'Indigenisation' of Sociology

References

- Atal, Y. (2003). *Indian Sociology from Where to Where: Footnotes to the History of the Discipline*. Rawat Publications.
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Course No: SOC 404: Dissertation and Viva Voce

50 Marks 5 credits

Course Outcome

As per the guidelines of Vidyasagar University, a Dissertation is a mandatory part of the curriculum in the Post Graduate Programme in Sociology. All students are encouraged to carry out independent field research having their research problems in consultation with the supervisor. It involves identifying a research problem, carrying out field research, and preparing a report. It will be followed by viva-voce on their respective projects. Here, the guidelines for the preparation of the dissertation are given underneath.

Course Outline (Report: 30 marks, Viva Voce: 10 marks)

GUIDELINES AND FORMAT FOR PG SOCIOLOGY DISSERTATION

The structure for the MA dissertation is broad and dissertations vary in format. This is because of differences in the research question/s and the theoretical and research orientations of students or supervisors. However, certain elements are obligatory in all dissertations, these include:

1. Preliminaries

- i. Title Page
- ii. Certificate
- iii. Acknowledgment

2. Text

- i. Introduction and Relevance of the study
- ii. Relevance of the Study
- iii. Review of Literature
- iv. Objectives
- v. Methodology
- vi. Data Collection, Analysis, Interpretation, and inferences
- vii. Findings and suggestions

3. Rules of citation: Avoiding Plagiarism

4. Bibliography

5. Annexure It is included in the last section of the dissertation and should include the tool used and other supplementary data like statistics, photographs, etc.

Course No: SOC 405: Social Psychology

50 Marks 5 credits

Course Outcome

To familiarise the students with the importance of social-psychological processes and factors in understanding the social behavior and to enable the students to understand socialpsychological problems and develop remedies to overcome them.

Course Outline (Theoretical: 40 marks, Internal Assessment: 10 marks)

1. Introduction and Approaches

- i. Origin, Nature, and a brief history of social psychology
- ii. Symbolic interactionism and Ethnomethodology

2. Social Perception and Cognition

- i. Social Perception
- ii. Social Cognition
- iii. Attitude

3. Prosocial Behavior and Intergroup Relations

- i. Nature and determinants of prosocial behavior
- ii. Aggression: Nature, factors, and techniques of reducing aggression.
- iii. Inter-group relations
- iv. Stereotyping, Prejudice, and Discrimination

References

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Important Note:

- Fieldwork is compulsory for Students of the IIIrd (SOC/305) and IVth (SOC/404) Semesters.
- Students will have to visit their field of study during ethnographic studies or dissertation work at their own expense.
- Viva will be conducted along with Ethnographic Field Project and Dissertation which will be based on their own fieldwork experience and overall understanding of the subject.
- Internal examination will be conducted through written and presentation mode.