



SECOND SEMESTER 2020-21
COURSE HANDOUT

Date: 17.01.2021

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 : GS F231
Course Title : Dynamics of Social Change
Instructor : SUNITA RAINA

1. Course Description:

This course explores how and why societies change over time, and to what effects. The dynamic process of social change has been theorized by sociologists for long. The course draws on their thought to understand various aspects of change 'in' and 'of' social structures, both in time and space.

2. Scope and Objective of the Course:

In this course, we will discuss the concept, theories, processes and consequences of social change. While the focus will be on the study of social change in general, the course will pay adequate attention to specific issues related to social change in India.

3. Text Book:

Abraham, Francis M. 2015. *Contemporary Sociology: An Introduction to Concepts and Theories*. Second Edition. New Delhi: Oxford University Press.

4. Reference Book:

Singh, Yogendra. 1993. *Social Change in India: Crisis and Resilience*. New Delhi: Har-Anand Publications.

5. Course Plan:

Module Number	Lecture Sessions	Text Book and Reference material	Learning Outcome
1. Concept of 'social change.'	Social Change as a distinct concept; Social change as a dynamic process; 'Change in structure' and 'Change of structure.'	Relevant chapters	Understanding the meaning of social change
2. Existing theories of social change.	Sociological Theory; Theories of Social Change--- Evolutionary, Structural-functionalist, and Conflict theories.	Relevant chapters	Learning the ideas of prominent sociological thinkers on social



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	Ideas on social change by the founding fathers of Sociology--- Auguste Comte; Karl Marx, Emile Durkheim and Max Weber.		change. Understanding their explanation on society and how it changes over time.
3. State as an important agent of social change.	Idea of State; State and Nation; Law and social change; State and Economy; Corporate globalization and its effects;	Relevant chapters	Understanding the meaning of 'state' and identifying its role in changing a society
4. Social stratification and social mobility	Caste System; Sanskritization; Change in the status of SCs, STs and Other Backward Classes	Relevant chapters	Recognizing the complexity of the caste system. Understanding the changes in the caste system.
5. Rural and Urban social transformation	Urbanization; Rural Migration; Urbanism as a way of Life;	Relevant chapters	Understanding the complex process of urbanization and its effects on the social fabric.
6. Recent trends in Religion	Elements of religion; Social Functions of religion; Secularization; Resacralization; Fundamentalism	Relevant chapters	Learning about the significance of religion in society. Understanding how the institution of religion has undergone changes over time.
7. Link between education and social change	Functions of education; Inequality in education; Changes in education system.	Relevant chapters	Understanding the role of education in social change. Learning about the mutual shaping of education and society.



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8. Relationship between social movements and social change	Meaning of social movement; Types of Social Movements; Theories of social movement; Life-span of Social Movement; Social movements and change--- Environmental movement; Women's Movement; Caste-oriented movement	Relevant chapters	Understanding how social movements stimulate and spearhead social change.
9. Contradictions and challenges of social change in India	Indian 'model' of social transformation; Crisis and Resilience.	Relevant chapters	Understanding the major consequences of social change in India.

6. Evaluation Scheme:

Evaluation Component	Weightage (%)	Duration (Minutes)	Date of Evaluation
Mid-semester Test	35	90	Will be announced by AUGSD-AGSRD
Other Evaluation Components	25	As desired by the Instructor	Evenly spaced throughout the semester (To be completed ten days before the last day of classwork)
Comprehensive Examination	40	120	Will be announced by AUGSD-AGSRD

7. Notices: Notices concerning the course will be communicated to students through email.

8. Make-up Policy: For the components of the evaluation, makeup will be allowed on the basis of documented proof to support the case. If you have a medical emergency, provide copies of the appropriate paperwork to your instructor as soon as you can. Missing a due date or simply getting behind is not a valid reason.

9. Note (if any): Please be aware that cutting and pasting from websites is considered plagiarism. Students are advised to document all sources. If you are not sure that you need to document a source, then please ask the instructor. Any hint of plagiarism in an assignment will fetch a zero.

10. Consultation Hour: TBA, or by prior appointment.

Instructor-in-charge
Sunita Raina