

Core Course - 201 THEORETICAL PERSPECTIVES IN SOCIOLOGY

Objectives :

This course is intended to introduce the students to the substantive, theoretical and methodological issues which have shaped the sociological thinking in the latter half of 20th century, and which continue to concern the practitioners of sociology, today. The main focus of this course will be on structure, functional & conflict theories and phenomenology, ethnomethodology and neomarxism.

Course Outline :

Unit - 1 Structural Function

The idea of social structure : A. R. Radcliffe - Brown - The problems of role analysis : S. F. Nadel - Functional dimensions to social system : T. Parsons - Condification, critique and reformulation of function analysis : R. K. Merton

Unit - 2 Conflict Theory

Marx critique and dialectics of conflict : R. Dahrendorf Functional analysis of conflict : L. Coser - Conflict and Social change : R. Collins.

Unit - 3 The Critical theory and new Marxist

The Frankfurt School - Lifeworld and system : J. Habermas Structuralism Marxism : L. Althusser - Hegemony : A. Gramsci.

Unit - 4 Interactionism Perspective

Phenomenological Sociology : A. Schutz - Social construction of reality : P. Berger and T. G. Luckman - Ethnomethodology : H. Garfinkel.

Unit - 5 Recent trends in sociological theorising

Structuration : Anthony Giddens - Habitus and field : Bourdieu
-Postmodernism - Semiotics - Convergence. Theory of deconstruction
-Lakatos.

Recommended Books :

- Alexander, Jaffrey C. 1987 twenty lectures : Sociological theory since world war II. New York Columbia University Press.
- Bottomore, Tom. 1984. The frankfurt School chelster, Sussex : Ellis Horwood and London : Tavistock Publications.
- Craib, Ian. 1992 Modern social theory : From Parsons to habermas (2nd Edition) London : Harvester Press.
- Collins, Randall 1997 (Indian Edition), Sociological theory, Jaipur and New Delhi : Rawat.
- Giddens, Anthony, 1983. Central problems in social theory : Action, structure and contradictions in social analysis, London : MacMillan.
- Kuper, Adam. 1975. Anthropologist and anthropology : The British School, 1922-72.
- Kuper, Adam and Jessica Kuper (eds.) 1996 (2nd Edition). The social science encyclopedia. London and New York : Routledge.
- Ritzer, George 1992 (3rd edition) Sociological theory, New York : MacGraw-Hill.
- Sturrock, John (ed.) 1979. Structuralism and since : From Levi Strauss to Derrida. Oxford : Oxford University Press.
- Turner, Jonathan H. 1995 (4th Edition). The structure of sociological theory. Jaipur and New Delhi : Rawat
- Zeitlin. Irving M. 1998 (Indian edition). Rethinking sociology : A critique of contemporary theory. Jaipur and New Delhi : Rawat