

Sociology
Generic Elective (GE) 14
Sociology of Disability

GENERIC ELECTIVE COURSE -14 (GE-14) : Sociology of Disability

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		
GE 14 Sociology of Disability	4	3	1	0	12 th Class Pass	Nil

Learning Objectives:

1. To offer a sociological understanding of disability and outline a plurality of theoretical approaches towards its conceptualisation.
2. To familiarise students with critical disability theory and underline its intersections with other systems of oppression, such as caste, class, gender and sexuality.
3. To provide a sociological understanding of ableism and the processes and structures that reproduce it and introduce the disability rights movement in India and its policy interventions and advocacies.

Learning outcomes:

Students will be able to :

1. *Identify* the different sociological perspectives of disability; from social labeling theory to social constructionism and the critical disability theory.
2. *Examine* the cultural representations of disability and look at its various intersections.
3. *Develop* knowledge about disability rights, including the Disability Rights Movement and various policies on Disability.

SYLLABUS OF GE 14: Sociology of Disability

Unit I: Understanding Disability (12 hours)

This unit examines the theoretical engagement with disability, outlining the conceptualisation(s) and theoretical models to understand disability.

- a. Meanings and Conceptualisation**
- b. Sociological Perspectives on Disability**

Unit II: Disability and Vulnerability (15 hours)

This unit examines the interaction between disability and other axes of social inequality.

Unit III: Disability in Everyday Life (9 hours)

This unit approaches disability by focusing on the culture of ableism. The unit notes practices of socio-cultural reproduction of ableism and its contestation.

- a. Ableism and Inaccessibility**
- b. Everyday Practices of Resistance**

Unit IV: Paradigm Shifts and Emerging Issues (9 hours)

This unit focuses on rights assertion, interventions and emerging issues in disability studies and activism.

- a Disability Rights Movements**
- b. Policy Interventions**
- c. Emerging Issues**

Practical Component: NIL

Essential/Recommended Readings:

Unit I: Understanding Disability

a. Meanings and Conceptualisation

Davis, Lennard. 2017. "Introduction : Disability, Normality, and Power" in Lennard J. Davis (eds) *The Disability Studies Reader*. Routledge. Pp 1-16.

Shakespeare, Tom. 2017. "The Social Model of Disability" in Lennard J. Davis (eds) *The Disability Studies Reader*. Routledge. Pp 195-203.

b. Sociological Perspectives on Disability

Parsons, Talcott. 1975. "The Sick Role and the Role of the Physician Reconsidered" *The Milbank Memorial Fund Quarterly. Health and Society. Vol 53, No. 3 (Summer 1975)* Pp. 257-278.

Goffman, E. 2006. 'Selections from Stigma'. In, Lennard J. Davis, *The Disability Studies Reader: Second Edition*. Pp. 131-140.

Sztobryn-Giercuskiewicz, J., 2017. *Critical Disability Theory as a Theoretical Framework for Disability Studies*. Oblicza niepełnosprawności w praktyce i teorii,. Pp. 29-35.

Unit II: Disability and Vulnerabilities

Adlakha, Renu. 2008. "Disability, Gender and Society", *Indian Journal of Gender Studies*, 15(2). Pp. 191–207.

Chakravarti, Upali. 2008. "Burden of Caring: Families of Disabled in Urban India" In *Disability Studies in India: Global Discourses, Local Realities*, New Delhi: Routledge. Pp. 122-144

Johri, Rachana. 2019. "Disability and Mothering: Embodied Knowledge", *Peace Prints: South Asian Journal of Peacebuilding*, Vol. 5, No. 1, Special Issue: Summer 2019, pp. 2-16.

Hiranandani, Vanamala and Deepa Sonpal. 2010. 'Disability, Economic Globalization and Privatization: A Case Study of India', *Disability Studies Quarterly*, Vol 30 (3 / 4).

Unit III: Disability in Everyday Life

a. Ableism and Inaccessibility

Nario-Redmond, M. 2020. *Ableism: The Causes and Consequences of Disability Prejudice*. Wiley Blackwell. Chapter 3: Justifying Ableism: Ideologies and Language, pp. 80-109.

b. Everyday Practices of Resistance

Gold, J.R. and Margaret Gold. 2007. "Access for all: the rise of the Paralympic Games", *The Journal of The Royal Society for the Promotion of Health*, 127(3):133-141.

Bhowmick, Partho. 2013. "Blind with Camera: Photographs by the Visually Impaired", In Renu Adlakha (eds.) *Disability Studies in India Global Discourses, Local Realities*. Routledge. Pp. 303-330.

Unit IV: Paradigm Shifts and Emerging Issues

a. Evolution of Disability Rights

Mehrotra, Nilika. 2011. "Disability Rights Movements in India: Politics and Practice", *EPW*, 46, no. 6 (2011): 65–72.

b. Law and Policy Interventions

Dhanda, Amita. (2018) Disability Studies Reading of the Law for Persons with Disabilities in India" in Anita Ghai (ed.) *Disability in South Asia: Knowledge and Experience* Sage Publications . pp- 383- 400.

c. Emerging Issues

Barton, L. 2018. *Disability and Society, Emerging Issues, and Insights*. Routledge London & New York. Chapter 1 'Sociology and Disability: Some Emerging Issues. Pp. 1-15.

Suggested Readings:

Chaney, Paul. 2020. "An Institutionally Ableist State? Exploring Civil Society Perspectives on the Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in India", *Journal of Civil Society*, 16:4, pp. 372-392

Campbell, Fiona. 2018. "Refocusing and the Paradigm Shift: From Disability to Studies in Ableism" In, Anita Ghai (ed.) *Disability in South Asia Knowledge and Experience*. Sage Publications. Pp. 38-57

Frederick, A., & Shifrer, D. (2019). Race and Disability: From Analogy to Intersectionality, *Sociology of Race and Ethnicity*, 5(2), 200–214.

Ghai, Anita. 2003. *(Dis)Embodied Form: Issues of Disabled Women*. New Delhi. Har-Anand Publications. Chapter 1 and 2.

Ghai, Anita. 2015. *Rethinking Disability in India*. Routledge. Chapter 2: Conversations about Disability: The Cultural Landscape.

Goodley, Dan. 2014. *Dis/Ability Studies: Theorising Disablism and Ableism*. Routledge. Chapter 3: Intersectionality, pp. 35-50.

Hans, Asha and Annie Patri. 2003. *Women, Disability, and Identity*. Sage Publications.

Mehrotra, Nilika, 2020, "Situating Disability Studies: A Prolegomenon" in Nilika Mehrotra (eds.) *Disability Studies in India : Interdisciplinary Perspectives*. Springer. Pp.1-24

Suggested E-Resources:

Policy Documents :

Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (Government of India). 2006. National Policy for Persons with Disabilities.

<https://disabilityaffairs.gov.in/upload/uploadfiles/files/National%20Policy.pdf>

Department of Personnel and Training (Government of India). (No date). Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) on the Policy of Reservation to Persons with Disabilities.

https://dopt.gov.in/sites/default/files/FAQ_Disabilities.pdf

Unique Disability ID, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disability, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (Government of India). “Disability Schemes”.

<https://www.swavlambancard.gov.in/schemes/search>

National Human Rights Commission. 2006. Rights of the Disabled by Anuradha Mohit, Meera Pillai and Pratiti Rungta.

https://nhrc.nic.in/sites/default/files/DisabledRights_1.pdf

Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (Government of India). 2021. Public Notice Inviting Comments on the draft National Policy for Persons with Disabilities.

<https://disabilityaffairs.gov.in/upload/uploadfiles/files/Draft%20Copy%20New%20National%20Policy%20May%202022%20.pdf>

World Health Organisation. “WHO Policy on Disabilities”.

<https://www.who.int/about/policies/disability>

Films/Documentaries

- Klein, B.S. 2006. *Shameless: The Art of Disability*.
- Bhansali, Sanjay L. 2005. *Black*.
- Neudel, Eric. 2011. *Lives Worth Living*.
- Davenport, Reid. 2022. *I Didn't See You There*.
- Lebrecht, James and Nicole Newnham. 2020. *Crip Camp: A Disability Revolution*.

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