

## GENERIC ELECTIVES (GE-06): Invitation to Sociological Theory

### 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 |
|--|----------|-----------------------------------|----------|---------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
|  |          | Lecture                           | Tutorial | Practical/ Practice |                             |                             |
| <b>GE 06<br/>Invitation to<br/>Sociological Theory</b> | <b>4</b> | <b>3</b>                          | <b>1</b> | <b>Nil</b>          | <b>12<sup>th</sup> Pass</b> | <b>Nil</b>                  |

#### Course Learning Objectives:

1. To familiarize students with fundamental sociological perspectives.
2. To enable students to analyse social reality on the basis of these perspectives.
3. To help students apply sociological theories to their lifeworld.

#### Course Learning Outcomes:

##### Students will be able to:

1. *Analyze* the multiple dimensions of social reality.
2. *Compare* and *contrast* different sociological perspective on these processes..
3. *Develop* a critical orientation while observing and reviewing social realities.
4. *Apply* various sociological theories to social contexts and thereby assessing the causes and consequences of various social phenomena

#### Syllabus of GE 06:

**Unit 1. Understanding Sociological Theory (08 Hours)**

**Unit 2. Functionalism (16 Hours)**

**Unit 3. Conflict Theory (08 Hours)**

**Unit 4. Interpretive Sociology (08 Hours)**

**Unit 5. Interactionism (10 Hours)**

**Unit 6. Feminist Sociology (10 Hours)**

**Practical component (if any) - NIL**

#### Essential/Recommended Readings:

##### Unit 1. Understanding Sociological Theory

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

## **Unit 2. Functionalism**

Wallace, Ruth A. and Alison Wolf. 2006. *Contemporary Sociological Theory: Expanding the Classical Tradition*, Sixth Edition, New Delhi: Prentice-Hall of India. Chapter 2, Functionalism. Pp. 15-57.

Cohen, Percy S. 1968. *Modern Social Theory*, Sixth Edition, London: Heinemann. Chapter 3, Functionalism or the 'Holistic' Approach. Pp. 34-68.

## **Unit 3. Conflict Theory**

Turner, Jonathan H. 1987. *The Structure of Sociological Theory*, Fourth Edition, New York: Rawat Publications, Chapter 6, The Origin of Conflict and Critical Theorizing. Pp. 129-150.

## **Unit 4. Interpretive Sociology**

Freund, Julien. 1969. *The Sociology of Max Weber*, New York: Vintage Books. Chapter 3, The Concept of Interpretive Sociology. Pp. 87-132.

## **Unit 5. Interactionism**

Cuff, E. C., W. W. Sharrock, and D. W. Francis. 2006. **Perspectives in Sociology**, Fifth Edition, London: Routledge, Chapter 6, Symbolic Interactionism. Pp. 98-125.

## **Unit 6. Feminist Sociology**

Abbott, Pamela, Clair Wallace, and Melissa Tyler. 2005. *An Introduction to Sociology: Feminist Perspectives*, Third Edition, London: Routledge, Chapter 2, Feminist Sociological Theory. Pp. 16-56.

## **Suggested Readings:**

Blumer, Herbert. 2002 'Symbolic Interactionism' from Craig Calhoun (ed.) *Contemporary Sociological Theory*. Oxford: Blackwell. Chapter 4, Pp. 66 -77.

Dillon, Michele. 2014. *Introduction to Sociological Theory: Theorists, Concepts, and Their Applicability to the Twenty-First Century*, Second Edition, West Sussex: Wiley Blackwell, Chapter 3, Max Weber. Pp. 121-153.

Dillon, Michele. 2014. *Introduction to Sociological Theory: Theorists, Concepts, and Their Applicability to the Twenty-First Century*, Second Edition, West Sussex: Wiley Blackwell, Chapter 10, Feminist Theories. Pp. 327-367.

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

Geetha, V. 2002. *Gender*, Calcutta: Stree, Introduction. Pp. 01-10.

Giddens, Anthony. 2009. *Sociology*, Sixth Edition, Polity Press. Cambridge. Chapter 7, Social Interaction and Everyday Life. Pp. 247-279

Lindsey, Linda L. 2021. *Gender: Sociological Perspective*, Seventh Edition, London: Routledge, Chapter 1, The Sociology of Gender: Theoretical Perspectives and Feminist Frameworks. Pp. 03-37.

Marx, Karl and Fredrick Engels. 1948. *The Manifesto of the Communist Party*. New York: International Publishers. Pp. 03-48.

Radcliffe-Brown, A. R., 1976, *Structure and Function in Primitive Society*, New York: Free Press, Chapter 9, On the Concept of Function in Social Science. Pp. 178-187; Chapter 10, On Social Structure. Pp. 188-204.

Ritzer, George. 2011. *Sociological Theory*, Eighth Edition, New York: McGraw Hill, Chapter 10, Symbolic Interactionism. Pp. 351-390.

Weber, Max. 1978. *Economy and Society: An outline of Interpretive Sociology*, Vol. 1, University of California Press, Basic Concepts. Pp.04-26

Winch, Peter. 1990. *The Idea of A Social Science and its Relation to Philosophy*, London: Routledge. Chapter 2, The Nature of Meaningful Behaviour, Meaningful Behaviour. Pp. 45-51; Chapter 4, The Mind and Society, Verstehen and Causal Explanation, Meaningful Action and Social Action. Pp. 111-120.

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