

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

Category I

BA (Honors) Sociology

DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC CORE COURSE – 04: Sociological Perspectives

CREDIT DISTRIBUTION, ELIGIBILITY AND PRE-REQUISITES OF THE COURSE

Course title & Code	Credits	Credit distribution of the course			Eligibility criteria	Pre-requisite of the course (if any)
		Lecture	Tutorial	Practical/ Practice		
DSC 04 Sociological Perspectives	4	3	1	0	12 th Pass	Nil

Course Learning Objectives:

1. To introduce students to how society is studied by sociologists.
2. To inculcate the ability to distinguish between different sociological perspectives.
3. To introduce original sociological writing, to familiarize students with the rich texture of sociological prose and understand the need to engage with complex ideas about society.
4. To make students alive to the productive tension between universal and particular in the development of theoretical approaches in sociology by understanding the social context of different theoretical approaches.

Course Learning Outcomes:

Students will be able to:

1. *Describe* major theoretical perspectives in sociology and the context of their emergence.
2. *Read* and critically *engage* with the original works of various sociological thinkers and *interpret* the central argument.
3. *Distinguish* and *compare* different theoretical perspectives in sociology.
4. *Use* theoretical perspectives to examine social realities.

Outline Syllabus of DSC-4:

Unit 1. On the Plurality of Sociological Perspective (08 Hours)

Unit 2. Functionalism (12 Hours)

Unit 3. Conflict Perspective (12 Hours)

Unit 4. Interpretive Sociology (12 Hours)

Unit 5. Interactionism (08 Hours)

Unit 6. Feminist Perspective (08 Hours)

Practical component (if any) - NIL

Essential/Recommended Readings:

Unit 1. On the Plurality of Sociological Perspectives

Willis, Evan, 1996, *The Sociological Quest: An Introduction to the Study of Social Life*. New Jersey: Rutgers University Press. Ch. 7. Theory and Method. Pp 107-132.

Unit 2 Functionalism

Turner, Jonathan. 1987, *The Structure of Sociological Theory*, New Delhi: Rawat Publications. Chapter 2, Functional Theorizing. Pp 37-56.

Durkheim, Emile. 1982, *The Rules of Sociological Method*, New York: Free Press. Chapter 1, What is a Social Fact? Pp. 50 – 59.

Unit 3. Conflict Perspective

Sanderson, Stephen. 2007. Conflict Theory. In *The Blackwell Encyclopaedia of Sociology*, edited George Ritzer, New York: Blackwell Publishing. Pp. 662-665.

Marx, K. and F. Engels. 1969. Selected Works Vol. 1. Moscow: Progress Publishers. Pp. 502-506 (Abstract of Preface from A Contribution to the Critique of Political Economy).

Marx, Karl and Fredrich Engels. 1977. *The Manifesto of the Communist Party*. In The Selected Works, Volume I. Moscow: Progress Publishers. Pp. 108-119.

Unit 4. Interpretive Sociology

Freund, Julien, 1970, *The Sociology of Max Weber*, Penguin Books. Chapter 3, Interpretative Sociology. Pp 87-116.

Weber, Max., 2004. Science as a Vocation. in David Owen and Tracy Strong eds. Max Weber: The Vocation Lectures. 2004. Indianapolis/ Cambridge, Hachette Publishing Company. pp.1-31.

Unit 5. Interactionism

Giddens, Anthony, 2010, *Sociology*, 6th edition, Polity, Chapter 7, ‘Social Interaction in Everyday Life’, Pp. 247-280.

Goffman, Erving, 1979. *Gender Advertisements*, New York: Harper and Row Publications, Chapter 1, Gender Display. Pp. 1-9.

Unit 6. Feminist Perspective

Jackson, S. and S. Scott (eds.), 2002, *Gender: A Sociological Reader*, London: Routledge, Introduction, & Liz Stanley, Should 'Sex' Really be 'Gender'-Or 'Gender' Really be 'Sex'?, Pp. 1-26, Pp 31-41.

Suggested Readings:

Blumer, Herbert. 2002 'Symbolic Interactionism' from Craig Calhoun (ed.) *Contemporary Sociological Theory*. Oxford: Blackwell. Pp. 66 – 77.

Scott, S. *Making Sense of Everyday Life*. Cambridge: Polity Press. Chapter 2 Theorizing the Mundane. Pp 10-32.

Smith, Dorothy E. 1987, *The Everyday World as Problematic*. Boston: North West University Press. Chapter 2. A Sociology for Women. Pp. 49-69.

Note: Examination scheme and mode shall be as prescribed by the Examination Branch, University of Delhi, from time to time.