UNIVERSITY OF PUNE

MA SOCIOLOGY SYLLABUS
Annual Pattern
(Section I, II)

Syllabus from 2013
MA Sociology Syllabus

SC-Sociology compulsory papers
SO- Sociology optional paper

Section I and II

SECTION I

Compulsory Papers
SC 01(12531) - Classical Sociological Tradition
SC 02-(12537)-Sociology of India

Optional Papers (any two)
SO 01-(12533) -Agrarian Society
SO 02-(12534)- Social Movements
SO 03-(12535)- Political Sociology
SO 04-(12536)- Sociology of Maharashtra: Culture and Society

SECTION II

Compulsory Papers (any two)
SC 04-(22532)-Methodology of Social Research
SC 03- (22537)-Introduction to Sociological Theories

Optional Papers
SO 05-(22533) - Sociology of Education
SO 06-(22534)- Sociology of Media
SO 07-(22535)- Health and Society
SO 08-(22536)-Sociology of Labour
COMPULSORY PAPER
SC-01(12531) CLASSICAL SOCIOLOGICAL TRADITION

Objectives:

1. To understand the linkage between the social changes that had far-reaching effects on the economic and social systems and the emergence of discipline of Sociology in west and reception of western social thought and link with Indian thought.

2. To understand the theoretical foundations of Sociology on which edifice of modern Sociological theories are erected & to develop critical thinking, analytical ability to interpret the social scenario around them.

Course Outline:

I. Historical background and emergence of sociology: Social context and intellectual thought. Critique of classical traditions: Colonialism, Race & Gender (12)

II. Karl Marx: model of social change –dialectical materialism, critical debate on Base & superstructure; Theory of alienation (12)

III. Emile Durkheim: Social Facts; Theoretical formulations from The Division of Labour, Elementary Forms of religion, Suicide. (12)

IV. Max Weber: Methodology, Social Action, Authority and rationality. Theory of Protestant Ethic and Spirit of Capitalism (12)

Essential Readings:

1. Readings from Original works of Marx, Durkheim & Weber:
   a. (‘Alienated Labour’ from Economic and Philosophical Manuscripts of 1844.)
   b. (‘Mechanical & Organic Solidarity’ from The Division of Labour in Society. 1893.)
   c. (‘Class, Status, and Party’ from The Distribution of Power Within the Political Community: Class, Status, Party. 1925). (Available in: no.2, 3)


6. Giddens, Anthony 1997: Capitalism and Modern Social Theory – An analysis of


References:


COMPULSORY PAPER

SC-02 (12537)-Sociology of India

Objectives:

1. To acquaint the students to the continuities and contradictions in Indian society.

2. To analyze the role of colonialism, democracy, nation building and globalization in shaping contemporary, society in India.

Course Outline:

I. Formation of Sociology in India (10)
   a. Colonialism, Anthropology, Sociology
   b. Indian sociology in crisis
   c. Sociology from the Marginal partners

II. India as an ‘Object’ of study (14)
   a. Colonial, Nationalist, Indological, (Ghurye)
   b. Structural-Functional (M. N. Sriniwas)
   c. Dialectical (A. R. Desai)
   d. Subaltern (R. Guha)
   e. Non Brahmin (Phule, Dr. BabasahebAmbedkar)
   f. Feminist (LeelaDube)

III. Debates on Indian Society (18)
   b. Social Stratification – Caste, Class, Tribe and Gender.

IV. Understanding Modernity in Indian Society (06)
   Moving beyond tradition vs. modernity debate

Essential Readings:

2. Breman Jan, Kloos Peter and Ashwini Saith, The Village in Asia Revisited, OUP 1997


4. Gail Omvedt, Dalits and Democratic Revolution, Sage, New Delhi

5. M.N.Srinivas, Collected Essays, OUP, New Delhi, 2002


7. Satish Deshpande, Contemporary India: Sociological Perspectives, Viking


20. RegeSharmila, Sociology of Gender, Sage Publications

References:


5. Sujata Patel and Alice Thorner (eds), Bombay Metaphor for Modern India Bombay and Delhi, Oxford University Press.


Note: Any other text/Article suggested by the subject teacher.
**Optional Paper**  
**SO- 01(12533) Agrarian Society in India**

**Objectives**

1. To introduce students to different approaches to the study of Agrarian Social structure.
2. To understand the contemporary agrarian society and issues in relevant context.

**I. Concept of peasant society**  
- a. Features of agrarian, tribal and peasant society  
- b. Approaches to study peasant society- Structural, Functional, Marxist, Feminist, Subaltern

**II. Evolution of Agrarian Structure in India**  
- a. Feudalism  
- b. Asiatic Mode of Production  
- c. Colonial Land Settlement

**III. Programmes in Post Independence India**  
- a. Panchayati Raj  
- b. Community Development Programmes  
- c. HYV programmes :- The Green Revolution and its out come. (Vandana Shiva’s comments)  
- d. Poverty Alleviation programme integrated-MGNREGS  
- e. Urban bias and neglect of the rural (Michel Lipton)

**IV. Agrarian Movements and recent trends**  
- a. Telangana  
- b. Teebhaga  
- c. Peasant Movement in the 1980s and Politics of Farm Lobby-ShetkariSanghatna (Sharadjoshi), Tikait and SwabhimaniShetkariSanghatna.
- d. Globalisation, Neo-liberal policies and its impact on agrarian society.

**Essential Readings: / References**

4. Dhanagare D. N.; Peasant Movement in India; Oxford University Press New Delhi, 1988
5. Omvedi Gail - Land, Caste and Politics; Department of Political Science, Delhi University Delhi 1987, Introduction only.
Note: Any other text/Article suggested by the subject teacher.
Optional Paper

SO 03 – (12534) SOCIOLOGY OF SOCIAL MOVEMENTS

Objectives
1. To introduce the students to the role of social movements in social transformation
2. To help them understand the various approaches to the study of social movements.

I. Introduction to social movement (10)
   b. Social Movement and Social Change
   c. Types of social movements (Reform, Rebellion, Revival, Revolution, Insurrection, Counter Movement)

II. Theories of Social Movements (12)
   a. Structural – functional
   b. Marxist
   c. Resource Mobilization Theory
   d. New Social Movement

III. Social Movement in India with specific reference to social basis, leadership, ideology and actions (14)
   a. Peasant movement
   b. Labour movement
   c. Dalit movement
   d. Women’s movement
   e. Environmental movement

IV. Social Movements, civil society and globalization (12)
   a. Social movement and its relationship with state and civil society (e.g. Jan Lokpal Bill)
   b. Social movements and impact of globalization: Debates-end of movement and after
   c. Issues of citizenship

Essential Readings:
References:

4. Banks J. A., Sociology of Social Movements,
12. Gore M. S., Non Brahmin Movement of Maharashtra, Segment Book Distributors, New Delhi, 1989
30. Robb, Peter, eds. 1993, Dalit Movements and meeting of labour in India. Delhi – Sage
Optional Paper
SO-03-(12535) Political Sociology

Objectives
1. To study the relationship between society and polity
2. To study the various approaches to study the State
3. To understand the contemporary socio-political challenges in India

I. Nature and scope of political sociology (10)
   a. Relationship between Society and Polity,
   b. Sociological Definitions of Politics, authority and the state

II. Theoretical Approaches to the State (12)
   a. Classical thinker: Marx Weber
   b. Neo-Marxist (Gramsci, Althusser)
   c. Elite, Pluralism, Post-structuralism (Foucault- knowledge/power)

III. Society and the state in India (14)
   a. Hindutva and politics of the upper castes
   b. Mandal commission and Bahujan Politics
   c. Gender issues
   d. Dalit politics

IV. Contemporary Challenges and impact of globalization (12)
   a. Issues of citizenship
   b. Civil society
   c. Inequalities and exclusion
   d. Social movements and new social movements

Essential Readings: / References
11. Vora Rajendra and Palshikar Suhas, (Ed) Indian Democracy, Sage New Delhi, 2004

Note: Any other text/Article suggested by the subject teacher.
Optional Paper
SO- 04-(12536) Sociology of Maharashtra: Culture and Society

Objectives
1. To enhance sociological knowledge about the local and regional context of Maharashtra.
2. To acquaint students with the changing trends in Maharashtra with special reference to globalization, Development processes and caste, gender politics

I. Maharashtra: Mapping History and development Indices (6)

II. Cultural Revolt in Colonial Maharashtra: (10)
   a. Impact of Satyashodhak Movement
   b. Non Brahmin Movement
   c. Right Discourse in Kolhapur State
   d. Ambedkarite Movement

III. Debate on social reform and Women’s Questions in 19th Cent. Maharashtra (Age of consent, Widow Remarriage, Education, Nation and Mother) (10)

IV. Formation of Maharashtra: Economic, Political and Cultural Issues (22)
   a. Samyukta Maharashtra Movement
   b. Girangaon and Working Class Movement
   c. Ethnic Nationalism: Shiv Sena
   d. Development of Bahujan, Dalit and OBC politics in Maharashtra
   e. Contemporary issues in Maharashtra
      i. Regional Disparity in Development
      ii. Issues of Displacement
      iii. Farmer’s Suicide
      iv. Sex Ratio

Essential Readings:

References:
2. Adarkar and Menon: One hundred years, one hundred voices, Seagull, New Delhi. 2004: Page nos. 89-336
4. Omvedt, Gail, Cultural Revolt in Colonial India, Scientific Socialist Education Trust, Bombay, 1976
7. Shiva Vandana and Jalees K: Farmer’s Suicide in India,
8. Latest Census and NSS reports
Section II

Compulsory Paper

SC O4 – (22532)- METHODOLOGY OF SOCIAL RESEARCH

Objectives:

1. To introduce students to the philosophical foundations of social research.

2. To acquaint students with the quantitative and qualitative strategies of research

Course Outline:

I. Positivism and Sociology (10)
   a. Comte’s Notion of Positivism, Vienna Circle’s Positivism
   b. Objectivity, the position of researcher
   c. Ethics

II. Critiques of positivism (13)
   a. Existential Phenomenology and Ethnomethodology
   b. Hermeneutics and Critical theory: Gadamer, Apel, Habermas
   c. Feminist Critiques: Feminist empiricism, reformulation of methods and Feminist Standpoint Epistemology
   d. Impact of post-modernism, Post-structuralism.

III. Quantitative Research Strategies (10)
   a. Survey
   b. Structured Interview
   c. Content Analysis

IV. Qualitative Research Strategies (14)
   a. Differences between quantitative and qualitative research
   b. Ethnography
   c. Unstructured Interview

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d. Case Study

e. Participatory Action Research

V. Recent Debates (01)

Combining Quantitative and Qualitative methodology, Triangulation

**Essential Readings:**


2. Sachdev Meetal, Qualitative Research in Social Sciences, Jaipur: Raj Publishing.


**References:**


Note: Any other text/Article suggested by the subject teacher.
COMPULSORY PAPER

SC-03-(22537) Introduction to Sociological Theories

Objectives:

1. To develop the understanding of major sociological perspectives.
2. To develop the analytical abilities of the students.
3. To develop research orientation of the students with the understanding of major theoretical perspectives.

Course Outline:

I. Structuralism: Radcliff-Brown, Levi-Strauss. (10)

II. Functionalism and Neo Functionalism: (Malinowski, Parsons & Merton), Neo Functionalism: (J. Alexander) (12)

III. Conflict theory: Mills and Dahrendorf (10)

IV. a. Phenomenology - Alfred Schultz and Peter Berger

   b. Ethnomethodology - Garfinkel and Goffman (16)

Essential Readings:


References:

1. Turner Bryan S. (Edited), The New Blackwell Companion to Social Theory, Blackwell


5. Greg, M. A Smith - Erving Goffman, (Key Sociologists), USA, Routledge, 2006

Note: Any other text/Article suggested by the subject teacher.
Optional Paper
SO- 05-(22533) Sociology of Education

Objectives
1. To get acquainted with the approaches and contributions in sociology of education
2. To get acquainted with the alternative educational programmes in India

I. New Developments in Sociology of Education (12)
   a. Theoretical Approaches and Contributions in Sociology of Education- Parsons, Gramsci, Bourdieu

II. Philosophy of Education – J Dewey, Paulo Freire, Ivan Illich, John Holt (10)

III. The Indian Tradition of Education -Colonial education, contribution of Nationalists,Gandhi (14)

IV. Policies and programmes (12)
   a. Educational policies
   b. Quality, quantity, and equality –issues of poverty, class, caste, tribe, gender and child labor
   c. Impact of globalization on education –Alternative Education Programs

Essential Readings:

2. Gore, M.S. et.all (ed.): Papers on Sociology of Education in India, New Delhi, NCERT, 1975.
9. All the educational reports including articles in the newspapers.
References:

Objectives
1. To introduce students to the different types of media.
2. To introduce new methodologies to analyze media in the context of globalization, nation, gender and community.

I. Concept and Theories of Media
   a. Defining Media: Folk, Popular, Mass, and Alternate; Media and Modernity,
   b. Making Sense: Ideology, Discourse and hegemony
   c. Social History of Media, State and Media in India
   d. Media and Inequality- Digital Divide

II. Methodologies for Studying Media
   a. Textual analysis
   b. Audience research
   c. Discourse analysis

III. Television: Analyzing Programmes
   a. Emergence of Satellite Television
   b. Transnational Television
   c. Politics of Television

IV. Nation, Gender and Community in Indian Cinema
   a. Regional
   b. Bollywood
   c. Transnational

Essential Readings:

References:
2. Don Robotham, Culture, Society and Economy: Bringing Production Back in, Sage, London 2005
3. Dwyer & Patel (Ed.): *Pleasure and the Nation*, Oxford University Press, New Delhi, 2001
Optional Paper

SO- 07- (22535) Health And Society

Objectives
1. To sensitize students to health related issues
2. To understand the issues related to community health
3. To understand the role of the State in the area of health

I) Introduction (8)
Concepts -Health, Medicine, Illness, Sickness, Disease and Social Epidemiology

II) Theoretical perspectives on health and medicine within sociology (12)
a. Functional approach
b. Conflict approach
c. Interactionist approach
d. Labeling approach

III) Socio-Cultural Dimensions of Health (12)
a. Social causes of Sickness-Attitudes, Beliefs, Values, Superstitions
b. Addiction and Society
c. Rural Health- Issues And Problems

IV: Contemporary Issues in Health (16)
a. National health policy
b. Role of NGO in health sector
c. Impact of globalization on health sector
   i. Privatization, Patents and poor
   ii. Right to health
   iii. Health insurance
   iv. Issues of Gender and Reproductive Health
   v. Consumer Protection Act

Essential Readings: /References
5. Cockerham, William C, 1997 Reading in Medical Sociology, New Jersey Prentice Hall.
Objectives

1. To understand the changing conceptions of work and labour
2. To understand the problems faced by labour in (and changing composition of) organized and unorganized sector
3. To understand the impact of new economic policies and growth of information age on labour

I Work and Labour 10

a) Changing conceptions of work and labour
b) Changing organization of work (Fordist to post-Fordist, beyond bureaucracy?)
c) Globalization and reorganization of work

II Organized labour in India 10

a) Composition of organized labour
b) Neo-liberal policies and formal sector
c) Labour movement in India and present challenges to trade unions and labour movement

III Labour in unorganized sector in India 14

a) Composition of unorganized/informal labour (caste, tribe, gender, age, region, minority groups)
b) Theoretical perspectives on informal sector: Dualist, Structuralist and Legalist
c) I- Informalization
   II-Casualization
   III-Feminization
d) Organizing the unorganized sector (problems of unionizing, social security, examples like SEWA)

IV Contemporary Issues 14

a) Job insecurity, Unemployment, Risk, Corrosion of character
b) Migration (local, regional, transnational)
c) Human Trafficking
d) Labour in knowledge industry
Essential Readings:

3. Breman Jan 2003, The Labouring Poor in India; Patterns of Exploitation and Exclusion Oxford Univ. Press, Delhi
5. Breman Jan 2004, The Making and Unmaking of an Industrial Working Class, Oxford University Press, N.Delhi (For history of formalization of working class in India, Expulsion of labour from formal sector, conditions of new employment, deskilliing, casualization, informalizedlabour system, a reserve army)
7. Giddens Anthony 2006, Sociology, Polity Press, UK (Chapters 16 and 18, for definition of work, changing nature of work, Post-Fordism, beyond bureaucracy, job insecurity, unemployment, corrosion of character)
13. Shramshakti Report
14. Singh (for theoretical perspectives)

References:

5. Breman Jan, 1985 Of Peasants, Migrants and Workers, Rural labour; Circulation and Capitalist Production in Western India, Clarendon Press.
6 Breman Jan, Parry Jonathan, Kapadia Karin (Ed.) ,1999, The Worlds of Indian Industrial Labour, Vedams eBooks , New Delhi,
9 Chandra Ashoka et.al. 1998, Labour, Employment and Human Development in South Asia, B.R. publishing House, N.Delhi
10 Elliott Anthony, 2010, Contemporary Social Theory, Routledge, NY ( chap 9 and 10 for Risk, corrosion of character, globalization)
16 Perrons Dianne 2004, Globalization and social change: people and places in a divided world, Routledge, NY
19 ThoratSukhdeo, 2007, Caste, Social exclusion and poverty linkages – concept, measurement and empirical evidence, (From Internet).

(Besides these, students should refer to ArjunSengupta committee report on Unorganized sector, 2004-05, ILO documents)