



National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam

Programme: B.A., LL.B (Hons.)

102. Introduction to Sociology (Major)

Semester: I (Odd)

Academic Year-2023-24

Sl. No	Course Code	Course Title	L	T	P	CR	CH
1.	102.	Introduction to Sociology (Major)	4 per week	1 per	week	4	

** L- Lecture; T- Tutorial; P- Project; cr- credit; ch- credit hour

Code and Title of the Course: 102. Introduction to Sociology (Major)

Course Credit: 4 (Total Marks: 200)

Medium of instruction: English

Course Compiled by: Preeti Priyam Sharma

Course Instructor:

I. COURSE OBJECTIVES

Some of the Objectives of the course are outlined below:

1. To develop among the students of B.A., LL.B (Hons.), an understanding of the basic concepts and methods of sociology
2. To enable them to look at the society around them in a scientific manner guided by sociological concepts and methods
3. To enable them to develop critical thinking, an ability to absorb and utilize abstract ideas, concepts and theories.
4. To familiarize the students with the rich contributions of the classical sociologists who shaped the contours of the discipline

II. TEACHING METHODOLOGY

The methodology is not a traditional lecture method but participatory teaching method with the use of smart classroom technology for lectures, presentation and discussions. Films like *To Kill a Mocking Bird*, *the Return of the Mohicans* will be screened to acquaint students with key sociological concepts and critical thinking.

A field trip which will enable students to understand the nuances of Data collection and practical application of the various processes of Data Collection will be conducted.

III. EXPECTED OUTCOMES OF THE COURSE

Through this course, it is hoped that the students will:

- i. Understand some of the basic concepts of society and the basic research methods of sociology
- ii. Understand the basic contributions of the ‘founding fathers’ to the discipline of sociology
- iii. Develop an understanding of the theoretical perspectives of sociology and also learn how to apply them to create sociological knowledge
- iv. Overcome some of their pro-conceived notions and prejudices about society and develop a scientific worldview

IV. COURSE EVALUATION METHOD

The Course shall be assessed out of 200 marks. The impetus is on Continuous Assessment. The Evaluation scheme is as follows:

Internal Assessment 70% (140 marks)

External Assessment 30% (60 marks)

Sl. No.	Internal Assessment	
1.	Project and Presentation	60 marks
2.	Mid Semester	40 marks
3.	Semester End Examination	60 marks
4.	Active Learning	30 marks
5.	Attendance in Class	10 marks

V. Detailed Structure of the Course (Specifying course modules and prescribed reading list)

Module One

- **Introduction to Sociology:** origin of sociology, Nature of Sociology, Scope of Sociology, Sociology and Commonsense, The Sociological Imagination,
- **Relation between** Sociology and Law, Sociology and History, Sociology and Political Science, Sociology and Economics, Sociology and Anthropology, Sociology and Psychology
- **Perspectives of Sociology-** Functionalist perspective, Conflict perspective: Marxist perspective & Feminist perspective, Interactionist perspective

Prescribed Readings

- i. Beteille, Andre, *Sociology*, Oxford University Press, New Delhi, 2013, Ch- 1, pp- 9-20, Ch- 2, pp- 21-35, Ch-3, pp- 36-51, Ch-7, pp-148- 170, Ch- 9, pp- 184-200, Ch-10, pp- 201-224, Ch-11, pp- 225- 245

- ii. Haralambos, M., R.M. Heald, *Sociology: Themes and Perspectives*, Oxford University Press, New Delhi, 2010, Ch-1, pp 1-21, Ch- 8, pp- 325-368, Ch-10, pp- 406-452
- iii. Horton, Paul B., Chester L. Hunt, *Sociology*, Tata McGraw- Hill, New Delhi, 2012, Ch- 1, pp- 3-20, Ch-3, pp-51-77, Ch-4, pp- 79-103, Ch-5, pp-104-128, Ch-7, pp- 154-181, Ch- 10, pp- 230-262, Ch-14, pp- 343- 367
- iv. Giddens, Anthony, *Sociology*, Wiley India, New Delhi, 2010, Ch- 1, pp- 3-32, Ch- 3, pp-67-106, Ch-9, pp- 327- 382
- v. Bottomore, T.B., *Sociology: A Guide to Problems and Literature*, Blackie & Son, New Delhi, 1986, Ch- 1, pp-15-81, Ch- 13, pp-229- 236, Ch -14, pp- 237- 249, Ch-15, 250-261
- vi. Oommen T.K., C.N.Venugopal, *Sociology for Law Students*, Eastern Book Company, New Delhi,2016, Ch-20, pp- 201-219
- vii. Mills, C.W., *Sociological Imagination*, New York, Oxford University Press, 1959

Module Two

- **Basic Concepts of Sociology:** Association, Community, Institution,
- **Culture and Society:** Characteristics and Classification of Culture, Ethnocentrism, Xenocentrism, Cultural Relativism and Cultural Diversity
- **Social Groups:** Primary Group Secondary Group In Group Out Group Reference Group Voluntary Group Involuntary Group
- **Social Order:** Social Structure, Social Functions, Status and Role, Social Values and Social Norms, Customs, Folkways, Mores, Etiquette, Fashion, Fad, Law, Public Opinion
- **Socialization:** Child Socialization, Adult Socialisation, Selected Agencies of Socialization, Theories of Socialization, Sigmund Freud, G.H. Mead, C.H. Cooley
- **Custom and Law:** Relationship between Custom and Law, Difference between Custom and Law

Prescribed Readings

- i. Beteille, Andre, *Sociology*, Oxford University Press, New Delhi, 2013, Ch- 1, pp- 9-20, Ch- 2, pp- 21-35, Ch-3, pp- 36-51, Ch-7, pp-148- 170, Ch- 9, pp- 184-200, Ch-10, pp- 201-224, Ch-11, pp- 225- 245
- ii. Haralambos, M., R.M. Heald, *Sociology: Themes and Perspectives*, Oxford University Press, New Delhi, 2010, Ch-1, pp 1-21, Ch- 8, pp- 325-368, Ch-10, pp- 406-452
- iii. Horton, Paul B., Chester L. Hunt, *Sociology*, Tata McGraw- Hill, New Delhi, 2012, Ch- 1, pp- 3-20, Ch-3, pp-51-77, Ch-4, pp- 79-103, Ch-5, pp-104-128, Ch-7, pp- 154-181, Ch- 10, pp- 230-262, Ch-14, pp- 343- 367
- iv. Giddens, Anthony, *Sociology*, Wiley India, New Delhi, 2010, Ch- 1, pp- 3-32, Ch- 3, pp-67-106, Ch-9, pp- 327- 382
- v. Bottomore, T.B., *Sociology: A Guide to Problems and Literature*, Blackie & Son, New Delhi, 1986, Ch- 1, pp-15-81, Ch- 13, pp-229- 236, Ch -14, pp- 237- 249, Ch-15, 250-261
- vi. Thakur, Navendu K., *An Introduction to Sociology*, Central Law Publications, Allahabad, 2015, Ch- 6, pp- 50- 63,

Module Three

- Marriage in India, Basic Concepts, Forms of Marriage, Changes in the Institution of Marriage, Marriage as a Sacrament, Marriage as a Contract,
- Kinship, Basic Concepts: Descent, Residence, Incest, Consanguinity, Affinity, Family, Types and Degrees of Kinship, Kinship Terminology, Different Kinship Structures, Kinship and Gender, Relatedness, Re-imagining Families,

Prescribed Readings:

- i. Haralambos, M., R.M. Heald, *Sociology: Themes and Perspectives*, Oxford University Press, New Delhi, 2010, Ch-1, pp 1-21, Ch- 8, pp- 325-368, Ch-10, pp- 406-452

- ii. Horton, Paul B., Chester L. Hunt, *Sociology*, Tata McGraw- Hill, New Delhi, 2012, Ch- 1, pp- 3-20, Ch-3, pp-51-77, Ch-4, pp- 79-103, Ch-5, pp-104-128, Ch-7, pp- 154-181, Ch- 10, pp- 230-262, Ch-14, pp- 343- 367
- iii. Giddens, Anthony, *Sociology*, Wiley India, New Delhi, 2010, Ch- 1, pp- 3-32, Ch- 3, pp-67-106, Ch-9, pp- 327- 382
- iv. Bottomore, T.B., *Sociology: A Guide to Problems and Literature*, Blackie & Son, New Delhi, 1986, Ch- 1, pp-15-81, Ch- 13, pp-229- 236, Ch -14, pp- 237- 249, Ch-15, 250- 261
- v. Zimmerman Carle C., “The Nature of the Family”, Patel Tulsi, *Family in India: Structure and Practice*, Sage, New Delhi, 2005, Ch-2, pp-2
- vi. Fox, Robin, “Kinship & Marriage: An Anthropological Perspective”, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 2006, Ch- 1, pp- 27- 53, Ch-2, pp- 54- 76, Ch-3, pp- 77- 121, Ch-4, pp- 97- 121, Ch-5, pp- 122- 145, Ch- 6, pp- 146-174, Ch- 7, pp- 175- 207

Module Four

Contributions of the founding fathers of sociology

- **Auguste Comte**- the law of three stages, hierarchy of sciences, positivism
- **Karl Marx**- historical materialism, alienation, social Class,
- **Emile Durkheim**- the division of labour in society, social fact, the suicide, religion and society
- **Max Weber**- social action, rationalisation, bureaucracy, the protestant ethic and the spirit of capitalism, class, status and party

Prescribed Readings:

- i. Aron, Raymond, *Main Currents in Sociological Thought*, Harmondsworth, Middlesex, Penguin Books, 1967. Volume one pp. 145- 226, Volume Two pp. 11-115, 219-307
- ii. Coser, Lewis, A., *Masters of Sociological Thought*, Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, New York, 1979

- iii. Fletcher, R., *The Making of Sociology*, Volume I and Volume II, Indian Edition, Rawat Publications, Jaipur, 1994.
- iv. Morrison, Ken, *Marx, Durkheim, Weber: Formation of Modern Social Thought*, Sage Publications, London, 1995.
- v. Ritzer, G. *Sociological Theory*, New York, Mc Graw Hill Companies, 2011, Ch 1, pp-3-36, Ch 2, pp 39-65, Ch 3, pp 107-141
- vi. Wallace Ruth A., Alison Wolf, *Contemporary Sociological Theory*, Prentice Hall of India, New Delhi, 2006, Ch- 2, pp 25-57