

HS 307 S2: Introduction to Sociology

Autumn Semester -2023

When? Monday (10:35 am-11:30 am)

Tuesday (11:35 am – 12:30 pm)

Thursday (08:30 am – 09:25 am)

Where? LH 102

Instructor: Prof. Raile R. Ziipao (ziipao@iitb.ac.in)

Office hour: Monday and Thursday (14:00 – 15:30 pm)

Course Grading

- Quiz 1 (MCQ) - 10 % (**28 August 2023**)
- Mid Semester Exam (MCQ + Descriptive) - 40 %
- End Semester Exam (MCQ + Descriptive) - 50 %

House Rules/information

- **Zero tolerance policy** against any form of discrimination or harassment (casteism, racism, sexism, ageism, homophobia, bullying peers, person with disabilities, religious discrimination, among others).
- Attendance is required. The question papers will be geared towards rewarding those attending classes and working with the readings
- All readings will be made available on **Moodle**.
- My office hour is every Monday and Thursday (**14-15:30 hrs.**). You can drop in to my office without any appointment in this time slot to discuss anything about **HS 307 S1** (clarification/doubts on concepts, difficulty in understanding, grading, exam, among others). I would appreciate if you could drop in one line of e-mail but this is not mandatory.
- Please let me know if there is/are any person with disability and accessibility request to this course. Confidentiality will be ensured.

Course Description

Introduction to sociology will introduce students to the basic concepts of sociology. It will examine the basic features of sociology and its interplay with the society and enable students to approach social problems by first understanding what is 'social'. The course is designed to equip students with an in-depth understanding of the relationship between self and society, individual versus social, public versus private etc. This course intends to develop sociological skills of analysis and interpretation and spark an interest in sociological perspectives and sociological interpretation of the world around us. It also introduces the idea of India to the students to enable them to understand Indian society.

Aims and Objectives of the Course

This course aims to build an embedded theoretical approach for understanding society in all its complexities. It will situate the foundational values of culture and society. On completion of the course, it is expected that the students will be better-equipped to contextualise the multiple lives, issues and imperatives of Indian society (caste and non-caste)

and will be able to engage in more meaningful ways. For the engineers-to-be of modern India, this course will enable a deeper dive into understanding society and culture. On completion of the course, student will hone their skill on contextualising, identifying, analysing and build sensitivities towards any society and people from the margin.

Pedagogy

The course will follow a non-traditional pedagogy where students will be encouraged to think freely and creatively about problems and solutions from their chosen disciplinary background.

Course Outline

Week 1: Sociological imagination and invitation to sociology

Week 2: What did the founding fathers (big gurus) say? (Emile Durkheim)

Week 3: What did the founding fathers (big gurus) say? (Karl Marx))

Week 4: What did the founding fathers (big gurus) say? (Max Weber)

Week 5: Understanding caste society

Week 6: Understanding non-caste society

Week 7: Social stratification and social change

Week 8: Why and how gender matters?

Week 9: What can food tell us about society and discrimination

Week 10: Modernity and (under)development for whom?

Week 11: Infrastructuring society

Week 12: Why do people protest?

Week 13: Love, relationship, marriage and family

Week 14: Collective reflections

Wish you all a very fruitful semester