

**BA Multidisciplinary Studies (Sociology)
(DSC 01 (Required for Major and Minor in Sociology), DSC 02)**

**B.A. (MDS) Sociology
Discipline Specific Core 01
An Invitation to Sociology**

Course Objective:

This course is a broad introduction to the discipline of sociology. It introduces students to understanding the ‘social’ in everyday life. It helps to link the social to the personal and to develop a sociological imagination. It interrogates the taken-for-granted structures in society and familiarises students with some of the fundamental concepts and concerns of the discipline.

Course Learning Outcomes:

After studying the paper, the students should be able to:

1. Appreciate and adopt a sociological perspective to the understanding of reality
2. Understand the basic concepts in Sociology and relate them to the micro and macro aspects of social life.
3. Develop a sociological way of thinking.

Course outline:

Unit I: Introducing Sociology

Unit II: The emergence of Sociology

Unit III: Basic Concepts

- a. Culture
- b. Social Interactions and Institutions
- c. Social Change
- d. Sociology and Personal Life

Course Content:

Unit I. Introducing Sociology (Weeks 1-3)

Mills, C. W. (1959). ‘The Promise’ in *The Sociological Imagination*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 6th Edition (2000). Pp 3-24.

Giddens, A. & Philip Sutton, (2021), *Sociology*, 9th Edition. London: Polity Press, Chapter 1 ‘What is Sociology?’ Pp 1-30

Beteille, Andre. (2009), *Sociology: Essays in Approach and Method*, Delhi: Oxford University Press, Chapter 1, 'Sociology and Common Sense, Pp. 13-27

Unit II. The emergence of Sociology (Weeks 4-5)

Ritzer, George, (1996), *Classical Sociological Theory*, New York: McGraw Hill, Chapter 1, 'A Historical Sketch of Sociological Theory- The Early Years', Pp. 13-46

Unit III. Basic Concepts

a. Culture (Week 6-8)

Macionis, John, J. (Adapted by Reema Bhatia). (2019). *Sociology*, 17 Edition. Chapter 3, Culture, Pp 70-95. Pearson. New Delhi.

Redfield, Robert (1956), Chapter 16, 'How Human Society Operates', in Harry L Shapiro (ed.) *Man, Culture and Society*. New York: Oxford University Press, Pp. 345-368.

b. Social Interactions and Institutions (Weeks 9-10)

Horton, Paul B., Chester L. Hunt. (2004), *Sociology*. New Delhi: Tata McGraw Hill. Chapter 9, Pp. 210- 229.

Das Veena. (1976). Masks and Faces: An Essay on Punjabi Kinship. Contributions to Indian Sociology. Vol.10. No.1 Pp 1-28

c. Social Change (Weeks 11-12)

Macionis, John, J. (Adapted by Reema Bhatia). (2019). *Sociology*, 17 Edition. Chapter 25. Social Change. Pearson. New Delhi. Pp. 742-768

Dillon, Michele. (2014). *Introduction to Sociological Theory: Theorists, Concepts, and Their Applicability to the Twenty-First Century*. Oxford: Wiley Blackwell. Chapter 15. Modernity's, Cosmopolitanism and Global Consumer Culture. Pp. 491-520.

d. Sociology and Personal Life (Week 13-14)

Morgan, David. (2019). 'Conceptualising the Personal', in V. May and Petra Nordqvist (ed.) *Sociology of Personal Life*. London: Red Globe Press. Chapter 2. Pp 16-29.

Allan, G., & Adams, R. G. (2006). Sociology of Friendship. In C. Bryant & D. Peck, *The Handbook of 21st Century Sociology*. Sage. Pp 1-29.

Suggested Readings:

Beteille, Andre, (2009), *Sociology: Essays in Approach and Method*, Delhi: Oxford University

Press, Chapter 1

Bottomore, T.B. (1971), *Sociology: A Guide to Problems and Literature*, London: Allen and Unwin, Chapter 4

Chakrabarty, D. (2000). *Provincializing Europe: Postcolonial Thoughts and Historical Difference*. New Jersey: Princeton University Press. Chapter-7. *Adda: A History of Sociality*. Pp 180-214.

Ritzer, George, (1996), *Classical Sociological Theory*, New York: McGraw Hill, Chapter 1, 'A Historical Sketch of Sociological Theory- The Early Years', Pp. 13-46

May, Vanessa and Petra Nordqvist (ed.), (2019). *Sociology of Personal Life*. London: Red Globe Press.

Garner, James Finn, (1994), *Politically Correct Bedtime Stories: Modern Tales for Our Life and Times*, New Jersey: John Wiley & Sons Inc.

Films:

Captivating History. Age of Enlightenment: The Age of Reason Explained. Film 11 minutes.

Baby, Joe. 2021. The Great Indian Kitchen. Film. 1 hour 40 minutes

Edwards, Blake. 1989. Skin Deep. Film. 101 minutes.

Bhaumik, Mainak. 2015. Family Album. Film. 1hour 54 minutes

Teaching Learning Process:

This course is aimed at developing an understanding of the basic forms and processes of social interaction in society. Therefore, lecture-cum-participation method is used to engage the students and encourage them to learn and examine social events. In addition to attending lectures and tutorials, students will write assignments, and projects and prepare presentations as well.

Assessment Methods:

Periodic tutorials, team projects, class tests and assignments will be used as modes of assessment

Keywords:

Society, Culture, Social Interaction, Institutions, Personal Life

B.A. (MDS) Sociology
Discipline Specific Core 02
Family and Marriage

Course Objectives:

1. To introduce various approaches, issues, and debates in the study of family and marriage.
2. To introduce different concepts and theoretical understanding of marriage and family in different societies.
3. To develop critical insights into the changing trends in family and marriage.

Course Learning Outcomes:

1. Understanding the multiple perspectives in the study of the family.
2. Familiarity with the concepts relevant to the study of marriage
3. Developing an understanding of the changing trends in family and marriage.

Course Outline:

Unit I. An Introduction

Unit II. Studying the Family

Unit III. Understanding Marriage

Course Content:

Unit I. An Introduction (Week 1-3)

Goode, William J. (2009), 'The Theoretical Importance of the Family' in Arlene S. Skolnick and Jerome H. Skolnick (eds) *Family in Transition*. Boston: Pearson. (Seventeenth edition). pp 15-26.

Lévi-Strauss, Claude. (1956). 'The Family' in Harry L Shapiro (ed.) *Man, Culture and Society*. New York: Oxford University Press, pp. 261 – 285.

Shah A.M. (1964). 'Basic Terms and Concepts in the study of Family in India', *The Indian Economic and Social History Review*, Vol. 1(3), pp 1-36.

Unit II. Studying the family (Week 4- 9)

Palriwala, R. (1999). "Negotiating Patriliney: Intra-household Consumption and Authority in Rajasthan (India)", in Rajni Palriwala and Carla Risseuw (eds.), *Shifting Circles of Support: Contextualising kinship and gender relations in South Asia and Sub-Saharan, Africa*. 190-220. Delhi: Sage Publications.

Nongbri, Tiplut. (1993). Gender and the Khasi Family Structure. In Patricia Uberoi. *Family, Marriage and Kinship in India*. Pp. 176- 186. New Delhi: Oxford University Press.

Weston, K. (1991). *Families We Choose: Lesbians, Gays, Kinship*, New York: Columbia University Press, 103-136.

Hochschild, A. (1989.) *The Second Shift*: New York: Penguin, 11-33.

Unit III. Understanding Marriage (Week 10-14)

Carsten. J. Hsiao-Chiao, Siobhan Magee, Eirini Papadaki & Koreen M. Reece. (2021). *Marriage in Past, Present and Future Tense*, London: UCL Press, 140-159.

Ramamurthy, Priti. 2014. Marriage, Labour circulation and smallholder Capitalism in Andhra Pradesh in R. Kaur and R. Palriwala (eds.) *Marrying in South Asia: Shifting Concepts, Changing Practices in a Globalising World*. Pp. 161-181. Hyderabad: Orient Blackswan.

Chowdhry, P. (1998). 'Enforcing Cultural Codes: Gender and Violence in Northern India', in M. E. John and J. Nair (ed.), *A Question of Silence: The Sexual Economies of Modern India*, New Delhi: Kali for Women, 332-67.

Kaur, R, and Priti Dhanda. (2014). 'Surfing for Spouses: Marriage Websites and the 'New' Indian Marriage?' in Ravinder Kaur and Rajni Palriwala, (ed.). *Marrying in South Asia: Shifting Concepts, Changing Practices in a Globalising World*. New Delhi: Orient BlackSwan, 271-292.

Lemons, Katherine (2014) 'When Marriage Breaks Down How Do Contracts Matter?: Contracts and Divorce in Contemporary North India, in Ravinder Kaur and Rajni Palriwala (ed.). *Marrying in South Asia: Shifting Concepts, Changing Practices in a Globalising World*. Hyderabad: Orient Blackswan, 371-388

Suggested Readings:

Sen, S., Biswas, R., & Dhawan, N. (Eds.). (2011). *Intimate others: Marriage and sexualities in India*. Bhatkal and Sen.

Uberoi. Patricia. (1993). *Family, Marriage and Kinship in India*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press.

Parry Jonathan.(2001). Ankalu's Errant Wife: Sex, Marriage and Industry in Contemporary Chhattisgarh, *Modern Asian Studies*, Vol. 35(4), 783-820

Parry Jonathan.(2001). Ankalu's Errant Wife: Sex, Marriage and Industry in Contemporary Chhattisgarh, *Modern Asian Studies*, Vol. 35(4), 783-820

Leach, E.R., (1961). 'Polyandry, Inheritance and the Definition of Marriage with Particular Reference to Sinhalese Customary Law', in E. R. Leach (ed.), *Rethinking Anthropology*, London: The Athlone Press, 105-113

Pande A. (2010). Commercial Surrogacy in India: Manufacturing a Perfect Mother-Worker, *Signs*, Vol. 35(4), 969-992.

Teaching Learning Methods:

1. Interactive sessions in multidisciplinary contexts to develop the students' understanding of the course content.
2. Developing knowledge about classical and contemporary theories of family and kinship as a lived reality.
3. Documentary/movie screenings, followed by class discussions on the topics such as commercial surrogacy and chosen families of gays and lesbians.
4. Assignments based on the application of the concepts of marriage and family kinship

Assessment Methods:

Periodic tutorials, class tests, and assignments for formal assessment would further help students to understand and grasp the key concepts in a better way. Oral presentation, group discussions and interactive sessions would be an additional mode of assessment.

Key Words: Family, Marriage, Intimacy, Divorce