

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH BENGAL

FOUR YEAR UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMME (FYUGP-2023-24)

SEMESTER-VII (SOCIOLOGY WITH HONOURS)

MAJOR COURSE: 17

SOCIOLOGICAL THOUGHTS AND THEORIES

Full marks: 75 (Theory 60 & Tutorial 15) (Credit -4)

Course Objectives: The course aims to familiarize students with major sociological thoughts and theoretical perspectives that have emerged beyond the classical tradition. It seeks to introduce key debates on power, culture, communication, gender, globalization, identity, inequality, and social change through the works of influential contemporary sociologists and social theorists. The course also aims to develop students' analytical and critical understanding of contemporary social realities by relating theoretical concepts to everyday life and social issues in both global and Indian contexts.

Course Outcomes:

After successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

- Understand the major sociological thoughts and theoretical perspectives developed in contemporary sociology.
- Explain the contributions of influential thinkers such as Gramsci, Althusser, Bourdieu, Habermas, Foucault, Beck, Bauman, and selected Indian sociologists.
- Analyze issues of power, culture, ideology, gender, communication, globalization, identity, inequality, and social change using sociological theories.
- Critically examine contemporary social institutions, processes, and transformations from multiple theoretical perspectives.
- Apply sociological concepts and theories to understand contemporary Indian society and global social developments.
- Develop critical thinking and sociological reasoning for interpreting social realities and contemporary social issues.

Course Content

UNIT I: Neo-Marxist Perspectives

1.1 Antonio Gramsci

1.1.1 Hegemony

1.1.2 Civil Society

1.2 Frankfurt School

1.2.1 Critical Theory

1.2.2 Culture Industry

UNIT II: Culture and Power

2.1 Pierre Bourdieu

2.1.1 Habitus

2.1.2 Cultural Capital

2.1.3 Social Capital

2.1.4 Symbolic Violence

2.3 Michel Foucault

2.3.1 Power and Knowledge

2.3.2 Discourse

UNIT III: Theories of Post Modernity and Globalization

3.1 Ulrich Beck

3.1.1 Risk Society

3.1.2 Reflexive Modernization

3.2 Zygmunt Bauman

3.2.1 Liquid Modernity

3.2.2 Consumer Culture

UNIT IV: Contemporary Indian Sociological Thought

5.1 B. R. Ambedkar

5.1.1 Annihilation of Caste and untouchability

5.1.2 Analysis of Ambedkar and Gandhian views on caste

5.2 Yogendra Singh

5.2.1 Tradition and Modernity

5.2.2 Social change

References:

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Beck, U. (1992). *Risk society: Towards a new modernity* (M. Ritter, Trans.). Sage Publications.

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Bourdieu, P. (1984). *Distinction: A social critique of the judgement of taste* (R. Nice, Trans.). Harvard University Press.

Foucault, M. (1977). *Discipline and punish: The birth of the prison* (A. Sheridan, Trans.). Pantheon Books.

Gramsci, A. (1971). *Selections from the prison notebooks* (Q. Hoare & G. N. Smith, Eds. & Trans.). International Publishers.

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UNIVERSITY OF NORTH BENGAL
FOUR-YEAR UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMME FYUGP (2023-24)
SEMESTER-VII (SOCIOLOGY WITH HONOURS)
MAJOR COURSE-MAJ 18
REGIONAL SOCIOLOGY: NORTH BENGAL

Full marks: 75 (Theory 60 & Tutorial 15) (Credit -4)

Course Objectives: This course introduces students to the historical evolution, geographical setting, and strategic significance of North Bengal as a distinct sociological region. It examines the region's ethnic and social diversity, patterns of stratification, identity formation, and cultural change. The course also explores agrarian relations, tea plantation and tourism economy, problems of migration, refugee influx, ecological challenges along with regional socio-economic and political movements, enabling students to analyze the processes of social and regional transformation from a sociological perspective.

Course Outcome : After completing the course, students will be able to understand the historical, social, cultural, economic, and geopolitical significance of North Bengal; analyze caste, ethnicity, tribal life, social stratification, and social movements; assess the contributions of reformers such as Manishi Panchanan Barma; examine issues related to tea plantations, migration, refugees, ecology, and development; and apply sociological concepts and research skills to critically interpret regional society and contemporary challenges.

UNIT I: Concept and Scope of North Bengal

- 1.1 Historical evolution of the region
- 1.2 Administrative divisions and districts of North Bengal
- 1.3 Geo-strategic significance of Siliguri corridor

UNIT II: Major Caste and Tribes in North Bengal

- 2.1 Rajbanshis in the social history of North Bengal
- 2.2 Manishi Panchanan Barma: Social Reform and Kshatriyaization movement
- 2.3 Caste and social stratification among the Nepalis
- 2.4 Major Tribal Groups: Settlements and Social Organization of
Toto, Rabha, Mech, Oraon, Lepcha, Bhutia, Limbu and Tamang
- 2.5 Socio-Cultural Practices and changes

UNIT III: Economic Profile of North Bengal

- 3.1 Agrarian Structure - Jotedar and Adhiyar
- 3.2 Tourism - meaning, scope and significance
- 3.3 Types of Tourism – (Leisure Tourism, Cultural Tourism, Rural Tourism, Religious Tourism, Adventure Tourism, Eco-tourism and Forest-based Tourism)
- 3.4 Tea Plantation Workers in North Bengal- Migration, settlement and Socio-Cultural Practices

- 3.5 Socio-economic conditions of tea plantation worker- (Low wages, Absence of land rights, Working environment, Health and Education)
- 3.6 Current challenges of Tea plantation workers- (Closed tea garden, labour migration from tea plantations)

UNIT IV: Development and Discontent

- 4.1 Environment and Ecological challenges – Deforestation and Climate Change
- 4.2 Refugee influx – Impact on demography and ethnic relations

UNIT V: Social Movement

- 5.1 Tebhaga Movement
- 5.2 Naxalbari Movement
- 5.3 Kamtapur Movement
- 5.4 Gorkhaland Movement

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FOUR-YEAR UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMME FYUGP (2023-24)
SEMESTER-VII (SOCIOLOGY WITH HONOURS)
MAJOR COURSE-MAJ 19
POLITICAL SOCIOLOGY

Full marks: 75 (Theory 60 & Tutorial 15 (Credit -4)

Course Objectives: This course intends to examine the interface between polity and society. It familiarizes students with various dimensions of political sociology, such as political systems, modern political concepts and various forms of political processes.

Course Outcomes: The students will learn the various dimensions of political Sociology and gain theoretical knowledge to analyse, evaluate and apply that understanding for creating a modern and enlightened political perspective.

Unit 1: Introduction to Political Sociology

1.1 Meaning, Nature, Scope and Importance of Political Sociology

Unit 2: Understand Modern Politics -Key Concepts

2.1.1 Civil Society- meaning, characteristics and functions of civil society

2.1.2 Welfare State- meaning, characteristics and functions of welfare state

2.1.3 Rights and Citizenship- meaning of rights and citizenship, types of rights (civil rights, political rights, social rights, cultural rights), Elements of citizenship.

2.1.4 Justice, Liberty and Equality -Meaning, nature and Constitutional Provisions Relating to Justice, Liberty and Equality in India.

Unit 3: Theoretical Perspectives

3.1.1 Max Weber: Bureaucracy, Power and Authority

3.1.2 Karl Marx: Theory of State

3.1.3 Elite theory: Vilfredo Pareto- Circulation of Elites, C. Wright Mills -Power Elites

Unit 4: Political System

4.1.1 Totalitarianism-Meaning and Characteristics, Impact on society

4.1.2 Segmentary - Meaning and Characteristics, Nuer as a Case Study

4.1.3 Democracy-Meaning, Definitions, features of Democracy, Merits and Demerits of Democracy

Unit 5: Politics and society in India

5.1.1 Role of caste, religion and language in Indian politics

5.1.2 Regionalism and Indian Politics

5.1.3 Gender and politics

5.1.4 Political Socialization- meaning and agencies of socialization (family, media, and peer groups)

References

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SEMESTER-VII (SOCIOLOGY)
MINOR COURSE- MIN 07

SOCIAL PROBLEMS IN INDIA

Full marks 75 (Theory 60 & Tutorial 15) (Credit -4)

Course Objective: To gain an understanding of the concept of social problem and various social problems affecting the community at large. The syllabus is designed to introduce students to the emerging social problems in Indian Society

Course Outcome: This course is designed to identify and analyse some emerging social problems that have gained significant importance in recent times. This paper aims to sensitize students to problems and to study various strategies and programs related to these issues.

Unit 1: Introduction:

- 1.1 Meaning and definition
- 1.2 Nature of Social Problems

Unit 2: Major Socio-economic Problems:

- 2.1 Poverty
 - 2.1.1 Definition and Concept
 - 2.1.2 Causes and impact of poverty
 - 2.1.3 Poverty Alleviation Programmes- IRDP, NRLM, PMGSY, MGNREGA, MDM, PMUY
- 2.2 Corruption
 - 2.2.1 Definition and Concept
 - 2.2.2 Causes and consequences of Corruption
 - 2.2.3 Legal measures to combat Corruption

- Illiteracy
 - 2.3 Definition and Concept
 - 2.3.1 Causes of illiteracy
 - 2.3.2 Literacy programmes- NLM, Saakshar Bharat, NILP, NEP 2020

Unit 3: Gender issues

- 3.1 Definition and Concept (Domestic violence, Sexual harassment , Dowry, Women trafficking)
 - 3.1.1 Causes and consequences of gender issues
 - 3.1.2 Legal measures to combat gender issues

Unit 4: Problems of youth

4.1 Definition and Concept (Youth Unrest, Agitation, Juvenile Delinquency and unemployment)

4.1.2 Causes and consequences of youth problems

Unit 5: Old age Problems

5.1 Definition and Concept of Old Age problems

5.1.2 Causes of old age problems

5.1.3 Remedial measures for old age problems

Suggested Readings

Ahuja, R. (1997). Social Problem in India, Rawat Publishers, Jaipur

Bhusan, Vidya & Sachdeva, D. R. (2000). An Introduction to Sociology, Allahabad: Kitab Mahal

Chatopadhyay, A. (2013), Poverty and Social Exclusion in India, (Ed.)Rawat Publications: Jaipur

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SEMESTER-VIII (SOCIOLOGY)
MAJOR COURSE-MAJ 20

SOCIOLOGY OF WORK

Full marks 75 (Theory 60 & Tutorial 15) (Credit -4)

Course Objective: The course introduces the idea that though work and production have been integral to societies through time, the origin and spread of Industrialisation made a distinct rupture to that link. This rupture can also be seen mirrored in the course of sociology as a discipline that considered work as central to the study of society. It familiarises the students with different types and problems of workers in the changing nature of work, problems of security and risks and hazards facing the workers.

Course Outcome: Students will identify and explain different workplace components that impact workplace behavior, opportunities, division of labour etc. They can critically analyse modern workplace trends and processes. This course will help students to equipped with several perspectives of work and industry like organizational management, human resources, policies etc.

UNIT-1: Introduction:

- 1.1 Meaning of Work
- 1.2 Work in Historical Perspective: Slavery, Feudal and Industrial

UNIT-2: Industrial Society:

- 2.1 Industrialization and Industrialism
- 2.2 Work Behavior and Work Environment
- 2.3 Work Ethics and Work Culture
- 2.4 Impact of Industry on Society and Economy

UNIT- 3: Post-Industrial Society:

- 3.1 Industrial Restructuring: Liberalization, Privatization and Globalization – Meaning and Features.
- 3.2 Post Industrialization and Post-industrial Society- Definition and Features
- 3.3 Information Society- Definition and Features
- 3.4 Impact of Technology on Work- Automation and Work, Industrial Relations and Work
- 3.5 Impact of Organizational Structures on Worker's Health, Productivity and Rights

UNIT-4: Contemporary Theories of Work

- 4.1 Jan Breman: Semi-Organised Sector
- 4.2 Sharit Bhowmik- The Idea of Living Wage
- 4.3 Jean Dreze- Right to work

UNIT-5: Dimensions of Work:

- 5.1 Nature of Indian work and Workers: Formal, Informal, Skilled, Semiskilled, Unskilled
- 5.2 Gender Dimensions of Indian Workers: Unpaid and Forced Workforce in India

5.3 Contemporary Trends in Work: Hybrid work, Integration of Artificial Intelligence, Continuous Reskilling, Gig and Freelance Economy, Employee well-being

Suggested Readings:

Bhowmik, Sharit K. (2004). Work in globalizing economy: Reflections on outsourcing in India. *Labour, Capital and Society*, 37 (1&2).

Bhowmik, Sharit K. (2012). *Industry, Labour and Society*. New Delhi: Orient BlackSwan.

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Kumar, Krishnan. (1999). *from Post-Industrial to Post-Modern Society*, Oxford: Blackwell Publishers Ltd.

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SEMESTER-VIII (SOCIOLOGY)
MAJOR COURSE-MAJ 21

SOCIOLOGICAL RESEARCH METHODS – II

Full marks 75 (Theory 60 & Tutorial 15) (Credit -4)

Course Objective: The course on *Sociological Research Methods – II* aims to familiarize undergraduate students with advanced perspectives, designs, and methods of sociological research. It seeks to develop a critical understanding of theoretical foundations, methodological approaches, sampling techniques, and statistical tools used in sociological inquiry. The course also introduces students to ethical dimensions of research, citation practices, and issues of plagiarism. The overall objective is to equip students with the analytical and practical skills necessary for conducting scientifically sound and ethically responsible sociological research.

Course Outcomes: Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to understand and critically evaluate major sociological research perspectives and their application in social research. They will develop the ability to formulate research designs, conduct literature reviews, and apply appropriate research methods such as sampling, case studies, content analysis, and genealogy. Students will acquire basic statistical skills for organizing and interpreting data and gain familiarity with research ethics, citation practices, bibliography preparation, and plagiarism prevention. Overall, the course prepares students for advanced academic research and evidence-based social investigation.

Unit – 1: Major Perspectives of Sociological Research

- 1.1 Meaning, Objective and Significance of Social Research
- 1.2 Ethnographic Perspective
- 1.3 Feminist Perspective
- 1.4 Inductive and Deductive Perspective

Unit – 2: Structural Aspects of Sociological Research

- 2.1 Role of Theory in Social Research
- 2.2 Reflexivity
- 2.3 Research Design: Meaning, Steps and Significance
- 2.4 Review of Literature : Meaning, Types and Significance

Unit – 3: Principal Methods of Sociological Research: Meaning, Types, Uses/Advantages, And Limitations

- 3.1 Sampling
- 3.2 Case Study
- 3.3 Content Analysis

3.4 Genealogy

Unit – 4: Basic Statistics and Ethical Aspects of Research

- 4.1 Measures of Central Tendency (Mean, Median and Mode)
- 4.2 Tabulation of Data
- 4.3 Significance of Statistical Data
- 4.4 Citation, Reference and Bibliography
- 4.5 Plagiarism

Unit – 5: Field Based Application and Emerging Trends in Sociological Research

- 5.1 Formulation of research problems and research questions
- 5.2 Field Work Planning: Rapport Establishment, Access, Negotiation and Field ethics.
- 5.3 Digital and Online Research Methods: Online Survey, Google Forms, Online -interview. Netnography.
- 5.4 Preparation of research presentation using digital platforms (PowerPoint, Google Slides, Canva) and Dissemination of research findings through digital academic platforms (Google Scholar, Research Gate, ORCID, Shodhganga, , JSTOR)

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FOUR YEAR UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMME (FYUGP-2023-24)

SEMESTER-VIII (SOCIOLOGY with HONOURS)

MAJOR COURSE: Major 22

RESEARCH PROJECT/ FIELD- BASED DISSERTATION

**Full Marks: (Report Writing = 40 & Viva Voce=20 = 60) + Internal Evaluation:
Synopsis & Presentation 15) = 75 Credits: 12**

Course Objectives

This course aims to develop students' ability to undertake independent sociological research by identifying relevant research problems and applying appropriate research methods. It provides practical training in research design, data collection, analysis, interpretation, and report writing. The course also encourages the application of sociological theories to empirical studies, promotes ethical research practices, and enhances critical thinking and scholarly communication skills through dissertation preparation and presentation.

Course Outcome

Upon completion of the course, students will be able to formulate research questions, design and conduct sociological studies, and collect and analyze qualitative and quantitative data. They will be able to apply sociological concepts and theories to interpret findings, prepare a well-structured dissertation, adhere to research ethics, and effectively present and defend their research. The course will also strengthen their analytical, problem-solving, and independent research skills for higher studies and professional careers.

1. Guidelines for Dissertation / Research Project

The dissertation shall be based on an empirical field study in which each student is required to conduct a household survey and/or undertake case studies (10 days) relevant to the selected research problem. The study shall involve the collection and analysis of primary data. The study area and scope of the research shall be selected and finalized in consultation with the Supervisor and the Department. A student must carry field work in selected study area for minimum of 10 days.

- Each student shall select a research topic in consultation with the assigned supervisor.
- Each Student shall collect primary data from a minimum of **30** households/respondents / case studies through field investigation.
- Field data may be collected in groups or individually. However, research topic/ problems must be individual.
- Area of study must be approved by the supervisor or the department.
- A synopsis of research must be prepared, paper presentation to be made and submitted to the department prior to conducting field work.
- The final dissertation shall approximately be written in 13000-15000 words typed in Times New Roman, front 12 (approximately 50-60 pages, excluding appendices).
- Submission of dissertation: Each student shall submit **two hard copies** and **one soft copy** of the dissertation. One copy shall be preserved in the Department for academic reference

2. Structure of Dissertation and Marks Distribution

Chapter	Contents	Marks
Chapter I: Introduction and Research Methodology Review of Literature and Theoretical Background	Introduction, Statement of the Problem, Objectives, Research Questions, Study Area, Methodology, Sampling, Tools and Techniques of Data Collection,	8
	Limitations , Review of Related Studies, Theoretical Background / conceptual framework , Proper Citation and Referencing	6
Chapter II: Socio-Economic Profile of Respondents (Household Census Analysis)	Demographic Profile, Family Structure, Education, Occupation, Income, Housing, Assets and Amenities (based on household census data)	8
Chapter III: Analysis and Interpretation of Research Data/ Research Topic	Presentation, Analysis and Interpretation of Data Related to the Research Topic; Tables, Graphs, Case Studies, Discussion of Findings	8
Chapter V: Findings, Conclusion	Major Findings, Observations, Conclusion, Limitations of the Study, Suggestions for Future Research	6
Appendices	Questionnaire / Interview Schedule, Photographs, Consent Forms, Additional Tables	4
Viva-Voce		20
Total for Dissertation		60
Internal Evaluation		15
Grand Total		75

2. EVALUATION OF DISSERTATION

EVALUATION OF DISSERTATION	The Dissertation/Research Project shall be evaluated by a Board of Examiners constituted by the Department
Board of Examiners	Head of the Department/Chairperson Internal Examiner(s) Supervisor of the Dissertation One External Examiner appointed by the University/College
Seminar Presentation	Each student shall make a seminar presentation of the research findings before the Board of Examiners (Department)
Revision /Resubmission	In cases where the dissertation is found unsatisfactory, the Board may recommend revision and resubmission as per university regulations.

3 . Restrictions on the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) Tools

1. The Dissertation/Research Project shall be based on the student's own fieldwork, data collection, analysis, interpretation, and academic writing.
2. Students may use Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools for:
 - Language editing and proof reading
 - Grammar and spelling correction

- Formatting and referencing assistance
 - Preliminary literature searches
3. Students shall not use AI tools / Content to:
 - Generate fictitious or fabricated data
 - Produce interview responses, field notes, or survey findings
 - Write substantial portions of the dissertation in place of the student
 - Generate analysis, findings, conclusions, or recommendations without independent academic evaluation
 4. Students shall be responsible for the accuracy, originality, and authenticity of all materials submitted in the dissertation.
 5. Any form of plagiarism is PROHIBITED. AI-generated content shall be treated as academic misconduct and may lead to rejection of the dissertation

4. Certification of Dissertation

1. Every Dissertation/Research Project shall be carried out under the supervision of a faculty member of the Department.
2. Before submission, the Supervisor shall certify that the dissertation is an original work carried out by the student.
3. The Head of the Department shall also certify and counter signed by the head of the institution
4. The certification page shall form part of the preliminary pages of the dissertation.

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH BENGAL
FOUR YEAR UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMME (FYUGP-2023-24)

SEMESTER – VIII (SOCIOLOGY WITH HONOURS)
Major Paper 23:

GROUP DISCUSSION / SEMINAR PRESENTATION / GRAND VIVA

Full Marks =75 Credit =4

Course Objectives

The course is intended to develop students' communication, presentation, and interpersonal skills; enhance their critical thinking, analytical reasoning, and ability to articulate sociological perspectives; assess their understanding of core sociological concepts, theories, and research findings; and foster confidence in academic discussion, public speaking, and scholarly engagement. The evaluation aims to assess students' subject knowledge, communication competence, critical thinking, presentation ability, teamwork, and overall academic preparedness through group discussion, seminar presentation, and grand viva voce.

Course Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to effectively communicate sociological ideas and research findings in both oral and written forms. They will demonstrate critical thinking, analytical abilities, and active participation in group discussions and academic deliberations. Students will be capable of presenting and defending arguments, research findings, and perspectives with clarity and confidence. They will also exhibit a sound understanding of sociological concepts, theories, and contemporary social issues during seminar presentations and viva voce examinations.

1. Evaluation Component / Implementation Strategy: The departments must conduct academic activities and practical classes as follows:

Component of Group Discussion / Seminar Presentation / Grand Viva (academic Activities and practical classes) Course content:	Practical classes to be taken	Distribution of Marks for Academic Activities
Tools and techniques of data collection	20 Classes	Internal Evaluation/ Continuous Assessment
Review of Literature		
Citation and Referencing: American Psychological Association (APA) Style (7th Edition)		
Use of Secondary Data		
No of Seminar presentation by each student(4)	4x5	20 Marks
Group discusion	4x5	20Marks
Grand viva-voce*	-	20Marks
Total	-	60marks
Internal Assessment	-	15Marks
Grand total (Full marks)	-	75marks

* . Grand Viva Voce: A comprehensive viva voce examination shall be conducted by a departmental committee.

6. Evaluation: The evaluation of the paper will be done by all the faculty members of the department. The Head of the Department/ senior faculty will act as Chairperson and coordinate the Programme / course.

7. Documentation: The Department shall maintain records of all activities as follows:

- i. Presentation schedules
- ii. Attendance records
- iii. Evaluation sheets/rubrics
- iv. Viva voce records
- v. Consolidated mark sheets
