

Chanakya National Law University, Patna
B.A., LL.B. (H) 2022-23; SEMESTER- I

Course Title: General Principles of Sociology

Course Overview

The curriculum is designed to introduce the general principles of Sociology to students from diverse academic and social backgrounds, training, and capabilities. The course is intended to introduce the students to the sociological ways of thinking, and the application of the sociological concepts to everyday life. The first module gives an overview of Sociology as a perspective and discipline. The second module delves into the basic concepts of sociology that would help students to understand their everyday life better. The third module introduces the students to the ways of thinking about society. The fourth module focuses on diverse social institutions and their role in the process of socialization. The fifth module deals with how human societies are organized and what are the social mechanisms through which social change occurs.

Learning Outcomes

On completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Develop a sense of how common sense is limited to those who share the same spatial-geographical, social and cultural location.
2. Demonstrate the ability to apply the theoretical concepts learned to all kinds of societies whether simple or complex.
3. Understand various aspects of society and how these are interlinked with each other, and how this interlinkage impact lives of the individuals.
4. Read complex texts and express thoughts and ideas effectively in writing.

List of Topics/ Modules

Topic/ Module	Contents	Sessions / Lectures
Module I: <i>Sociology as a Discipline and Perspective</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Emergence of Sociology• Sociology Beyond Commonsense• Sociology and Other Social Sciences	1-7
Module II: <i>Basic Concepts</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Society and Community• Culture and Individual• Groups and Associations	8-12

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Status and Role • Norms and Values • Cooperation • Accommodation • Integration • Assimilation 	
Module III: <i>Introducing Sociological Perspectives</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Structural-Functionalism • Conflict Perspective • Interactionism • Phenomenology • Social Action • Positivism • Feminism • Postmodernism 	13-26
Module IV: <i>Social Institutions and Socialization</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Institutions • Socialization 	27-37
Module V: <i>Social Stratification and Social Change</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Stratification • Social Change 	38-45

Suggested Reading Material:

1. Giddens, A. (2006). *Sociology (5th ed.)*. Cambridge: Polity Press. (Chapter 1, ‘What is Sociology?’)
2. Ritzer, G., & S. Jeffrey. (2018). *Classical Sociological Theory (7th ed.)*. New Delhi: Sage Publications. (Chapter 1, Pgs. 31-62)
3. Beteille, A. (2002). *Sociology: Essays on Approach and Method*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press. (Chapter 1, ‘Sociology and Common Sense’)
4. Haralambos, M., & M. Holborn. (2021). *Sociology: Themes and Perspectives*. Harper Collins Publishers. (Chapter 1, ‘Sociological Perspectives’)
5. Bottomore, T.B. (1975). *Sociology a Guide to Problems and Literature*. London: George Allen and Unwin Ltd. (Part III: Social Institutions)
6. Uberoi, P (ed.). (1993). *Family, Kinship, and Marriage in India*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press. (Introduction).
7. Palriwala, R., & P. Uberoi. (2008). ‘Exploring the Links: Gender Issues in Marriage and Migration’, in R. Palriwala and P. Uberoi (eds.) *Marriage, Migration, and Gender*. New Delhi: Sage Publications.
8. Tanaka, M. (2003). ‘Religion in Everyday Life’, in V. Das (ed.) *The Oxford India Companion to Sociology and Social Anthropology*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press.

9. Jodhka, S. (2019). 'Villages and Villagers in Contemporary India', in S. Srivastava, Y. Arif, and J. Abraham (eds.) *Critical Themes in Indian Sociology*. New Delhi: Sage Publications.
10. Breman, J. (1996). *Footloose Labour: Working in India's Informal Economy*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. (Chapter 2).
11. Bardhan, P. (2003). 'Decentralization and the Poor', in V. Das (ed.) *The Oxford India Companion to Sociology and Social Anthropology*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press.
12. Kaviraj, S. (2011). *The Enchantment of Democracy and India: Politics and Ideas*. Ranikhet: Permanent Black. (Introduction).
13. Giddens, A. (2006). *Sociology (5th ed.)*. Cambridge: Polity Press. (Chapter 6, 'Socialization, the Life-course and Ageing').
14. Gupta, D. (2004). 'Social Stratification', in V. Das (ed.) *Handbook of Indian Sociology*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press.
15. Bottomore, T.B. (1975). *Sociology a Guide to Problems and Literature*. London: George Allen and Unwin Ltd. (Part V: Social Change)

Instructor Details

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