

BA (H) Sociology
Core Course 10
Social Stratification

Course Objectives:

1. This course introduces students to Sociological Study of Social Inequalities.
2. It acquaints students with principal theoretical perspectives on and diverse forms of social inequality in articulation with each other.

Course Learning Outcomes:

1. Students will learn about the socio-historical context of stratification theoretical concerns and problems and contemporary issues related to inequalities and its forms.
2. Inculcate in them a truly inter-disciplinary approach in the study of society especially stratification in all its manifestations.
3. Understanding of stratification and theories would sensitize students to its various sociological aspects, providing ample scope for applied learning and application.
4. Examining forms of stratification, understanding the relevance of caste, race and ethnic identities in contemporary world.

Course Outline:

Unit 1. Introducing Stratification (2 Weeks)

Unit 2. Theories of Stratification (5 Weeks)

2.1. Marx, Weber and Class

2.2. Functionalism

Unit 3. Identities and Inequalities (5 Weeks)

3.1. Caste, Race and Ethnicity

3.2. Feminism and Gendered Stratification

Unit 4. Social Mobility: Forms and Patterns (2 Weeks)

Unit 1. Introducing Stratification (2 weeks)

Beteille, Andre *Inequality among Men*. London: Blackwell, 1977. Chapter 1. The Two Sources of Inequality. Pp. 1-22

Tawney, R. H. *Equality*. London: Unwin Books, 1964. Chapter 1. The Religion of Inequality, Pp. 33-56

Unit 2. Theories of Stratification (5 Weeks)

2.1. Marx, Weber and Class

McLellan, David. *The Thought of Karl Marx*. London: Papermac, 1995. Part 2.Chapter 6. Class, pp. 182-194

Weber, Max, Hans Heinrich Gerth, and C. Wright Mills. *From Max Weber*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1946. Chapter VII, Class, Status, Party. Pp. 180– 195

Bendix Reinhard 'Inequality and Social Structure: Comparison of Marx and Weber' *American Sociological Review*, Vol. 39, No. 2 (Apr., 1974), pp. 149-161

2.2. Functionalism

Davis, Kingsley, and Wilbert E. Moore. 'Some Principles of Stratification'. *American Sociological Review* 10.2 (1945): pp. 242-249

Tumin, Melvin M. 'Some Principles of Stratification: A Critical Analysis'. *American Sociological Review* 18.4 (1953): 387-394

Davis Kingsley and Wilbert E Moore 'Some Principles of Stratification: Critical Analysis: Reply'. *American Sociological Review* Vol. 18, No. 4 (Aug., 1953),pp. 394-397

Wrong, Dennis H. 'The Functional Theory of Stratification: Some Neglected Considerations' *American Sociological Review*, Vol. 24, No. 6 (Dec., 1959), pp. 772-782

Stinchcombe, Arthur L 'Some Empirical Consequences of the Davis-Moore Theory of Stratification'. *American Sociological Review* 28.5 (1963), pp. 805-808

Unit 3. Identities and Inequalities(5 Weeks)

3.1. Caste, Race and Ethnicity

Bailey F G 'Closed Socia Stratification in India', *European Journal of Sociology* Vol. 4, No. 1 (1963) pp. 107-124

Jain, Ravindra K. 'Hierarchy, Hegemony and Dominance: Politics of Ethnicity in Uttar Pradesh, 1995' *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol. 31, No. 4 (Jan. 27, 1996), pp. 215-223

Omi, Michael, and Howard Winant. *Racial Formation in the United States*. New York: Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1986. Chapters 1 & 4 , pp. 14-24 and 57-69

Pitt-Rivers,Julian 'Race Colour and Class in Central america and the andes' *Daedalus*, Vol. 96, No. 2, Color and Race (Spring, 1967), pp. 542-559

3.2. Feminism and Gendered Stratification

Mitchell, Juliet. *Woman's Estate*. Harmondsworth: Penguin, 1971. Chapter 5, Position of Women 1. Pp. 99-122

Acker, Joan. 'Women and Social Stratification: A Case of Intellectual Sexism'.*American Journal of Sociology* 78.4, 1973. Pp. 936-944

Collins, Patrica Hill. 'Toward a New Vision: Race Class and Gender as Categories of analysis and Connection' *Race, Sex & Class*, Vol. 1, No. 1 (Fall 1993), pp. 25-45

Unit 4. Social Mobility: Forms and Patterns (2 Weeks)

Bottero, Wendy. *Stratification*. London: Routledge, 2005. Chapters 12 & 14 pp.205-223 & 246-258

Goldthorpe , J. H. *The Constant Flux; A Study of Class Mobility in Industrial Societies*, .Oxford; Clarendon press.

References:

Compulsory Readings:

Acker, Joan. 'Women and Social Stratification: A Case of Intellectual Sexism'.*American Journal*

of Sociology 78.4, 1973. Pp. 936-944

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Bottero, Wendy. *Stratification*. London: Routledge, 2005. Chapters 12 & 14 pp.205-223 & 246-258

Collins, Patricia Hill. 'Toward a New Vision : Race Class and Gender as Categories of analysis and Connection ' *Race, Sex & Class*, Vol. 1, No. 1 (Fall 1993),pp. 25-45

Davis Kingsley and Wilbert E Moore 'Some Principles of Stratification: Critical Analysis: Reply'. *American Sociological Review* Vol. 18, No. 4 (Aug., 1953),pp. 394-397

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Goldthorpe , J. H. *The Constant Flux; A Study of Class Mobility in Industrial Societies*, .Oxford; Clarendon press.

Jain, Ravindra K. 'Hierarchy, Hegemony and Dominance: Politics of Ethnicity in Uttar Pradesh, 1995' *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol. 31, No. 4 (Jan. 27, 1996), pp. 215-223

McLellan, David. *The Thought of Karl Marx*. London: Papermac, 1995. Part 2.Chapter 6. Class, pp. 182-194

Mitchell, Juliet. *Woman's Estate*. Harmondsworth: Penguin, 1971. Chapter 5, Position of Women 1. Pp. 99-122

Omi, Michael, and Howard Winant. *Racial Formation in the United States*. New York: Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1986. Chapters 1 & 4 , pp. 14-24 and 57-69

Pitt-Rivers,Julian 'Race Colour and Class in Central america and the andes' *Daedalus*, Vol. 96, No. 2, Color and Race (Spring, 1967), pp. 542-559

Stinchcombe, Arthur L 'Some Empirical Consequences of the Davis-Moore Theory of Stratification'. *American Sociological Review* 28.5 (1963), pp. 805-808

Tawney, R. H. *Equality*. London: Unwin Books, 1964. Chapter 1. The Religion of Inequality,

Pp. 33-56

Tumin, Melvin M. 'Some Principles of Stratification: A Critical Analysis'. *American Sociological Review* 18.4 (1953): 387-394

Weber, Max, Hans Heinrich Gerth, and C. Wright Mills. *From Max Weber*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1946. Chapter VII, Class, Status, Party. Pp. 180– 195

Wrong, Dennis H. 'The Functional Theory of Stratification: Some Neglected Considerations' *American Sociological Review*, Vol. 24, No. 6 (Dec., 1959), pp. 772-782

1.4 Teaching-learning process

1. As the course revolves around important aspects of stratification , which involves placement and identities of individuals within society thus the concepts and ,theories require active participation and involvement of students in interactive sessions.
2. Lectures would have to be supported by active group tutorial sessions around the issues raised in the course , which would further raise debates and discussions.
3. The course would allow for screening of films and documentaries related to different aspects of inequalities and identities , followed by talks by eminent researchers in the field and interactive discussions.
4. The key issues relating to stratification raised in the course, would encourage students to pursue these beyond the syllabus readings through library material and e-resources.
5. Students can be encouraged to take up projects in various areas suggested by the course, using secondary sources as well as by conducting modest field-work individually or in teams.
6. The course also offers immense scope for conducting field visits where concepts of stratification and inequalities can be observed.

Assesment:

Exams, Tests, Projects, Assignments

Key words: Inequality, Natural inequality, Social inequality, Race, Caste, class, Gender, Identity, Social mobility.