

**Sociology**  
**Discipline Specific Elective (DSE) 09**  
**Sociology and Social Policy**

**DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC ELECTIVE COURSE -09(DSE-09): Sociology and Social Policy**

**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		
<b>DSE 09 Sociology and Social Policy</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup> Class Pass</b>	<b>Nil</b>

**Learning Objectives:**

1. To constitute social policy as an object of sociological investigation and recount key theories, concepts, and methods developed for around it.
2. To impart the methods of analysing the formulation, adoption, implementation of social policy from a sociological vantage.
3. To appreciate social policy analysis as an interdisciplinary field of study and understand the complex dynamics of the politics of decision making.

**Learning Outcomes:**

Students will be able to:

1. *Develop* critical and analytical skills with respect to examining the complex dynamics involved in social policy making process.
2. *Recognise, evaluate* and dissect policies of social importance in the interest of people, society and environment.
3. *Exhibit* the requisite analytical skills to evaluate and improve social policy.

**SYLLABUS OF DSE-09: Sociology and Social Policy**

**Unit I: Social Policy and Sociological Analysis (15 Hours)**

*This unit invites students to the world of Social Policy and familiarizes them with some of its important conceptual and theoretical frameworks, meanings, evolution and manifest practices.*

- a. What is Social Policy?
- b. Social Policy and Sociological Perspectives

### **Unit II: Making Social Policy I: Institutions, Ideologies and Actors (15 Hours)**

*This unit engages with the context, value framework, social character and politics involved in the policy-making process.*

- a. Social Policy as a Worldview
- b. The Character of Social Policies in India

### **Unit III: Making Social Policy II: Craft and Analysis (15 Hours)**

*This unit introduces students to the methodological issues involved in the craft of policy-making from a sociological perspective and problematizes the dominance of technocracy and reductionist public policy experts.*

- a. Methodological and Technical Frameworks
- b. Emerging Issues and Concerns in Social Policy

**Practical Component: NIL**

### **Course Outline and Essential/Recommended Readings:**

#### **Unit I. Social Policy and Sociological Analysis**

- a. What is Social Policy?

Spicker, P. (2014). Introduction: The Nature of Social Policy. In: *Social Policy: Theory and Practice*. Great Britain: Policy Press. Pp. 1–20.

Dreze, J. (2016). Social Policy: An Introduction In: Jean Dreze (ed.) (2016). *Social Policy: Essays from Economic and Political Weekly*, New Delhi: Orient Blackswan. Pp.1-18.

- b. Social Policy and Sociological Perspectives

Coffey, A. (2004). Sociological Theory and Social Policy, In: *Re-Conceptualizing Social Policy: Sociological Perspectives on Contemporary Social Policy*. England: Open University Press. Pp.1-4, 10-11, 19-22, 30-41.

#### **Unit II: Making Social Policy I: Institutions, Ideologies and Actors**

- a. Social Policy Worldview: Ideology, Value Frameworks and Priorities

Spicker, P. (2014). Principles and Values. In: *Social Policy: Theory and practice*. Great Britain: Policy Press. Pp. 181–202.

Lapunte, V & Van de Walle, S. (2020). The Effects of New Public Management on the Quality of Public Services. In: *Governance: An International Journal of Policy, Administration and Institution*. Vol.33, Issue.3. Pp. 461-464.

Manuel, T. (2019). How Does One Live the Good Life?: Assessing the State of Intersectionality in Public Policy. In: O. Hankivsky, J. S. Jordan-Zachery (eds.), *The Palgrave Handbook of Intersectionality in Public Policy*. London:Palgrave. Pp-33-46

Ghosh, J. (2004). Social Policy in Indian Development. In: T. Mkandawire (eds) *Social Policy in Development Context*. London: Palgrave Macmillan. Pp. 284-307.

### **b. The Character of Social Policies in India**

Sen, S (2022). Law and Social Policy in India. In: Davy, U., & Chen, A.H.Y. (Eds.). *Law and Social Policy in the Global South: Brazil, China, India, South Africa*. New York: Routledge. Pp-78-127

Pellissery, S. (2021). One Hundred Years of the (Stifed) Social Question, In: L. Leisering (ed.). *One Hundred Years of Social Protection, Global Dynamics of Social Policy*. Cham: Palgrave Mcmillan. Pp.121-142

Chopra, D. (2011). Policy Making in India: A Dynamic Process of Statecraft. *Pacific Affairs*, 84(1), 89–107.

## **Unit III: Making Social Policy II: Craft and Analysis (15 Hours)**

### **a. Methodological and Technical Frameworks**

Fischer, Frank. (2007). Deliberative Policy Analysis as Practical Reason: Integrating Empirical and Normative Arguments, In: Frank Fischer, Gerald J. Miller, Mara S. Sidney (ed.) 2007. *Handbook of Public Policy Analysis: Theory, Politics, and Methods*. New York: CRC Press Taylor & Francis Group.pp.223-236

Spicker, P. (2014). Policy in Practice. In *Social policy: Theory and practice*. Great Britain: Policy Press. Pp. 223–244, 429-431

Deshpande, S., and Y. Yadav. (2006). Redesigning Affirmative Action. *Economic and Political Weekly*. Volume 41. Pp. 2419–2424.

### **b. Emerging Issues and Concerns in Social Policy**

Dunleavy, P. (2016). ‘Big data’ and Policy Learning. In: Gerry Stoker and Mark Evans (ed.). *Evidence-based Policy Making in the Social Sciences: Methods that Matter*. UK: Policy Press. Pp.145-160, 163-166.

**(To make the course more empirically grounded and impactful the instructors are suggested to incorporate activities like Policy Review, Field Study, and Policy Expert Interaction)**

### **Suggested Readings:**

O'Connor, F. Mary Katherine & Netting, Ellen (Eds.). (2011). *Analyzing Social Policy Multiple Perspectives for Critically Understanding and Evaluating Policy*. New Jersey: John Wiley & Sons, Inc. Pp.1-7, 14-17

Blakemore, K and Griggs, E. (2007). Ideas and Concepts. In: *Social Policy: An Introduction*. Open University Press, England, pp. 5-10 & 15-39.

Government of India. (1946 – 1950). *Constituent Assembly Debates (Proceedings) Vol. I to XII(1946-1950)*.

Government of India. (1963). *The Planning Process*, Planning Commission, New Delhi, 1963

Government of India. (1985). *Challenges of Education: A Policy Perspectives*. MHRD.

Government of India. (2005). *The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005*..

Government of India. (2013). *The National Food Security Act 2013*.

Govt. of India, Ministry of Education. (2019,2020). *Draft National Education Policy, 2019 and National Education Policy, 2020*.

Government of India. (2020). *The Code on Social Security, 2020*, Government of India

Murali, K. (2018). *Caste, Class and Capital: The Social and Political Origins of Economic Policy in India*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Nussbaum, M and Sen, A. (1993). *The Quality of Life*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Patton, C V; Sawicki, D; Clark, Je. (2016). *Basic Methods of Policy Analysis and Planning*. New York:Rutledge.Pp. 21-33, 43-57.

Report of the Expert Group to Propose “Diversity Index” and to Work out the Modalities for Implementation. 2008. Submitted to the Ministry of Minority Affairs. Government of India

Saha, K.T. (Eds.). (1947). *National Planning Committee Series, Report of the Sub-committees (Vol.1-25)* Bombay: Vora & co. Publishers ltd.

Vaidyanatha Ayyar, R.V. (2017). *History of Education Policy Making in India: 1947 - 2016*. Delhi: Oxford University Press.

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