



National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam

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

801. Law and Society (Seminar)

Semester: VIII (even)

Academic Year-2023-24

Sl. No	Course Code	Course Title	L	T	P	CR	CH
1.	801	Law and Society (Seminar)	4 per week	1 per	week	4	

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

Code and Title of the Course: 801. Law and Society (Seminar)

Course Credit: 4 (Total Marks: 200)

Medium of instruction: English

Course Compiled by: Preeti Priyam Sharma

Course Instructor:

I. COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. To enable the law students to develop a critical understanding of law as a social institution
2. To understand the complex ties between law and other social institutions
3. To understand the process of evolution of modern law in India from customs and traditions
4. To understand the role of law as a tool of social change and re-engineering

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 discussion. The paper is intended to be research based and to a great extent self- taught. There would be special emphasis on research consultation, extensive readings and oral and written presentations.

III. EXPECTED OUTCOMES OF THE COURSE

It is hoped that through this paper, the students would be able to-

1. Develop a better understanding of the role law as an instrument of social change and control
2. Unravel those complex interconnections between law, its historical context and social institutions
3. Develop the ability to conduct independent research and make insightful oral and written presentations

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:

Sl. No.	Continuous Assessment	
1.	1 Seminar Paper	80 marks
2.	Seminar Paper Presentation	50 marks
3.	Practical Component- field work/ book review/ movie review/ group discussion	30 marks
4.	Work in progress – presentation/ submission	30 marks
5.	Attendance in Class	10 marks

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

MODULE I

1. Introduction: Evolution of Legal systems
2. The Displacement of Traditional Law in Modern India
3. The Aborted Restoration of ‘ Indigenous ‘ Law in India
4. Panchayat Justice: An Indian Experiment in Legal Access
5. Indian Law as an Indigenous Conceptual System

Prescribed Readings:

1. Baviskar B.S., Tulsi Patel (ed.), *Understanding Indian Society Past and Present*, Orient BlackSwan Private Limited, New Delhi, 2010
2. Bottomore, T.B., *Sociology: A Guide to Problems and Literature*, Blackie & Son, New Delhi,
3. Deva Indra (ed.), *Sociology of Law*, Oxford University Press, New Delhi, 2010
4. Dube, S.C., *Indian society*, National Book Trust, New Delhi
5. Galanter Marc, *Law and Society in Modern India*, Oxford University Press, New Delhi, 1992
6. Gupta Dipankar (ed.), *Social Stratification*, Oxford University Press, New Delhi, 2013
7. Horton, Paul B., Chester L. Hunt, *Sociology*, Tata McGraw- Hill, New Delhi, 2012
8. Oommen T.K., C.N. Venugopal, *Sociology for Law Students*, Eastern Book Company, New Delhi, 2016

MODULE II

1. Sociological Approaches to Law
2. Law in relation to Social order in India: The Interplay between Values or Norms and the Law
3. Law as a means of Social control in India: Micro and Macro Levels in Operation
 - a. The Village Panchayat and Caste Council
 - b. Contrast with British Courts in India
 - c. Tribal Judicial System
 - I. Composition and Operation of Tribal Councils in India
 - d. Legal System in Modern India

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8. Oommen T.K., C.N. Venugopal, *Sociology for Law Students*, Eastern Book Company, New Delhi, 2016
9. Valverde Mariana, Kamari M. Clarke, Eve Darian Smith, Prabha Kotiswaran (ed.), *The Routledge Handbook of Law and Society*, Routledge, Taylor and Francis Group, London and New York, 2021

MODULE III

1. Legal Conceptions of the Social Structure
2. Group membership and Group Preferences in India
3. Changing Legal Conceptions of Caste

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8. Oommen T.K., C.N. Venugopal, *Sociology for Law Students*, Eastern Book Company, New Delhi, 201

MODULE IV

1. Pursuing Equality in the Land of Hierarchy: An assessment of India's Policies of Compensatory Discrimination for Historically Disadvantaged Groups
2. The use and Non Use of Law Favorable to Untouchables and Other Specially Vulnerable Groups
3. Hinduism, Secularism and The Indian Judiciary

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