

**Sociology General Electives offered in Odd Semester
(GE 01, GE 02, GE 03)**

**Sociology Generic Elective (GE) 01
Sociology and Everyday Life**

Course Objectives:

This course is an invitation to a sociological vision, imagination, and practice - for students who are pursuing disciplines other than sociology. The course seeks to render sociology alive by illuminating its perspective, concepts and practice through a series of interesting sociological studies of everyday life. The course attempts to introduce sociology in an accessible and engaging way.

The course begins with an introductory section that speaks of the spirit of sociology, followed by a substantive section where students are familiarized with key concerns and ideas of sociology using empirical studies of relatable aspects of everyday life. The course concludes with a small section that allows students to reflect on what they have learned in the course, and what they could do to put that learning into practice with a primer on the craft of doing sociology.

Course Learning Outcomes:

1. Inculcating a sociological imagination
2. Familiarity with basic concepts of sociology
3. Grasp social groups, institutions and processes that engender everyday life
4. Preparation for a more enduring engagement with sociology

Course Outline:

Unit I: An Invitation to Sociological Imagination

Unit II: Journeys into Everyday Social Worlds

Unit III: Practicing Sociology

Course Content:

Unit I. An Invitation to Sociological Imagination (Week 1-3)

Newman, David M. Sociology: Exploring the Architecture of Everyday Life 4th e. California: Pine Forge Press. Chapter 1. Taking a New Look at a Familiar World. Pp. 2-9

Henslin, James. M. 2005. 'What is Sociology? Comparing Sociology and Other Social Sciences'. In *Down to Earth Sociology: Introductory Readings*, edited by James M. Henslin, New York: Simon & Schuster. Pp 8-19.

Mills, C. Wright. 2000. 'The Promise'. In *The Sociological Imagination*, New York: OUP. Pp.1-13.

Gubbay J. and Chris Middleton. 1997. *The Student's Companion to Sociology*, Oxford: Blackwell. Pp. 254-260, 275-281

Unit II. Journeys into Everyday Social Worlds (Week 4-12)

John Curra. 2004. 'Groups, Societies, and Social Relationships'. In *The Human Experience Reader: Selections from Sociology*, Boston: Pearson. Pp. 23-30, 33-40

Johnson, Allan G. 2008. 'Culture: Symbols, Ideas, and the Stuff of Life' and 'The Structures of Social Life'. In *The Forest and the Trees: Sociology as Life, Practice, and Promise*. Philadelphia: Temple University Press. Pp 37-110.

Barnes, J. A. 1994. 'Cultural Diversity'. In *A Pack of Lies: Towards a Sociology of Lying*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Pp. 65-78

Goffman, Erving. 1959. 'Introduction'. In *The Presentation of Self in Everyday Life*. New York: Anchor Books. Pp. 1-16

Sennett, Richard. 2012. 'Everyday Diplomacy: Reformation Conversations Put to Practical Use'. In *Together: The Rituals, Pleasures, and Politics of Cooperation*. New Haven: Yale University Press. Pp. 221- 246.

Collins, Randall. 1992. 'The Sociology of God'. In *Sociological Insight: An Introduction to Non-Obvious Sociology*. New York: OUP. Pp. 30-60.

Wharton, Amy S. 2005. 'Gender, Childhood, and Family Life'. In *The Sociology of Gender: An Introduction to Theory and Research*. Oxford: Blackwell. Pp. 122-161.

Hochschild, Arlie Russell. 2012. 'Paying Respects with Feeling: The Gift Exchange'. In *The Managed Heart: Commercialization of Human Feeling*, 1st Ed., University of California Press. Pp. 76–86.

Unit III. Practicing Sociology (Week 13-14)

Mills, C. Wright. 2000. 'On Intellectual Craftsmanship'. In *The Sociological Imagination*. New York: OUP. Pp. 195 – 226.

Suggested Readings:

Coser, Lewis A. 1980. *The Pleasures of Sociology*. New York: New American Library.

Curra, John. 2004. *The Human Experience Reader: Selections from Sociology*. Boston: Pearson.

Giddens, Anthony. 1987. 'What do Sociologists Do?'. In *Social Theory and Modern Sociology*. Stanford: Stanford University Press. Pp. 1-21.

(Relevant short films, documentaries, stories, and excerpts may be screened and discussed)

Teaching Learning Process:

1. Lectures supported by group tutorial work
2. Students' Presentations from Unit II
3. Interactive approach towards the dissemination of the ideas
4. The ethnographic studies may be transacted through a flipped classroom

Assessment Methods:

1. Examinations
2. Assignments
3. Small research Projects

Keywords:

Everyday life as a field, thinking sociologically, 'Making the familiar strange', Socialization, Social Construction of everyday world, Presentation of self in the everyday, Sociological understanding of seemingly instinctual everyday conduct, Culture, Groups, Relationships