



Birla Institute of Technology & Science, Pilani
Hyderabad Campus

SECOND SEMESTER 2021-2022

Course Handout Part II

Date: 15-01-2022

In addition to part-I (General Handout for all courses appended to the time table) this portion gives further specific details regarding the course.

Course No. : HSS F369
Course Title : Caste and Gender in India
Instructor-in-Charge : Shilpaa Anand

Scope and Objective of the Course:

Caste and gender are social, cultural, political entities that shape individual and collective ways of being. This course will enable students to comprehend and reflect on the interconnectedness and intersectionality of caste and gender in the Indian context. An understanding of the nexus of gender and caste may offer insights into the ways in which it shapes and constitutes a person's identity and subjectivity. Students will learn theories related to caste as a category and as a concept while studying about the emergence and continuing presence of caste based discrimination in contemporary times. Theories of gender as well as the intersectionality of gender and caste in feminist discourse will be the focus of the course. The course will also introduce students' life writing and performance that act as expressions of resistance to gender-based and caste-based oppression.

Textbooks:

1. *Gendering Caste: Through a Feminist Lens*. Uma Chakravathy. Stree, 2018.

Reference books

1. *Caste and Gender in Contemporary India: Power, Privilege and Politics*. Edited by Supurna Banerjee and Nandini Ghosh. Routledge, 2019.
2. *Writing Caste / Writing Gender Reading Dalit Women's Testimonies*. Sharmila Rege. Zubaan, 2006.
3. *Annihilation of Caste*. Dr. B. R. Ambedkar
4. *We Also Made History: Women in the Ambedkarite Movement*. Meenakshi Moon and Urmila Pawar. Zubaan, 2008.
5. *Thinking Women: A Feminist Reader*. Navaneeta Mokkil and Shefali Jha. Stree, 2019.
6. *Caste: Oxford India Short Introductions*. Surinder Jodhka. Oxford, 2012.
7. *The Caste Question: Dalits and the Politics of Modern India*. Anupama Rao. Permanent Black, 2011.



Course Plan:

Lecture No.	Learning objectives	Topics to be covered	Chapter in the Text Book
1-4	Comprehend the scope and objectives of the course as well as the key concepts	Introduction to the Course; Key Concepts - Caste and Gender	TB: Chapter 1 and 2; Relevant sections from RB-3, RB-5, RB-6
5-10	Comprehend and explain theories of intersectionality	Caste, class and gender intersections	TB: Chapter 3 RB-1 and RB-4: Relevant sections
11-15	Review cultural expressions of resistance to caste and gender hierarchies	Dalit women's writing; fictional and autobiographical texts; Poetry and performance; Oppositional narratives to caste oppression	RB-2 and RB-5: Relevant sections
16- 22	Explain different theories of caste and gender; Analyze the interconnections between caste and the political system	Materialist and religious theories; Caste Ideologies Key Concepts: Subjectivity and Identity	RB-1 and RB-7: Select articles
23- 28	Describe the legal protections explicated in anti-discrimination laws and policies	Legal Interventions against caste-based and gender-based discrimination and concepts of equality and justice	Select articles
29 - 32	Discuss patriarchal structures and control of female sexuality; comprehend how patriarchy and caste privilege constitute each other	Gender construction within castes; graded patriarchies with emphasis on Brahmanical patriarchy	TB: Chapters 4 and 5
33- 36	Discuss pre-colonial and postcolonial	Caste and Gender in India: Historical insights	TB: Chapters 7 and 8
37-39	Discuss contemporary phenomena in relation to theories of caste, gender and their intersectionality; Discuss the impact of caste identities in the educational & corporate sectors	Caste and Gender in contemporary India – Analysis and reflection of stories in the news media	TB: Chapter 9; RB-5: relevant entries; Select articles
40	Discuss course material	Course overview	

Evaluation Scheme:

Component	Duration	Weightage (%)	Date & Time	Nature of Component
Assignment 1	Take Home	15	TBA	Open Book
Mid Semester Exam	90 Minutes	30	14/03 9.00am to 10.30am	Closed Book
Assignment 2	In-Class	15	TBA	Open Book
Comprehensive Exam	120 Minutes	40	21/05 FN	Closed Book

Chamber Consultation Hour: To be announced in class and on CMS

Notices: Notices concerning the course will be displayed on CMS or other online teaching platform as notified.

Make-up Policy: Make-up exams and make-up assignments will be granted due to medical reasons if students have prior clearance from institute authorities and if students have informed the instructor beforehand. If a student has an extraordinary situation that does not allow him/her to appear/ for the examination/submit an assignment, the student is responsible for intimating the matter to the instructor at the earliest.

Academic Honesty and Integrity Policy:

Academic honesty and integrity are to be maintained by all students throughout the semester and no type of academic dishonesty is acceptable.

Shilpaa Anand

INSTRUCTOR-IN-CHARGE

