

BA (H) Sociology
Core Course 04
Sociology of India II

Course Objectives:

1. To understand the modes of knowledge-construction of Indian history, society, Culture and politics.
2. To examine how multiple social processes, forces and ideologies shaped the terrain of the nation.

Course Learning Outcomes:

1. The course adds to the sociological interpretation of Indian history and society. The India-specific themes of the course – discourse/knowledge-making, mobilization, transformation, ideology, identity and politics, for example – are treated, moreover, by drawing from sociological concepts and theories. The course connects the practical and conceptual in terms of both substance and relevance.
2. By focusing on the nuanced character of historical and social ideas and processes, the course sharpens the faculties of critical and analytical thinking and doing.
3. The adoption of an inter-disciplinary framework, without losing sight of the sociological, makes the course wider in scope and scale. It broadens viewpoints and encourages students to reflect deeply on the multicultural reality which is the defining feature of India.
4. The course, in terms of both high quality syllabus-content and innovative teaching-learning techniques, matches global standards. Consequently, it adequately trains students to compete in global academia.

Course Outline:

Unit 1: India as an Object of Knowledge [Weeks 1-3]

- 1.1. The Nationalist Discourse
- 1.2. The Subaltern Critique
- 1.3. Indological and Ethnographic Perspectives

Unit 2: Resistance, Mobilization, Change [Weeks 4-10]

- 1.1. Dalit Politics
- 1.2. Mobility and Change
- 1.3. Women's Movement
- 1.4. Peasant Movements
- 1.5. Ethnic Movements
- 1.6. Middle Class Phenomenon

Unit 3: Crises of Civilization, State and Society [Weeks 11-14]

- 3.1. Communalism
- 3.2. Secularism
- 3.3. Citizenship and Identity

Course Content:

Unit 1: India as an Object of Knowledge [Weeks 1-4]

1.1. The Nationalist Discourse

Kaviraj, S., 2010, *The Imaginary Institution of India*. Ranikhet: Permanent Black, Pp.85-126.

Srinivas, M.N., 2002, "Nation-Building in Independent India", in M.N. Srinivas, *Collected Works*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press. Pp. 388-413.

1.2. The Subaltern Critique

Guha, R., 1982, *Subaltern Studies*, Volume I. Delhi: Oxford University Press, Pp.1-8.

1.3 Indological and Ethnographic Perspectives

Dumont, L. and D. Pocock, 1957, "For a Sociology of India", *Contributions to Indian Sociology*, 1, Pp. 7-22.

Unit 2: Resistance, Mobilization, Change [Weeks 5-10]

2.1. Dalit Politics

Shah, G., 2001, *Dalit Identity and Politics*. New Delhi: Sage Publications, Pp. 17-43.

2.2 Mobility and Change

Srinivas, M.N., 1956, "A Note on Sanskritization and Westernization", *The Far Eastern Quarterly*, 15(4), Pp. 481-496.

2.3. Women's Movement

Menon, N., (ed.), 1999, *Gender and Politics in India*. Delhi: *Oxford University Press*, Pp. 342-369.

2.4. Peasant Movements

Poucheпадass, J., 1980, "Peasant Classes in Twentieth Century Agrarian Movements in India", in E. Hobsbawm (ed.), *Peasants in History*. Delhi: Oxford University Press, Pp. 136-155.

2.5. Ethnic Movements

Baruah, S., 2010, "The Assam Movement" in T.K. Oommen (ed.), *Social Movements I: Issues of Identity*. Delhi: Oxford University Press, Pp. 191-208.

2.6. Middle Class Phenomenon

Deshpande, S., 2003, *Contemporary India: A Sociological View*. New Delhi: Penguin Books, Pp.125-150.

Unit 3: Crises of Civilization, State and Society [Weeks 11-14]

3.1. Communalism

Dumont, L., 1997, *Religion, Politics and History in India*. Paris: Mouton, Pp. 89-110.

3.2. Secularism

Kumar, R., 1986, "The Varieties of Secular Experience", in *Essays in the Social History of Modern India*. Calcutta: Oxford University Press, Pp. 31-46.

Madan, T.N., 1997, *Modern Myths, Locked Minds*. Delhi: Oxford University Press, Pp. 233-265.

3.3. Citizenship and Identity

Oommen, T.K., 1997, *Citizenship and National identity: From Colonialism to Globalism*. New Delhi: Sage Publications, Pp. 143-172.

References:

Compulsory Readings:

Baruah, S., 2010, "The Assam Movement" in T.K. Oommen (ed.), *Social Movements I: Issues of Identity*. Delhi: Oxford University Press.

Datta, A., 2016, "Dealing with Dislocation: Migration, Place and Home among Displaced Kashmiri Pandits in Jammu and Kashmir", *Contributions to Indian Sociology*, 50 (1).

Deshpande, S., 2003, *Contemporary India: A Sociological View*. New Delhi: Penguin Books.

Dumont, L. and D. Pocock, 1957, "For a Sociology of India", *Contributions to Indian Sociology*, 1.

Dumont, L., 1997, *Religion, Politics and History in India*. Paris: Mouton.

Guha, R., 1982, *Subaltern Studies, Volume I*. Delhi: Oxford University Press.

Kaviraj, S., 2010, *The Imaginary Institution of India*. Ranikhet: Permanent Black.

Kumar, R., 1986, "The Varieties of Secular Experience", in *Essays in the Social History of Modern India*. Calcutta: Oxford University Press.

Madan, T.N., 1997, *Modern Myths, Locked Minds*. Delhi: Oxford University Press.

Menon, N., (ed.), 1999, *Gender and Politics in India*. Delhi: Oxford University Press.

Oommen, T.K., 1997, *Citizenship and National identity: From Colonialism to Globalism*. New Delhi: Sage Publications.

Poucheпадass, J., 1980, "Peasant Classes in Twentieth Century Agrarian Movements in India", in E. Hobsbawm (ed.), *Peasants in History*. Delhi: Oxford University Press.

Shah, G., 2001, *Dalit Identity and Politics*. New Delhi: Sage Publications.

Srinivas, M.N., 1956, "A Note on Sanskritization and Westernization", *The Far Eastern Quarterly*, 15(4).

Srinivas, M.N., 2002, "Nation-Building in Independent India", in M.N. Srinivas, *Collected Works*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press. Pp. 388-413.

Additional Resources:

Books and Articles:

Cohn, B.S., 1971, *The Social Anthropology of a Civilization*. Delhi: Oxford University Press.

Das, V., 2004, "Social Sciences and the Publics", in V. Das (ed.) *Handbook of Indian Sociology*. Delhi: Oxford University Press.

Datta, A., 2016, "Dealing with Dislocation: Migration, Place and Home among Displaced Kashmiri Pandits in Jammu and Kashmir", *Contributions to Indian Sociology*, 50 (1), Pp. 52-79.

Omvedt, G., 1994, "Peasants, Dalits and Women: Democracy and India's New Social Movements", *Journal of Contemporary Asia*, 24.

Ray, N.R., 1973, *Nationalism in India: A Historical Analysis of its Stresses and Strains*. Aligarh: Aligarh Muslim University Press.

Srinivas, M.N., 1952, "Sociology and Social Anthropology", *Sociological Bulletin*, 1(1).

Uberoi, P. et al., 2007, "Introduction: The Professionalization of Indian Anthropology and Sociology: Peoples, Places and Institutions" in P. Uberoi et al (eds), *Anthropology in the East: Founders of Indian Sociology and Anthropology*. New Delhi: Permanent Black.

Audio-Visual Materials:

Select Films/Documentaries (any three):

Ghare Baire (The Home and the World) [1985; Dir: Satyajit Ray]

Komal Gandhar [1961; Dir: Ritwik Ghatak]

Ankur [1974; Dir: Shyam Benegal]

Father, Son, and Holy War [1994; Dir: Anand Patwardhan]

Bombay [1995; Dir: Mani Ratnam]

Mirch Masala [1987; Dir: Ketan Mehta]

Jashn e Azadi: How we Celebrate Freedom [2007; Dir: Sanjay Kak]

Teaching Learning Process:

This course has been designed keeping the student at the centre of teaching-learning process. The readings are exciting to young students, for they are able to connect these and the subjects examined therein with reality. Students are encouraged to read and the teacher participates in the reading process and the discussion which follows. The teacher, therefore, engages in active rather than passive pedagogy. Collective/team reading helps in understanding conceptual questions plus details present in the essays. The value of ethical awareness and responsibility, which is one of the important elements of lifelong learning, is treated as pivotal to the teaching-learning process. The use of digital aids contributes further to classroom interaction and excitement for learning.

Assessment Methods:

Assessment in this course, both internal and external, will include mid-semester tests, written assignments/term papers, team/individual projects, class presentations and University of Delhi conducted end-semester examination.

Keywords:

Knowledge-making, discourses on India, nation, state, politics, historiography, subaltern, Indology, ethnography, culture, resistance, movements, social transformation, Dalit, peasant, women, ethnicity, middle class, migration, communalism, secularism and citizenship.