M.A. in Sociology

Programme Structure

The M.A. in Sociology is a two-year, full-time course divided into two parts, consisting of four Semesters. Semester-1 and Semester-2 will form Part-I and Semester 3 and Semester 4 will form Part-II.

Each student will take a total of 16 courses out of which SOC 101-SOC 108 and SOC 209-SOC 210 will be compulsory. M.A. (Part-I) students will take courses SOC 101-SOC 108 (four in each of Semester I and II) and M.A. (Part-II) students will take courses SOC 209 and SOC 210 (one each in Semester III and IV). M.A. (Part-II) students will also take six elective courses, including at least four chosen out of courses SOC 211-SOC 224 (distributed over Semester III and IV). A student who takes course SOC 219 will be required to choose either course SOC 219(a), SOC 219(b) or SOC 219(c). Each student may take two courses, one in each of Semesters 3 and 4 of M.A. (Part-II), in any other department of the University. Such courses selected by a student must be of the same weightage as individual courses within the Department.

The Department will announce at least five elective courses to be taught in each of the two semesters making up the M.A. (Part – II) year before the start of the academic year. Generally, an elective course will be taught only if at least five students decide to take the course. Students will be required to convey their selection of particular elective courses by prescribed dates. These dates will be displayed on the notice board and web-site of the Department. Ordinarily, no change will be permitted after these dates.

Interdisciplinarity

As mentioned above, students of the Department may take upto two courses in any other department of the University. All courses taught in the M.A. Programme in the Department will be opened up as interdisciplinary courses to all full-time students registered in any regular masters programme of the University. The total of such students accepted in each semester, distributed over all the courses being taught in the department, will be more or less equivalent to the intake in the M.A. Sociology programme in any one year. The Department will post a last date (on its website) for receiving requests for enrolment by non-sociology students along with its teaching schedule. All non-sociology students wishing to take courses in the Department will be required to meet with the Departmental Interdisciplinary Advisory Committee before their enrolment in courses in the Department.
## Compulsory Courses
### M.A. (Part I: Semester 1)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SOC Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Marks</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SOC 101.</td>
<td>Sociological Theories</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC 103.</td>
<td>Sociology of Kinship</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC 106.</td>
<td>Economic Sociology</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOC 107.</td>
<td>Sociology of India-I</td>
<td>100</td>
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### M.A. (Part I: Semester 2)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>SOC Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Marks</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SOC 102.</td>
<td>Sociological Theories: Some Conceptual Issues</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC 104.</td>
<td>Religion and Society</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC 105.</td>
<td>Political Sociology</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC 108.</td>
<td>Sociology of India-II</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>4</td>
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### M.A. (Part II: Semester 3)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SOC Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Marks</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SOC 209.</td>
<td>Methods of Sociological Research</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>4</td>
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### M.A. (Part II: Semester 4)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SOC Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Marks</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SOC 210.</td>
<td>Social Stratification</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>4</td>
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## Elective Courses

### M.A. Part-II: (Semesters 3 and 4. A minimum of five courses will be offered in each of Semesters 3 and 4 from the list below).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SOC Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Marks</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SOC 211.</td>
<td>Sociology of Development</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC 212.</td>
<td>Sociology of Symbolism</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC 213.</td>
<td>Industry and Society</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOC 214.</td>
<td>Gender and Society</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOC 215.</td>
<td>Sociology of Education</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOC 216.</td>
<td>Sociology of Organizations</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOC 217.</td>
<td>Population and Society</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOC 218.</td>
<td>Urban Sociology</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOC 219.</td>
<td>Area Study: (a) South East Asia (b) South West Asia or (c) China</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOC 220.</td>
<td>Sociology of Science</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOC 221.</td>
<td>Agrarian Structure</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOC 222.</td>
<td>Sociology of Law</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOC 223.</td>
<td>Medical Sociology</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOC 224.</td>
<td>Sociology of Media</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOC 225.</td>
<td>Society and Ecology</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>4</td>
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Scheme of Examination & Evaluation

1. English shall be the medium of instruction and examination.

2. Examinations shall be conducted in the courses taught in each semester at the end of that semester as per the Academic Calendar notified by the University of Delhi.

3. Each course will carry 100 marks and 4 (four) credits.

4. The M.A. Examination in Sociology will have two components:

   (i) an end-of-semester written examination of two hours duration in each course at the end of the semester in which it is taught. The maximum marks for the end-of-semester examination in each course will be 75, except in Course SOC 209 in which the end-of-semester examination will carry a maximum of 50 marks.

   (ii) marks awarded in a system of Continuous Internal Assessment in each course during the semester in which it is taught. Continuous Internal Assessment will carry a maximum of 25 marks in each course, except in Course SOC 209 in which the Continuous Internal Assessment will carry a maximum of 50 marks. The Continuous Internal Assessment entails the submission of a written assignment in that course and the marks will be based on evaluations of presentations, participation in discussions and the written work submitted.

5. The scheme and mode of evaluation applicable to non-sociology students taking courses in the Department will be the same as that applicable to the regular students of the Department.

Conditions for Admission to Examinations

1. No candidate will be deemed to have pursued a regular course of study in the M.A. course in Sociology, unless she/he has attended 75% of the tutorials held in the semester, and has submitted 75% of the total written assignments in that semester.

2. Candidates of M.A. Sociology may appear in the end-of-semester examination in each course not more than twice within the span period of four years after admission to the M.A. (Part I) class, i.e., a candidate may reappear in the end-of-semester examination in any course only once. A candidate will reappear in a semester examination in the semester in which it is being taught in the year in which she/he reappears.

3. The provisions for reappearing in the M.A. examination within the specified span period of four years will apply only to the end-of-semester examination in each course and not to the component of continuous internal evaluation. Candidates who choose to reappear in any of the courses during the span period will not be permitted to resubmit written assignments for purposes of continuous internal evaluation.
Promotion Criteria and Qualifying Marks for the Award of the Degree

1. To be promoted from one semester to the next semester within the same part, a student must obtain a minimum of 40% marks in the end-of-semester examination and continuous internal assessment combined (i.e., 40 marks out of 100) in at least two of the courses in the first semester of each part.

2. Promotion of a student from M.A. (Part I) to M.A. (Part II) will be subject to fulfilling the following conditions:

She/he should have obtained a minimum of 40% marks in each of at least 6 courses over the two end-of-semester examinations and continuous internal assessment combined (i.e., 40 marks out of 100).

3. In order to qualify for the M.A. degree in Sociology, a candidate should fulfill the following conditions:

   (i) The aggregate of the marks obtained in the end-of-semester examinations in each semester and the marks obtained in internal assessment should be at least 45% (i.e., 180 marks out of 400).

   (ii) In addition, a candidate should obtain not less than 40% marks in each course in the combined marks of the end-of-semester examination and internal assessment in each course.

Division Criteria

Successful candidates will be classified on the basis of the combined results of Part-I and Part-II examinations as follows:

Candidates securing 60% and above                          Ist Division
Candidates securing 50% or more, but less than 60%        IInd Division
All others                                               IIIrd Division
Course SOC 101: Sociological Theories

1. The Development of Sociology in the 19th Century

2. Karl Marx:
   a) Transition from Pre-Capitalist to Capitalist Social Formations
   b) Capitalism and Commodity Production
   c) Class and Class Conflict

3. Max Weber:
   a) Social Action: Basic Concepts and Terms
   b) Methodologies of the Social Sciences
   c) Religion and Social Change

4. Emile Durkheim:
   a) Sociology as Science
   b) The Division of Labour and Forms of Solidarity
   c) Systems of Classification

Suggested Readings:
(The final list of readings will be distributed by the course instructor in the first week of the semester)

Course SOC 102: Sociological Theory: Some Conceptual Issues

1. Self, Interaction, Event:
   (a) Self and other in the social act
   (b) Multiple Realities
   (c) The ‘doing’ of social life

2. System and Structure:
   (a) From action to systems
   (b) Models and relationships

3. Discourse, Genealogy, Practice:
   (a) The emergence of the subject and disciplinary power
   (b) Habitus and embodiment
   (c) Spatial practices

Select Readings:
(The final list of readings will be distributed by the course instructor in the first week of the semester)


Course SOC 103: Sociology of Kinship

1. What is kinship?
   (a) The formation of kinship as an object of study
   (b) Is kinship universal?

2. Studying kinship:
   (a) Descent, residence and inheritance
   (b) Marriage alliance
   (c) Official and practical kinship
   (d) Cultural constructions
   (e) Relatedness

3. Transformations in the family, marriage and property:
   (a) Family and marriage
   (b) Kinship and Property
   (c) Honour shame and violence

4. New areas in the study of kinship (any two in one semester):
   (a) Reproductive technologies and reconfigured kinship
   (b) Gay and lesbian kinship
   (c) Kinship and genetics

Select Readings:
(The final list of readings will be distributed by the course instructor in the first week of the semester)


Course SOC 104: Religion and Society


2. The Making of Sacred Space and Sacred Time.


5. Critiques of Religion.

Select Readings:
(The final list of readings will be distributed by the course instructor in the first week of the semester)


SOC 105: Political Sociology

1. Nature and Scope of Political Sociology
   (a) Approaches to the Study of Politics
   (b) Political Systems and other Social Systems

2. Some Basic Concepts:
   (a) Power and Authority
   (b) Consensus and Conflict
   (c) Elites and Masses
   (d) State and Stateless Societies

3. Local Structures of Power:
   (a) Varieties of Local Power Structure
   (b) Local Power Structures and the wider Political System

4. State and Society:
   (a) Capitalism and Socialism
   (b) Welfare State
   (c) Democracy and Fascism

5. Politics and Society in India:
   (a) Social Movements and State Institutions
   (b) Nationalisms and the Nation-state

Suggested Readings:
(The final list of readings will be distributed by the course instructor in the first week of the semester).


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Course SOC 106: Economic Sociology

1. Introduction: Economy in Society

2. Production and Reproduction:
   a) Concepts of Value, Labour, Property, Money and Rationality
   b) The Production Process: The Structure and Experience of Work

3. Consumption and Exchange:
   a) Gift Exchange
   b) Markets
   c) The Commodity Form
   d) Consumption

4. Economy and the State:
   a) Planned Economies
   b) Welfare Systems
   c) The State and Global Markets

Suggested Readings:
(The final list of readings will be distributed by the course instructor in the first week of the semester)

Course SOC 107: Sociology of India-I

1. Development of Sociology and Social Anthropology of India; Approaches to the Study of Indian Society.

2. Caste-Structure and Change:
   a) Tribe and Caste
   b) Nature and Forms of Caste
   c) Caste in Relation to Other Social Groups and Institutions (such as Religion, Economy and Polity)
   d) Caste and Locality (Village, Town and Region)

3. Aspects of Rural Social Structure:
   a) Nature of Village Community
   b) Change in Village Community
   c) Village, Region and Civilization

4. Family, Kinship and Marriage:
   a) Nature of Family and Kinship
   b) Marriage: patterns of Exchange and Presentation
   c) Family, Economy and Law

5. Religion in India:
   a) Ideology
   b) Social Organization
   c) Religious Movements

Suggested Readings:
(The final list of readings will be distributed by the course instructor in the first week of the semester)

1. Articles under the title ‘For a Sociology of India’, *Contributions to Indian Sociology*. (Old series and New series).
SOC 108: Sociology of India II

1. Social Organisation of Agriculture
   (a) Land, State and Agrarian Society
   (b) Agrarian Crisis and Reform in Contemporary India
   (c) Agrarian Movements

2: Aspects of Urban India
   (a) Urban Society
   (b) Occupation and Class
   (c) The City: A case study of Delhi

3. Aspects of Politics and Society in Contemporary India
   (a) Nationhood and Nationalism
   (b) Secularism and communalism
   (c) Marginal Communities: Discrimination and the Problems of Equality

4. Locations of Modernity
   (a) Gender politics
   (b) Migrations

Select Readings:
(The final list of readings will be distributed by the course instructor in the first week of the semester)


28. Virginius Xaxa: State Society and Tribes (Chapters Introduction, 4 and 8).


32. Narrain Arvind and Bhan Gautam (eds) Because I have a voice: Queer politics in India, New Delhi: Yoda Press, 2005. (Chapters 2 and 3).


Course SOC 209: Methods of Sociological Research

This is a revised version of an existing course, which converts it from a text oriented to practice oriented course. The aim is to enable students to frame a research question, fashion appropriate methods to address it, and derive relevant conclusions. At the same time, they will be exposed to different readings of the archive, of ethnography, visual anthropology etc, which will help them to understand the diversity of practice and critical thinking behind every method. For instance, in the section on archives, they will be exposed to different ways of constructing archives (colonial records, photos, pamphlets), subaltern versus Marxist readings of colonial records, and so on. In the second half of the course, they will be acquainted with different data sources on Indian society, and taught how to use them to research a particular question or geographical area.

1. Research Methods:
   a) Ethnography
   b) Archival Methods
   c) Oral History
   d) Interviews/ Case Studies
   e) Content analysis
   f) Survey Research
   g) Statistical Methods
   h) Social Experiments
   i) PRA (Participatory Rural Appraisal)
   j) Visual ethnography

2. Major Data Sources on Indian Society:
   a) Archives
   b) Census
   c) National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO)
   d) National Family Health Survey (NFHS) and other large data sets
   e) Gazeteers, District handbooks, People of India Project
   f) Film and Visual artifacts

50% of the evaluation in this course will be based on research projects carried out by the students, whether singly or in groups as part of the internal evaluation system, and 50% on an exam.

Suggested Readings:
(The final list of readings will be distributed by the course instructor in the first week of the semester)


Course SOC 210: Social Stratification

1. Understanding Social Stratification:
   a) Social Stratification and Social Inequality
   b) The Problem of Ethical Neutrality
   c) Difference, Equality, and Inequality
   d) The Structuring of Inequalities: The Significance of Ideas and Interests

2. Occupation, Social Stratification, and Class:
   a) Classes as Non-antagonistic Strata
   b) Classes as Antagonistic Groups
   c) Social Mobility and Class Structure

3. Race and Ethnicity:
   a) Natural Differences and Social Inequality
   b) Identities, Nationalities, and Social Inequality

4. Gender and Stratification:
   a) Patriarchy and the Subordination of Women
   b) The Family as a Site of Inequality
   c) Gender, Work, and Entitlements
   d) The Community, the State and Patriarchy

Suggested Readings:
(The final list of readings will be distributed by the course instructor in the first week of the semester)

Course SOC 211: Sociology of Development

I. Perspectives on the Study of Development:
   a) Definitions and Indices
   b) Liberal and Marxist Perspectives
   c) Epistemological Critiques of Development

2. State and Market: Institutions and ideologies:
   a) Planned Development and Society
   b) Globalisation and Liberalization

3. The Micro-Politics of Development:
   a) Transforming Communities: Maps and Models
   b) Knowledge and Power in Development
   c) Re-inventing Development: Subaltern Movements

Suggested Readings:
(The final list of readings will be distributed by the course instructor in the first week of the semester)


Course SOC 212: Sociology of Symbolism

1. Principles of Semiology:
   a) Sign and Value
   b) Types of Symbols
   c) Relations of Signification

2. Narrative Forms:
   a) Structure of Narratives
   b) Code and Message

3. Language, Text and Culture:
   a) Ethnography as Text and Practice
   b) Symbol, History, Event

4. Visuality and the Symbol:
   a) Visual Symbols
   b) Media, Technology, Representation

Suggested Readings:
(The final list of readings will be distributed by the course instructor in the first week of the semester)


Course SOC 213: Industry and Society

1. Industrialisation, industrialism and post industrial society.

2. Employee organizations: Blue Collar, White Collar and Managers.

3. Work organization and Alienation:
   a) Machine Tending, Assembly Line, and Process Industry
   b) Job Re-design and Enrichment
   c) New Technologies: Emerging Forms of Work and Trade Union Response

4. Industrial Conflict and its Resolution:
   a) Nature of Industrial Conflict
   b) Collective Bargaining
   c) Participation: Simpler Forms; Codetermination; Self Management and Cooperation

Suggested Readings:
(The final list of readings will be distributed by the course instructor in the first week of the semester)

Course SOC 214: Gender and Society

I. Gender in Sociological Analysis:
   a) Approaches to the Study of Gender
   b) Gender Studies as a Critique of Ethnography and Theory

2. Reproduction, Sexuality and Ideology:
   a) Biology and Culture
   b) Concepts of Male and Female
   c) Life Cycle

3. Family, Work and Property:
   a) Production and Reproduction
   b) Work and Property
   c) Family and Household

4. The Politics of Gender:
   a) Complementarity, Inequality, Dependence, Subordination
   b) Feminist Theories and Feminist Politics

Suggested Readings:
(The final list of readings will be distributed by the course instructor in the first week of the semester)

Course SOC 215: Sociology of Education

(Minor Modification)

1. The Idea of Education:
   a) What is a ‘Good’ Education?
   b) Basic Education
   c) Democracy and Education
   d) Education and Liberation
   e) Education in contemporary times

2. Education and Society:
   a) Socialization and Education
   b) Cultural and Social Reproduction
   c) Hegemony and Domination
   d) Agency, Resistance and Relative Autonomy

3. Schooling practices:
   a) An Autobiographical Approach
   b) School Culture
   c) Curriculum and Classroom Practices
   d) Counter-School Culture

4. The State, Education and Equality:
   a) Education and Social Stratification
   b) Privatisation of Education
   c) Right to Education
   d) Aspects of Higher Education

Suggested Readings:
(The final list of readings will be distributed by the course instructor in the first week of the semester)

Course SOC 216: Sociology of Organisations

1. Introduction - Sociology and Organisation Studies:
   (a) Tracing a History
   (b) Modes of Classification

2. Models of Rationality:
   (a) Types of Rationality
   (b) Styles of Bureaucratic Organisation
   (c) Organisations as Systems of Communication

3. Work, Interaction, Organisation:
   (a) Organisations as Systems of Interaction
   (b) Formal and Informal
   (c) Self and the Organisational System.

4. Organisation and Culture:
   (a) Universal and Local Dimensions
   (b) Critiques of Organisational Culture: Gender, Emotions, and Indigenous Perspectives

Select Readings:
(The final list of readings will be distributed by the course instructor in the first week of the semester)


Course SOC 217: Population and Society

1. Introduction to population studies and classical approaches:
   a) Relation with sociology and anthropology.
   b) Population structures and population dynamics
   c) Malthus and Marx
   d) Durkheim and Halbwachs

2. Fertility:
   a) Demographic transition theory
   b) Approaches to Fertility
   c) Reproductive technologies, sex selection and Infertility

3. Mortality:
   a) Epidemiological transition Model
   b) Approaches to mortality

4. Migration:
   a) Migration as a demographic process
   b) Approaches to migration

5. Population politics and policies:
   a) Governmentality and biopower
   b) Census and identity
   c) Gender and religion

The Course teacher may add a few extra ethnographic Studies to the reading list every year. The final list of readings will be distributed by the course instructor in the first week of the semester.

Readings:


17. Marcia C. Inhorn and Frank van Balen 2002 Infertility around the globe: New thinking on childlessness, gender and reproductive technologies (Selected chapters).


34. Sumit Guha 2013 Beyond caste: Identity and power in south Asia, past and present, Leiden: Brill, Chapter 5, (Ruling, identifying and counting: Knowledge and power in eighteenth century India.
Course SOC 218: Urban Sociology

1. Sociological perspectives on the City:
   a) Globalisation and the City
   b) Politics and Urban Planning
   c) Urban Lives
   d) Urban Violence

2. Sacred landscapes and Urban life:
   a) The Sacred in the City
   b) Formations and Transformations of Space
   c) Ritual Processions and Urban Networks

3. Geographies of Space, Place, Identity:
   a) Neighbourhoods and Social Networks
   b) Contested Space and Identity
   c) Aesthetics and Architecture

4. The Underlife of Cities:
   a) The Underclass in the City
   b) Sexual Geography of the City
   c) Urban Street Cultures

Suggested Readings:
(The final list of readings will be distributed by the course instructor in the first week of the semester)

Course SOC 219 (a): Area Study: South-East Asia

1. Ecological Background of South-East Asia.
2. Traditional Kinship and Social Organization.
3. Comparative Sociology of Plural Society and Economy.

Suggested Readings:
(The final list of readings will be distributed by the course instructor in the first week of the semester)

Course SOC 219 (b) South West-Asia

1. South-West Asia as an Object of Enquiry:
   a) Ecology: Boundaries, Frontiers, Fields
   b) History and Politics
   c) Local Societies and Universalising Religion

2. Political Ideology and Religious Practices: Orthodox and Heterodox:
   a) Textual Analysis
   b) Text and Practice

3. Religious Ideology and Social Change:
   a) Political Islam and Problems of State Formation
   b) Islam and Resistance: Afghanistan and Iran
   c) Islam and Legitimacy: Iran and Pakistan

4. Feud and Violence:
   a) Deeds and Words
   b) Segmentary Theory
   c) Honour and Shame

Suggested Readings:
(The final list of readings will be distributed by the course instructor in the first week of the semester)

Course SOC 219 (c): Area Study: China

1. Sociological theories and the study of China
   a) Approaches to China: Marxist and Weberian
   b) Mao’s Conception of Society, Social Science and Social Change

2. Kinship and Family:
   a) Changes in Land and Lineage Structure
   b) Redefining Social Roles

3. Rural-urban continuum:
   a) Restructuring Village Communities
   b) De-urbanization and the Role of Cities

4. Stratification:
   a) Readjustment of Class Hierarchy
   b) New Status Symbols

5. Values and Society:
   a) Religious Symbols: Old and New
   b) China’s Model of Development, Evolution and Revolution

Suggested Readings:
(The final list of readings will be distributed by the course instructor in the first week of the semester)


Course SOC 220: Sociology of Science

1. Introduction to Problems of the Sociology of Science
2. Origin of Modern European Science: Society and the Relation of Man and Nature
3. Functionalist Theory of Science: Norms, Productivity and Rewards
4. Marxist Theory of Science and Society: A Case Study
5. Structuralist Theory of Science: Paradigm or Gestalt
6. Ethnography of the Laboratory

Suggested Readings:
(The final list of readings will be distributed by the course instructor in the first week of the semester)

Course 221: Agrarian Sociology

(Minor Modification)

1. Understanding Agrarian Sociology:
   (a) Ideas, interests and theories
   (b) Issues of classification

2. Pre-capitalist forms of production and the transition debate:
   (a) Surplus appropriation
   (b) Transition from Feudalism to Capitalism

3. Commercialisation of agriculture, agrarian crisis and food sovereignty:
   (a) Technology and production
   (b) Labour and work-discipline
   (c) Inequalities (GM seeds, farmer's suicides and food sovereignty)

4. Colonial land settlements and reforms:
   (a) Colonial land settlements
   (b) Redistributive and Market-led reforms

5. Agrarian Conflict:
   (a) Forms of resistance
   (b) Peasant organizations and ideologies
   (c) 'Land-grabs' and dispossession

Minor modifications have been made to the elective course primarily to reflect current debates by updating five sub-topics and the reading list. The course is now called Agrarian Sociology rather than Agrarian Structure since debates in the field have shifted from earlier notions of fixed structures to reflect dynamic process in agrarian societies. The five main topics substantively address the same topics as earlier with modifications to reflect newer materials and debates. The sub-topics introduced include 1a,b; 2a,b; 3b; 4a,b; and 5c. These have been modified to include some current issues and problems. The earlier sub-topics at these serial numbers are changed in their order and/or combined with some of the other themes. The reading list is a set of suggested readings only that have also been updated to include more contemporary work from India and globally.

Suggested Readings:
(The final list of readings will be distributed by the course instructor in the first week of the semester)


Course SOC 222: Sociology of Law

I. Introduction to Jurisprudence:
   a) Legal Positivism and Natural Law Theory
   b) Philosophies of Law/Justice
   c) Critical Legal Studies, Feminist Jurisprudence, etc.

2. Sociological and Anthropological Jurisprudence:
   a) Legal Evolutionism
   b) Relativism and Law
   c) Legal Pluralism

3. The Political Economy of Law:
   a) Law and Ideology
   b) Law and Power
   c) Property and Law
   d) Courts as Social Institutions

4. Law and Society in India:
   a) Historical Processes
   b) Contemporary Concerns
   c) The Indian Constitution in Practice
   d) Critical Analysis of SC Judgements

Suggested Readings:
(The final list of readings will be distributed by the course instructor in the first week of the semester)

Course SOC 223: Medical Sociology

1. Body, Medicine and Society. Theoretical Perspectives:
   a) The Cultural Construction of Medical Reality
   b) Governing Bodies and Bio Power

2. Narrating Health and Illness:
   a) Illness Narratives
   b) Care and Interpersonal Relations

3. Culture and Medical Practice:
   a) Medical Taxonomies
   b) The Normal and Pathological

4. The State and Medicine:
   a) Epidemics and Immunization
   b) Pharmaceutical Practices

Suggested Readings:
(The final list of readings will be distributed by the course instructor in the first week of the semester)


Course SOC 224: Sociology of Media

This course will provide a close reading of some of the key theoretical concepts, paradigms, and debates within Media Studies. We will look at media from a sociological perspective, approaching mass media as a tool that aids in constructing the political realm, the public sphere, and subjectivities. We will examine different traditions within the discipline and within sub disciplines such as film and cultural studies. Three major sub-themes will guide us throughout the course: a) Cultural studies b) Public sphere c) Semiotics. We will interrogate these dominant paradigms for what they might offer to our contemporary political, social and cultural moment and in particular to readings of media in India and throughout the global south.

1. Introduction and Theoretical approaches to media studies
   a) Cultural studies
   b) Public sphere
   c) Semiotics

2. The politics of media
   a) Media and political processes (elections, citizenship etc)
   b) Media as a supporter or watchdog of the state
   c) Media and the construction of political reality

3. The Media Industry
   a) Media as business: ownership, profits
   b) State ownership and influence

4. Media and Globalisation
   a) Neoliberalism and its implications
   b) Transnational and diasporic visual culture

5. Media and Identity
   a) Construction of subjectivities
   b) Audience reception

6. New media
   a) New media as technology
   b) New media and alternative identities, politics

Note: In any one year, four out of topics (2-6) will be taught.
Suggested Readings:
(The final list of readings will be distributed by the course instructor in the first week of the semester)

SOC 225: Society and Ecology

This course will introduce students to sociological approaches to understanding the relationship between society and ecology. The scope ranges from philosophical engagements with the distinction between nature and culture, to understanding perceptions and impacts of environmental change, to examining institutions and social structures that shape our engagement with nature. The course will familiarize students with the wide range of issues that animate the field, and examine some of the key debates by engaging with ethnographic work and specific case studies.

1. Social ecology
   a) Mapping the field
   b) Ideas of Natures

2. Explaining environmental degradation
   a) Population, consumption, development
   b) Disasters, hazards and risk

3. Environmentalism
   a) Environment and social movements
   b) Environmental justice: gender, class, caste, race

4. Environmental governance and Institutions
   a) State, community, commons
   b) Global environmental governance (problems, institutions, policies, politics)

Suggested Readings:


27. Rangarajan, Mahesh and K. Sivaramakrishnan (2014) *Shifting Grounds: People, Animals and Mobility in India’s Environmental History*. Oxford University Press, Delhi (Chapters 1, 9, 10, 11).


