

St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Ahmedabad

Syllabus of Semester – IV of the following departments under Faculty of Arts based on Under Graduate Curriculum Framework -2023 to be implemented from the Academic Year 2025-26

FACULTY OF ARTS DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY BA. (Hons) Sociology

Course	Title	Content	Hours/Weeks	Credit
SOH-MC-441-C	Sociological Thinkers-II	U-1: Herbert Spencer U-2: George Herbert Mead U-3: Talcott Parsons U-4: Pierre Bourdieu	4 HRS	4

Major Course 1: SOCIOLOGICAL THINKERS II

CREDIT DISTRIBUTION, ELIGIBILITY AND PRE-REQUISITES OF THE COURSE

Course Title & Code	Credit Distribution of The Course			Eligibility Criteria	Pre-requisite(s) of the Course (if any)
	Lecture	Tutorial	Practical / Practice		
Sociological Thinkers II	4	0	0	10 + 2 from a recognized board in any stream	Basic Knowledge of Sociology

LEARNING OBJECTIVES (LO)	
LO-1	Familiarize students with key sociological thinkers and their theories.
LO-2	Develop critical understanding of major theoretical frameworks.
LO-3	Apply sociological theories to understand social institutions.
Course OUTCOMES (CO)	
On Completion of this course, the student will be able to	
CO-1	Students will be able to Understand core ideas of Spencer, Parsons, Mead, and Bourdieu.
CO-2	Students will be able to Apply major sociological theories to analyze society.
CO-3	Students will be able to Critically evaluate classical theories in contemporary context.

Unit I: Herbert Spencer (15 L)

- Social Darwinism; Organic Analogy; Social Evolution
- Social Statics and Dynamics; Militant vs. Industrial Society
- Critiques of Spencer

Unit II: George Herbert Mead (15 L)

- Concepts of Mind, Self, and Society; The “I” and the “Me”; Role-taking and Communication
- Symbols and Social Interaction; Symbolic Interactionism

Unit III: Talcott Parsons (15 L)

- Theory of Social Action; Pattern Variables; AGIL (Adaptation, Goal Attainment, Integration, and Latency) Framework
- Structural Functionalism
- Critiques of Parsons

Unit IV: Pierre Bourdieu (15 L)

- Concepts of Habitus and Field
- Forms of Capital: Economic, Cultural, Social, Symbolic; Cultural Reproduction and Education
- Theory of Practice; Critiques of Bourdieu

Suggestive Reading:

1. Spencer, Herbert. 1969. *The Principles of Sociology*. Osnabrück: Otto Zeller Verlag.
2. Spencer, Herbert. 1864. *First Principles*. London: Williams and Norgate.
3. Parsons, Talcott. 1951. *The Social System*. Glencoe: The Free Press.
4. Parsons, Talcott. 1966. *Societies: Evolutionary and Comparative Perspectives*. Englewood Cliffs: Prentice-Hall.
5. Mead, George Herbert. 1934. *Mind, Self, and Society*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
6. Mead, George Herbert. 2015. *George Herbert Mead: Selected Writings*. Cambridge: Polity Press.
7. Bourdieu, Pierre. 1977. *Outline of a Theory of Practice*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
8. Bourdieu, Pierre. 1984. *Distinction: A Social Critique of the Judgement of Taste*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.
9. Bourdieu, Pierre. 1990. *The Logic of Practice*. Stanford: Stanford University Press.
10. Ritzer, George. 2011. *Sociological Theory* (8th ed.). New York: McGraw-Hill.
11. Ritzer, George and Jeffrey Stepnisky. 2021. *Contemporary Sociological Theory and Its Classical Roots* (6th ed.). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.
12. Coser, Lewis A. 2003. *Masters of Sociological Thought: Ideas in Historical and Social Context* (2nd ed.). New Delhi: Rawat Publications.
13. Collins, Randall. 1994. *Four Sociological Traditions*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
14. Turner, Jonathan H. 2013. *Theoretical Sociology: 1830 to the Present*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.
15. Susen, Simon and Turner, Bryan S. (Eds.). 2011. *The Legacy of Pierre Bourdieu: Critical Essays*. London: Anthem Press.

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FACULTY OF ARTS DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY BA. (Hons) Sociology

Course	Title	Content	Hours/Weeks	Credit
SOH-MC-442-C	Social Problems	U-1: Understanding of Social Problems U-2: Demographic and Economic Problems U-3: Social and Cultural Problems U-4: Political, Environmental, and Contemporary Problems	4 Hrs	4

MAJOR COURSE -2: SOCIAL PROBLEMS

CREDIT DISTRIBUTION, ELIGIBILITY AND PRE-REQUISITES OF THE COURSE

Course Title & Code	Credit Distribution of The Course			Eligibility Criteria	Pre-requisite(s) of the Course (if any)
	Lecture	Tutorial	Practical / Practice		
Social Problems (SOH-MC-442-C)	4	0	0	10 + 2 from a recognized board in any stream	Basic Knowledge of Sociology

LEARNING OBJECTIVES (LO)	
LO-1	Understand the meaning, causes, and consequences of major social problems.
LO-2	Introduce students to sociological perspectives on social issues.
LO-3	Enable students to identify and analyze contemporary social, economic, and political problems.
Course OUTCOMES (CO)	
On Completion of this course, the student will be able to	
CO-1	Define and explain key social problems affecting society.
CO-2	Analyze social issues using basic sociological theories and concepts.
CO-3	Critically engage with contemporary social challenges like poverty, casteism, crime, and climate change.

Unit I: Understanding of Social Problems (15 L)

- Concept, characteristics and types of social problems, Social Justice, Welfare state
- Causes, Consequences and Theoretical Approaches to the study of social problems;
- Social organization and disorganization.
- Sociological perspectives on social problems: Functionalist and Conflict

Unit II: Demographic and Economic Problems (15 L)

- Population growth and its social implications, Measures to control population explosion
- Poverty, unemployment, Unorganized Labor, Role of NGO, ILO, IMF and World Bank
- Migration, Urbanization and related social consequences, Rural issues
- Policy responses and development frameworks: SDGs, NITI Aayog, UN

Unit III: Social and Cultural Problems (15 L)

- Casteism, Communalism, Fundamentalism, Regionalism
- Social deviation, Child labour and juvenile delinquency, Drug addiction and alcoholism
- Problems of aged, Family disorganization

Unit IV: Political, Environmental, and Contemporary Problems (15 L)

- Corruption, Land related conflict
- Problems of minorities and tribal communities,
- Environmental degradation and climate change and climate justice;
- Contemporary concerns: Cyber-crime, mental health, digital divide

Suggestive Reading:

1. Ahuja, Ram. (2014). *Social Problems in India*. Jaipur: Rawat Publications.
2. Madan, G.R. (2004). *Indian Social Problems* (Vol. I & II). New Delhi: Allied Publishers.
3. Rao, C.N. Shankar. (2013). *Sociology: Principles of Sociology with an Introduction to Social Thought*. New Delhi: S. Chand & Company.
4. Merton, Robert K. (1968). *Social Theory and Social Structure*. New York: Free Press.
5. Horton, Paul B. & Leslie, Gerald R. (1980). *The Sociology of Social Problems*. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice-Hall.
6. Coser, Lewis A. (1971). *Masters of Sociological Thought*. New York: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich.
7. Beteille, André. (2012). *Caste, Class and Power: Changing Patterns of Stratification in a Tanjore Village*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press.
8. Giddens, Anthony. (2017). *Sociology*. Cambridge: Polity Press.
9. Srinivas, M.N. (1996). *Village, Caste, Gender and Method*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press.
10. Desai, A.R. (1986). *India's Path of Development: A Marxist Approach*. New Delhi: Popular Prakashan.
11. Ritzer, George. (2011). *Sociological Theory* (8th ed.). New York: McGraw-Hill.
12. Sharma, Rajendra K. (2013). *Indian Social Problems*. New Delhi: Atlantic Publishers.
13. Bhandarkar, P.L. & Varma, R. (2010). *Social Problems and Social Change in India*. Jaipur: Rawat Publications.
14. Davis, Kingsley. (1981). *Human Society*. New York: Macmillan.
15. Dube, S.C. (1990). *Indian Society*. New Delhi: National Book Trust.

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FACULTY OF ARTS DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY BA. (Hons) Sociology

Course	Title	Content	Hours/Weeks	Credit
SOH-MC-443-C	Sociology of Religion	U-1: Introduction to Religion U-2: Religion in Modern Times U-3: Religious traditions U-4: Different Perspective to Religion	4 Hrs	4

MAJOR COURSE 3: SOCIOLOGY OF RELIGION

CREDIT DISTRIBUTION, ELIGIBILITY AND PRE-REQUISITES OF THE COURSE

Course Title & Code	Credit Distribution of The Course			Eligibility Criteria	Pre-requisite(s) of the Course (if any)
	Lecture	Tutorial	Practical / Practice		
Sociology of Religion (SOH-MC-443-C)	4	0	0	10 + 2 from a recognized board in any stream	Basic Knowledge of Sociology

LEARNING OBJECTIVES (LO)

LO-1	Understand the nature and scope of religion from a sociological perspective.
LO-2	Explore classical and contemporary theories of religion.
LO-3	Analyze the role of religion in society, culture, and the Indian context.

Course OUTCOMES (CO)

On Completion of this course, the student will be able to

CO-1	Define and explain key sociological concepts related to religion.
CO-2	Apply theoretical perspectives to study religion and its social functions.
CO-3	Examine the interrelationship between religion, society, politics, and identity in both global and Indian contexts.

Unit-1 Introduction to Religion (15 L)

- Definition, Basic Components of Religion, Religion as a system of belief and ritual, Sacred and profane
- Structural aspect of religion, Morality
- Theories of origin of religion
- Types of religious practices: Animism, Monism, Pluralism, Sects, Cults, Totemism, Adivasi Religion, Naturism, Animism

Unit-2 Religion in Modern Times (15 L)

- Functions and dysfunctions of Religion, Religion and Science, Magic
- Recent trends in religion: Humanism
- Religious fundamentalism, Communalism, Proselytism, Secularism, Religious revivalism, Majoritarianism and religion, religious blasphemy, Atheism and Rationalism
- Problems of religious minorities

Unit-3 Religious traditions (15 L)

- Hinduism, Sikhism, Buddhism, Jainism
- Islam, Christianity, Parsis or Zoroastrians, Judaism

Unit-4 Different Perspective to Religion (15 L)

- Karl Marx: Conflict theory and religion
- Max Weber: Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism
- Durkheim: Elementary Forms of Religion

Suggested Readings:

1. Armstrong, Karen 1999, History of God. Penguin Random House Ireland Limited.
2. Asad, T. 1993. Genealogies of Religion: Discipline and Reasons of Power in Christianity and Islam. Baltimore: John Hopkins Press.
3. Berger, P. 1967. The Sacred Canopy. New York: Garden City.
4. B  teille, A. 2002. Sociology: Essays on Approach and Method. New Delhi: Oxford University Press.
5. Chadwick, Owen. 1975. The Secularization of the European Mind in the Nineteenth Century. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
6. Durkheim, E. 2001. The Elementary Forms of the Religious Life. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
7. Fuller, C. J. 2004. The Camphor Flame: Popular Hinduism and Society in India. New Jersey: Princeton University Press.
8. Gennep, A.V. 1960. Rites of Passage. London: Routledge and Kegan and Paul.
9. Madan, T.N. 1991. 'Secularism in its Place' in T. N. Madan (ed.): Religion in India. New Delhi: Oxford University Press.
10. Madan, T.N. (ed). 1992. Religion in India. Delhi: OUP (Introduction and selected essays)
11. Momin. A.R. 2004. 'The Indo-Islamic Tradition' in Robinson, R. (ed.): Sociology of Religion in India. New Delhi: Sage Publications.
12. Omvedt, G. 2003. Buddhism in India: Challenging Brahmanism and Caste, New Delhi: Sage Publications.
13. Rege, Sharmila Against the Madness of Manu: B.R Ambedkar's Writings on Brahmanical Patriarchy--Zubaan Books (2013)
14. Robinson, R. 2003. 'Christianity in the Context of Indian Society and Culture' in Veena Das (ed.): Oxford Indian Companion to Sociology and Social Anthropology. New Delhi: Oxford University Press.
15. Robinson, R. (ed). 2004. Sociology of Religion in India. Delhi: Sage (Introduction and selected essays).

17. Saberwal, S. 1991. 'Elements of Communalism' in T. N. Madan, (ed.): Religion in India. New Delhi: Oxford University Press.
18. Sontheimer, Gunther-Dietz and Hermann Kulke. 2001. Hinduism Reconsidered. New Delhi: Manohar Publishers.
19. Srinivas, M.N. 1952. Religion and Society among the Coorgs of South India. Clarendon: Oxford.
20. Uberoi, J.P.S. 1991. 'The Five Symbols of Sikhism', in T.N. Madan (ed.): Religion in India. New Delhi: Oxford University Press.
21. Weber, Max. 1905. The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism. New York: Free Press.