

Department of Sociology  
Jamia Millia Islamia  
Four Year Undergraduate Course  
Sociology (Major)  
Structure as per NEP 2020

Semester-IV						
S. No.	Paper Title	Credits	Internal Marks	Theory Marks Paper	Weekly Hours	Total Marks
MAJOR						
24-SOY -C-251	Social Stratification	4	40	60	4	100
24-SOY -C-252	Introduction to Rural Sociology	4	40	60	4	100
24-SOY -C-253	Introduction to Urban Sociology	4	40	60	4	100
MINOR						
24-SOY-M-254	Social Research Methods	4	40	60	4	100
AEC						
24-SOY -A-255	Popular Culture	02	20	30	02	50
VAC						
24-SOY-V-256	SWAYAM 1. B.A 4th Sem (Sociology): Education for Sustainable Development (3 credit course) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Start date: 19 Jan 2026</li><li>End date: 10 April 2026</li><li>Enrollment ends: 13 Feb 2026</li><li>Language: English</li><li>Link: <a href="https://onlinecourses.nptel.ac.in/noc26_hs58/preview">https://onlinecourses.nptel.ac.in/noc26_hs58/preview</a></li><li>Course Facilitator: Martin Kamodang</li><li>Contact: 9899339451, email- mkamodang@jmil.ac.in</li></ul>	03	30	45	3	75
Total Credits		21	Total Marks		520	
Exit-II UG Diploma (Minimum Credits-87)						

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(Prof. Azra Abidi)  
Head

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सोसियल साइंस / Sociology / Jami  
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## NEP Sociology UG Syllabus for Semester IV

**Social Stratification**  
**B.A. Sociology**  
**Major course**  
**Course Code: 24-SOY-C-251**

**Total Credits: 04**

### **Course Objectives:**

Sociologists recognized that social stratification is a society-wide system that makes inequalities apparent. Stratification is not about individual inequalities, but about systematic inequalities based on group membership, classes, and the like. This course aims to introduce students with the basic concepts and theories of social stratification. Forms of stratification such as caste, class, ethnicity, race, estate and gender will be discussed along with empirical case studies. The paper will cover the nature and forms of social mobility and its significance for understanding the various dimensions of inequalities.

### **Learning outcomes:**

1. The students will be well versed with the major theories and forms of social stratification.
2. They will be able to understand the various aspects of intersecting inequalities and also the reproduction of inequalities.
3. They will be able to understand the current issues related to caste, class, gender and other forms of social stratification.
4. They will be able to develop a critical outlook to various social issues related to stratification and social mobility.

### **Unit-I Understanding Social Stratification**

- 1) Difference, inequality, Hierarchy and social exclusion
- 2) Functionalist, Marxist and conflict approach
- 3) Weberian and Feminist approach

### **Unit-II Forms of Stratification**

- 1) Caste, Class



- 2) Race, Estate
- 3) Ethnicity, Gender

### **Unit-III Social Stratification and Social Mobility**

- 1) Nature and forms of social mobility
- 2) Social mobility in Caste system
- 3) Occupational diversity, Education and class

### **Essential Readings:**

- 1) Ahmad, Imtiaz (Ed.). 1978. Caste and Social stratification among Muslims in India. New Delhi. Manohar publication
- 2) Bendix, R and Lipset, S.M. (Eds.) 1966. Class, Status and Power: Social Stratification in comparative perspective. New York. The free Press.
- 3) Bergel, E.E: 1962, Social stratification. New York. Mcgraw Hill Books Company Inc.
- 4) Beteille, Andre(Eds.)1969, Social Inequality. Harmondsworth. Penguin
- 5) Beteille, Andre 1983. 'Introduction" in A. Beteille (Ed.) Equality and Inequality: Theory and practice. Oxford University Press.
- 6) Bottomore, T.B.1975. Sociology: A guide to problems and Literature. New Delhi. Blackie and son (India )Ltd.(chap.11)
- 7) Cornell, Stephen and Douglas, Hartman. 1998. Ethnicity and Race: Making Identities in a changing world. New Delhi. Pine Forge Press
- 8) Crompton, R and M. Mann (eds.) 1986. Gender and stratification. Cambridge. Polity Press (selective chapters
- 9) Crompton, Rosemary 2013.Class and stratification. Rawat. New Delhi.
- 10) Dahrendorf, R, 1959, Class and Class-conflict in Industrial society. London. Routledge
- 11) Gisbert. P. 2010. Fundamentals of Sociology. Delhi. Orient Blackswan (Chap-13).
- 12) Goldthrope, J.H. 1980. Social mobility and class structure in modern Britain, Oxford, Clarendon Press
- 13) Grusky, David.B, (Eds.)1994. Social Stratification: Class, Race and Gender in sociological perspective. Oxford. Westview press.

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- 14) Gupta, Dipankar (eds.) 1996. Social Stratification. New Delhi. OUP(selected chapters)
- 15) Gupta, D. 2004, Social stratification in Veena Das (Eds.) Hand book of Indian Sociology. Delhi. OUP.
- 16) Lenski, G. 1966, Power and Privilege- A theory of social stratification. New York. McGraw Hill (Chap-5, 6 & 7).
- 17) Oommen, T.K, 1997, Citizenship, Nationality and Ethnicity. Cambridge. Polity Press (Part-I & III).
- 18) Rossides, Danial.W.1997, Social Stratification: The Interplay of class, Race and Gender. New Jersey. Prentice hall. upper saddle river.
- 19) Sharma, K.L, 1994. Social stratification and Mobility. New Delhi. Rawat Publication.
- 20) Sharma, K.L, 1997. Social stratification in India - Issues and theme. New Delhi and London. Sage Publication.
- 21) Sharma, K.L, 2001. Caste, Class and Tribe. New Delhi and Jaipur. Rawat publication.
- 22) Srinivas, M.N., 1997, Caste: Its twentieth century Avatar, New Delhi, Penguin Books Ltd.
- 23) Tumin, M.M.: 1969. Social Stratification. The forms and function of inequality. New Delhi. Prentice Hall of India Pvt, Ltd.

### **Suggested Readings:**

- 1) Balibar, E and Wallerstein. I .1991.Race, Nation, class: Ambiguous Identities. London: Verso
- 2) Brass, Paul. 1991. Ethnicity and Nationalism- Theory and Comparison. New Delhi. Sage Publication.
- 3) Erikson, R and J.H.Goldthrope.1992. The constant flux: A study of class mobility in Industrial societies. Oxford. Clarendon Press
- 4) Glazer, Nathen, 1975, Affirmative Discrimination: Ethnic Inequality and Public Policy. New York. Base Books
- 5) Mills. C. Wright, 1951, White Collor: the American Middle class. New York. OUP
- 6) Ritzer, George(Ed.)2007.Blackwell Encyclopaedia of sociology, Blackwell publication
- 7) Sayyad, Zainuddin. 2003. Islam,social stratification and empowerment of Muslims OBCs.EPW.Nov.15

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8) Singh, Yogendra. 1977. Social stratification and Change in India. New Delhi. Manohar Publication.

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**NEP Sociology UG Syllabus for Semester IV**

**Introduction to Rural Sociology**

**B.A. Sociology**

**Major Course**

**Course Code: 24-SOY-C-252**

**Total Credit: 4**

**Course Objectives:**

The vast majority of Indians reside in villages, where the nature of social interaction and association continues to be rural. During the freedom struggle, the old cliché 'the soul of India lives in its villages' had captured the imagination of common people. However, the dominant idea of Indian villages being 'little republics' or 'self-sufficient,' along with serenity and peaceful co-existence, has been contested and challenged by subsequent scholars. The changing needs and demands of the rural inhabitants are altering the structure and function of the rural institutions. Through a sociological lens, the paper aims to offer a comprehensive understanding of the socio-economic and political reality of Indian villages. The student will have the critical knowledge necessary to analyze the popular perception and empirical realities. It emphasizes the changes and challenges before rural society due to the penetration of the market and state and the deployment of several development programmes.

**Learning Outcomes:**

The paper will enable students to understand the village through different perspectives, and they will be able to make the distinction between myth and reality of Indian villages. Students will gain an understanding of the various social institutions and structures found in rural India, as well as how they have been changing over time. Rural society is also facing multiple challenges, such as unemployment, poverty, inequality, pollution, and development deficiencies. How these challenges are being understood and addressed and what new challenges are arising due to ongoing changes comprise part of learning outcomes.

**Unit I: Understanding Rural Society:**

- Perspectives: Colonial, Gandhian and Subaltern
- The Idea of Indian Village
- Rural Urban Continuum

**Unit II: Social Institutions and Structure:**

  
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- Caste, Class and Tribe
- Economic: Land, Labour & Market
- Political: Panchayat, Authority and Community

### Unit III: Rural Issues and Challenges

- Poverty, Migration and Employment
- Development: Obstacles and Opportunities
- Discontent, Movement and Transformation

### Essential Readings:

1. Abraham, M., & Subramanian, R. (1974). Patterns of Social Mobility and Migration in a Caste Society. *International Review of Modern Sociology*, 4(1), 78-90.
2. Bag, P. (2025). Summer Water Woes in the KBK Region of Odisha: An Intersectional Perspective, *EPW*, Vol.16, pp.66-71.
3. Bardhan, P. (1982). Agrarian class formation in India. *The Journal of Peasant Studies*, 10(1), 73-94.
4. Basu, K. (1983). The Emergence of Isolation and Interlinkage in Rural Markets. *Oxford Economic Papers*, 35(2), 262-280.
5. Baviskar, B. (2002). Including the Excluded: Empowering the Powerless. *Sociological Bulletin*, 51(2), 168-174.
6. Bhatt, W. (2009). The Gender Dimension of Migration in India: The Politics of Contemporary Space in Orissa and Rajasthan. *Development in Practice*, 19(1), 87-93.
7. Bidyut Mohanty. (1995). Panchayati Raj, 73rd Constitutional Amendment and Women. *Economic and Political Weekly (EPW)*, 30(52), 3346-3350.
8. Burman, B. K. R., Singh, Y., Oommen, T. K., Joshi, P. C., & Dube, S. C. (1974). Land Reforms in a Sociological Perspective. *India International Centre Quarterly*, 1(1), 51-68.
9. Chamber, R. (1983). *Rural Development: Putting the Last First*, Harlow, Longman.
10. Dahiwal, S.M, (ed.) (2005). *Understanding Indian Society: The Non-Brahmanic Perspective* (Chapters. 1, 2, 3).
11. Desai, A. (1956). Rural Sociology: Its Need in India. *Sociological Bulletin*, 5(1), 9-28.
12. Deva, S. (1984). Problems of Rural Development in "Green Revolution" Areas. *Social Scientist*, 12(3), 52-59.
13. Dewey, R. (1960). The Rural-Urban Continuum: Real but Relatively Unimportant. *American Journal of Sociology*, 66(1), 60-66.
14. George Mathew. (2003). Panchayati Raj Institutions and Human Rights in India. *EPW*, 38(2), 155-162.
15. Haq, E. (2019). Cultural Construction of Poverty in India. *Indian Anthropologist*, 49(2), 23-40.

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16. Jodha, N. (1995). Common Property Resources and the Environmental Context: Role of Biophysical versus Social Stresses. *EPW*, 30(51), 3278-3283.
17. Jodhka, S. (2014). Emergent Ruralities: Revisiting Village Life and Agrarian Change in Haryana. *EPW*, 49(26/27), 5-17.
18. Judge, P.S. (2021). Ambedkar, Gandhians and the Indian Village, *EPW*, Vol.56, Issues No.12.
19. Kapadia, K. (1997). Mediating the Meaning of Market Opportunities: Gender, Caste and Class in Rural South India. *EPW*, 32(52), 3329-3335.
20. Krishnaji, N. (1990). Land and Labour in India: The Demographic Factor. *EPW*, 25(18/19), 1037-1042.
21. Kundu, A., & Niranjan Sarangi. (2007). Migration, Employment Status and Poverty: An Analysis across Urban Centres. *EPW*, 42(4), 299-306.
22. Mahi Pal. (2004). Caste and Patriarchy in Panchayats. *EPW*, 39(32), 3581-3583.
23. Mander, H. (2013). Reviving Land Reforms? *EPW*, 48(35), 13-15.
24. Metcalf, Thomas R. 1979. Rural Society and British Rule in Nineteenth Century India. *The Journal of Asian Studies*, Vol. 39, Issue. 1.
25. Mukherjee, M. (1988). Peasant Resistance and Peasant Consciousness in Colonial India: "Subalterns" and Beyond. *EPW*, 23(41), 2109-2120.
26. Nielsen, K. B. (2011). Land, Law and Resistance. *EPW*, 46(41), 38-40.
27. Oommen, T.K. (1967). The Rural-Urban Continuum Re-examined in the Indian Context, *Sociologia Ruralis*, Vol.7, No.1, pp 30-48.
28. Pai, S. (2001). Social Capital, Panchayats and Grass Roots Democracy: Politics of Dalit Assertion in Uttar Pradesh. *EPW*, 36(8), 645-654.
29. R. B. Bhagat. (2002). Challenges of Rural-Urban Classification for Decentralised Governance. *EPW*, 37(25), 2413-2416.
30. Radhakrishna, R. & Shovan Ray. (2006). *Handbook of Poverty in India: Perspectives, Policies, and Programmes*. OUP, New Delhi.
31. Ram, N. (1977). Social Mobility and Social Conflict in Rural Uttar Pradesh. *Indian Anthropologist*, 7(2), 111-123.
32. Rao, V. M. (1983). Barriers in Rural Development. *EPW*, 18(27), 1177-1190.
33. Sahai, S. (2006). The Seeds of Discontent. *India International Centre Quarterly*, 33(3/4), 162-171.
34. Sbriccoli, Tommaso (2016), Land, Labour and Power, *EPW*, Vol.51, Issue No.26-27.
35. Shah G., Harsh Mander, S.K. Thorat, Satish Deshpande and Amita Baviskar (2006). *Untouchability in Rural India*, Sage.
36. Simpson, E. (2016). Village Restudies: Trials and Tribulations. *EPW*, 51(26/27), 33-42.
37. SinghaRoy, Debal. (2004). *Peasant Movements in Post-Colonial India: Dynamics of Mobilisation and Identity*, Sage Publications.
38. Srinivas, M.N. & A. M. Shah (1960). The Myth of Self-Sufficiency of the Indian Village, *EPW*, Vol.12.

  
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39. T. N. Krishnan. (1992). Population, Poverty and Employment in India. *EPIW*, 27(46), 2479-2497.
40. Yadav, B. (2009). Khap Panchayats: Stealing Freedom? *EPIW*, 44(52), 16-19.

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B.A. Major Sociology (Semester-IV)  
Sociology, Academic Session -2024-25 onward  
(Major)  
Paper Title- Introduction to Urban Sociology

Paper Code: 24-SOY-C-253

Maximum Marks: 100  
Credit-4

**Course Objectives**

This is an introductory level course on urban sociology. Its objective is to equip the student with the basic concepts to understand the social, economic, culture and political aspects of urban life and also the inter-relationships between them. The students will learn about three key frameworks to explore the urban: the historic and contemporary processes of urbanization and urban growth; and the political economy of global capitalism that has restructured cities throughout the world since the spread of contemporary globalization. Further, the course will cover the themes of socio-spatial inequalities, and growing informalisation and new forms of exclusion and inclusion as a consequence of urban restructuring. The role of state, and non-state actors and other key stakeholders in urban governance will be discussed to understand the politics of urban space. The perspective of the course is comparative and hence case studies will be chosen from India and Other cities across the globe.

**Learning Outcomes:**

At the end of the course, students would be able to understand the social interactions, institutions and practices in urban areas in India and globally. They would be able to appreciate the various complexities and challenges of urbanization and urban growth to the questions of social justice, identity, and citizenship in contemporary cities.

**UNIT-I Framing the 'Urban'**


- Urbanisation and urban growth (origin, nature, development and growth of cities, early and contemporary urbanization, migration and urban growth in the developing world and India)
- Urbanism (urban social life classic urban social theory i.e., Wirth, Simmel)
- New Urban Sociology (the rise of global capitalism, global city,)

**UNIT-II Urban communities and inequalities**

- Neighbourhoods and networks
- Segregation (ghetto, enclave, gated community)
- Informalisation and urban poverty (de-industrialisation, informal economy, slums and squatters)

**UNIT-III Urban culture, identity and contestations**

- Globalisation, and the new middle class
- Urban Governance, citizenship and civic participation
- Politics of urban space

  
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## Essential Readings:

1. Bhowmik, Sharit. (Ed.).2010. *Street Vendors in the Global Urban Economy*. Introduction and any selected case study.
2. Flanagan, W.G. 2011. *Urban Sociology*. Rowman & Little : Lanham. ( 5<sup>th</sup> edition). Indian Reprint by Rawat: New Delhi. Ch.2. 6, 8.
3. Gottdiener, M. 1994. *The New Urban Sociology*. New York: McGraw Hill. Chs. 1,2, 6,7,13,14.
4. Harriss, J., 2007. 'Antinomies of empowerment: observations on civil society, politics and urban governance in India'. *Economic and Political Weekly*, pp.2716-2724.
5. Hubbard, P. 2007 [2006]. *City*. London and New York: Routledge. Ch. 1-3. Pp.1-128.
6. John, Mary-E, Parveen Kumar Jha and Surinder S. Jhodka. (Eds.).2006. *Contested Transformations: Changing Economies and Identities in Contemporary India*. See Section on *The Emergence of the City*, pp. 114-162 and ch by satish Deshpande, pp. 113-124.
7. Kaur, Kulwinder. 2017. 'Urban Segregation and Policy Response: Lessons from Housing Strategies across the Globe', in Indian Journal of Development Research and Social Action, 13:1, pp. 13-130.
8. Le Gates, R.T. and F Stout, eds. 2003. *The City Reader*, London: Routledge. Pp. 1-30, 37-45,69-74, 183-188, 217-231,299-304, 493-498.
9. Lin, Jan. and C.Mele. (Eds.). 2005. *The Urban Sociology Reader*. Oxon and New York: Routledge. Pp. 23-41, 65-81, 134- 143, 230-40, 327-353.
10. McDonogh, G.W. 2003. ' Myth, Space, and Virtue: Bars, Gender, and Change in Barcelona's Barrio Chino' in S.M. Low and D. Lawrence-Zuniga, (eds.), *The Anthropology of Space and Place: Locating Culture*. Malden: Blackwell. Pp. 264-283.
11. Patel, S. 2006. "Introduction" in S. Patel and K. Deb (eds.): *Urban Studies*. Oxford: New Delhi.
12. Sharma, R.N. 2010. ' Mega Transformation of Mumbai: Deepening Enclave Urbanism' in *Sociological Bulletin*. Vol.59. No.1. Jan-April. Pp. 69-91.
13. Singh, B and D. Parthasarathy. 2010. 'Civil Society Organisation Partnerships in Urban Governance: An Appraisal of the Mumbai Experience' in *Sociological Bulletin*, 59 (1): 92-110. Jan-April.
14. Shaw, A.(Ed.). 2007. *The Indian Cities in Transition*. New Delhi: Orient Longman. Selected Chs.
15. Hall, Tim and et.al. 2009. *The Sage Companion to the City*. Selected Chapters. Sage: London and
16. Ruet, Joel and Stephanie Tawa Lama –Rewal. 2009. *Governing India's Metropolises*. Routledge: New Delhi. Ch 1 and selected case studies.

  
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17. R.S.Sandhu and Jasmeet Sandhu. (Eds.). 2010. *Globalizing Cities: Inequalities and Segregation in Developing Countries*. Jaipur: Rawat. Selected chapters.
18. Rewal, S T.L. 2007. 'Neighbourhood Associations and local democracy: Delhi Municipal elections 2007' (Special article), *Economic and Political Weekly*, 42(47):51-60.
19. Vithayathil, T. and Singh, G., 2012. Spaces of discrimination in *Economic & Political Weekly*, 47(37), pp.60-66.

### Suggested Readings :

1. Bhowmik, S.K. 2009. 'Urban Sociology', in Y. Atal (ed.): *Sociology and Social Anthropology in India*. New Delhi: ICSSR. Pp. 237-263.
2. Espinoza, V. 1999. "Social Networks among the Urban Poor: Inequality and Integration in a Latin American City", in Barry Wellman (ed.). *Networks in a Global Village: Life in Contemporary Communities*. Boulder, CO: West view Press, pp. 147-184.
3. Fernandes, Leela. 2004. The Politics of Forgetting : Class politics, State Power and Restructuring of Urban Space in India" in *Urban Studies*. Vol 41. No.12. Pp. 2415-2430.
4. Hansen, T. B. 2001. *Urban Violence in India: Identity, 'Mumbai', and the Postcolonial City*. New.Delhi: Permanent Black, chapter 3.
5. Harriss, J., 2006. Middle-class activism and the politics of the informal working class: A perspective on class relations and civil society in Indian cities. *Critical Asian Studies*, 38(4), pp.445-465.
6. Hubbard, Phil and et.al. 2008. *The Sage Companion to the City*. Sage: New Delhi. Selected chapters.
7. Jayaram, N. 2013. 'The Indian Middle Class and Consumption Culture: Change and Continuity' in Surjit Singh and Surinder S. Jhodka, *Culture and Economic Transformation*, Rawat: New Delhi , Macionis, John J. and V.N. Parillio. 2011. *Cities and Urban Life*. New Delhi: PHI Learning. 5<sup>th</sup> Edition.
8. Kaur, Kulwinder. 1997. 'Urbanism: A Culture Specific and Multi-dimensional Concept of Social Change', in S.K. Sharma and P.S. Judge (Ed.). Dimensions of Social Change: Essays in Honour of Prof. P.N.Pimply, Rawat: Jaipur, pp. 279-296.
9. Khan, Sama et.al. 2018. Mission Impossible: Defining Indian Smart Cities, in *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol. LIII ( 49), pp. 80-88.
10. Macionis, John J. and V.N. Parillio. 2011. *Cities and Urban Life*. New Delhi: PHI Learning. 5<sup>th</sup> Edition.
11. Miles, Malcolm. Et.al. ( Eds.). 2000. *The City Culture Reader*. 2nd edition, Selected chs.

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12. Newirth, Robert. 2005. *Shadow Cities: A Billion Squatters, A New Urban World*. Routledge: London. Ch.on Mumbai.
13. Perera, S. 2011. 'Gated Communities as Packaged Fantasies: A meeting of the Local and the Global and the Standardisation of Taste in urban Sri Lanka' in J. S. Anjaria and C. McFarlane, (eds.). *Urban Navigations: Politics, space and the city in South Asia. (Cities and the Urban Imperative: Series Editor, Sujata Patel)*. New Delhi: Routledge. Pp. 239-264.
14. Spodek, Howard. 2018. Recent Perspectives on Urbanisation: Ahmedabad Stories, in *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol. LIII (9), pp. 89-97.

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**NEP Sociology UG Syllabus for Semester IV**

**Social Research Methods**

**BA Sociology**

**Minor Course**

**Course Code: 24-SOY-M-254**

**Total Credits : 04**

**Course Description:**

Social research methods broadly speaking comprise of qualitative and quantitative approaches to investigate social phenomena. Unit I deals with understanding social phenomena from sociological perspectives and common sense. It focuses on the distinctiveness of objectivity and subjectivity and how they complement one another in making sense of the social world. This unit primarily spotlights the scientific knowledge production in sociology and introduces how to formulate research designs such as exploratory, descriptive and explanatory research.

In unit II, students will learn the various tools and techniques employ for data collection such as selecting sampling, construct research questions and interview schedules largely within the epistemological framework of quantitative and qualitative philosophy.

Unit III deals with the techniques of data processing, analyzing and report writing.

**Course Objectives:**

The course is designed for the undergraduate students emphasizing on approaches and the tools and techniques used to study social phenomena. This course will train them to understand scientific knowledge and to critically observe the process of knowledge production in social sciences. The main objectives are:

To sensitize students with the ethical concerns in conducting research.

To create awareness of what is regarded as acceptable knowledge in the discipline.

To train students on how to generate research questions, use appropriate research design, and handle tools and techniques for data collection and analysis of the same.

**Learning Outcomes:**


After completing the course the students should be able to:

Formulate research questions.

Practice observation and conduct interviews.

Carry out small research project.

To present their researched views in the form of a research report.

  
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## UNIT-I: Understanding Social Research:

Sociology and common sense  
Research Questions and Literature Review  
Research Design

## UNIT-II: Tools and Methods of Data Collection

Sampling: Random and Non Random  
Quantitative (Survey Method) and Qualitative Methods ( Case Study, Participant Observation and Ethnography)  
Social Research and Digital Age

## UNIT-III: Analysis of Data and Report writing

Data cleaning and editing  
Tabulation and graphic representation of data  
Report writing

### Essential Readings:

1. Alasuutari, Pertti (1998) *An Invitation to Social Research* Publication Ltd. London, New Delhi.
2. Babbie, Earl (2006) *The Practice of Social Research*, Wadsworth Publishing
3. Bauman, Zygmunt and May, Tim (2001) *Thinking Sociologically* Willey Blackwell.
4. Beteille, Andre, (1996), *Sociology and Common Sense*, EPW Vol. 31, Special Number, No. 35/37, pp.2361-2365.
5. Bryman, Alan 2009 *Social Research Methods*, Oxford University press, New York.
6. Dumez, Herve', (2015), What is a Case, and What is a Case Study? BMS: Bulletin of Sociological Methodology, No. 127, pp. 43-57, Sage Publication Ltd.
7. Gilbert, Nigel ed(1997) *Researching Social Life*, Sage Publication Ltd, London, New Delhi
8. Harding, G. Sandra (1977) *Does Objectivity in Social Science Require Value-Neutrality?* Sounding: An Interdisciplinary Journal, Vol. 60, No. 4, The Human Sciences in Human Perspective, pp. 351-366, Penn State University Press
9. Kundu, Abhijit (2009) *The Social Science: Methodology and Perspectives*, Pearson Delhi.
10. Marvasti, B. Amir (2004) *Qualitative Research in Sociology*, Sage Publications
11. May, Tim and Williams, Malcolm (1998) *Knowing the Social World Open*, University Press, Buckingham Philadelphia

  
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12. Marres, N and E. Weltevreden (2012), "Scraping the Social? Issues in Live Research", Journal of Cultural Economy.
13. Taylor C. Carl, (1947), *Sociology and Common Sense*, American Sociological Review, Vol. 12, No. 1.

### Suggested Reading

1. Berger Peter, L. (1963) *An Invitation to Sociology*, Anchor Books, Double day Publishing group, New York.
2. Plumer, Ken (2016) *Sociology the Basics*, Routledge London UK.
3. Seltiz Clair atall (1993) *Research Methods in Social Relations*, Holt, Rinehart and Winston, New York, Shikago & Toronty.

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## NEP Sociology UG Syllabus for Semester IV

### **Popular Culture**

Ability Enhancement Course (AEC)

Department of Sociology

Course Code: 24-SOY-A-255

**Total Credits: 2**

### **Course Description**

This course introduces students to the sociological study of popular culture as a key dimension of contemporary social life. It examines how popular cultural forms—such as television, cinema, advertising, OTT platforms, and digital media—shape meanings, identities, values, and everyday practices. The course aims to develop essential life skills including critical thinking, media literacy, interpretation, and creativity, enabling students to engage critically and reflectively with media and cultural texts encountered in daily life.

### **Course Objectives**


The course aims to:

- Develop critical thinking and media literacy skills relevant to contemporary popular culture.
- Introduce key sociological concepts and debates related to culture, ideology, identity, and globalization.
- Enable students to analyse popular cultural forms and media texts in their social and cultural contexts.
- Encourage reflective, informed, and responsible consumption of media and digital content.

### **Course Outcomes**

On successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

- Distinguish between different forms of culture and explain their sociological significance.
- Apply basic sociological concepts to interpret popular media and digital content.

  
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- Identify representations and stereotypes related to gender, caste, religion, and region in popular culture.
- Demonstrate media awareness and critical consumption practices in everyday life.

## Unit I: Understanding Popular Culture

- Conceptual distinctions: popular culture, mass culture, and folk culture
- High culture and low culture: debates, critiques, and changing boundaries
- Forms of popular culture:
  - Television
  - Cinema
  - OTT platforms
  - Social media

## Unit II: Media Literacy and Critical Consumption

- Audiences and the politics of cultural consumption
- Representation and stereotypes of identity:

Gender  
Caste  
Religion  
Region

- Digital culture and everyday life:

Impact of digital media on social relationships  
Identity formation in online spaces  
Platforms, influencers, and memes

- Indian popular culture and everyday life:

Advertising, cinema, and contemporary digital trends


## Reading List:

### Core Readings

#### Unit I

- Williams, Raymond. *Keywords: A Vocabulary of Culture and Society*. (Entries on "Culture" and "Popular")
- Storey, John. *Cultural Theory and Popular Culture: An Introduction*. Selected chapter(s).
- Hall, Stuart. "Notes on Deconstructing the Popular."


#### Unit II

  
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- Hall, Stuart. "The Work of Representation." (Excerpts)
- Appadurai, Arjun. "Disjuncture and Difference in the Global Cultural Economy." (Excerpts)

Assessment Modes and Evaluation (Aligned with NEP-2020 AEC emphasis on skill-based and continuous assessment):

Student evaluation will be based on a media diary, a critical analysis of an advertisement or media text, a sociological critique of a meme or digital content, and active class participation through discussions and screenings, to ensure continuous and applied learning.

  
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