


Department of Sociology
Jamia Millia Islamia
New Delhi-110025

Course Work Curriculum for Ph.D. Semester-I
Session-2026
(Batch-2025-26)

S.No.	Course Code	Title Paper	Marks	Examination Hour	Credit
1	Ph.D.- SO-01	Contemporary Debates in Social Theory	100	3	4
2	Ph.D.- SO-02	Advance Social Research Methods	100	3	4
3	Ph.D.- SO-04	Term Paper* Or Annotated Bibliography*	50		2
4	Ph.D.- SO-05	Research and Publication Ethics	50		2

*To be decided by the student in consultation with the supervisor.


07/11/26

(Prof. Azra Abidi)
Head

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Contemporary Debates in Social Theory

M. Phil. /Ph.D., Semester I

Total Credits: 4

Course Objectives:

The course focuses on the debates on major theoretical themes in the contemporary world. It engages with central sociological perspectives and emerging world orders: post-industrialism, post-colonialism, postmodernism, globalization, networks and mobility. The shift from modernity to globality is a key transition at the epicenter of social inquiry that gets expressed in many specific social and intellectual contexts: temporal as well as spatial; epistemological as well as ontological. The discourses and critiques on the key concepts and contexts are discussed with fresh questioning and insights. In the wake of post-societal and post-human developments in science and technology, the notions of time, time-space compression and everyday life can be put to test. Similarly, the manifestation of violence can be traced in the war on global terror, ecology, food crisis and climate change, inter-sectionality of gender, speed and new mobilities. The issues of identity can be explored through the emerging discourse on body, sexuality, space or networks. The study of social relationships and communities may be looked from the precincts of local and global, national and transnational, real and virtual to be explored afresh from the theoretical frames of public-private. The last unit will revisit the theoretical and philosophical debates on utopia as a reaction to the increasing cultures of violence and domination. These theoretical debates on the said themes represent a selection in relation to which most contemporary theories can be understood.

Learning Outcomes:

1. To enhance the ability to discuss and analyze contemporary sociological theoretical debates.
2. To have the capacity for critical reflection on micro and macro levels of sociological analysis and their interrelations.
3. To have an in-depth knowledge of selected contemporary sociological theories and debates.

UNIT I: Emerging World Orders: Discourses and Critiques

- Post-Industrialism
- Post-Colonialism
- Globalization, Networks and Mobility

UNIT II: Dilemma, Ambivalence and Contradictions

- Identities and Representations
- Dissenting Voices
- Individual and the Collective

UNIT: III Cultures of Domination: Responses and Alternatives

- Violence: Structures and Processes
- Negotiating Skepticism and Trust
- Hope and Utopia

Essential Readings for Unit I:

1. Wallerstein, Immanuel. (2004). *World Systems Analysis: An Introduction*. Duke University Press.
2. Bell, D. (1976). *The Coming of the Post-Industrial Society: A Venture In Social Forecasting*. With A New Intro by The Author. Basic Books Incorporated.
3. Held, D., McGrew, A., Goldblatt, D., & Perraton, J. (2000). *Global Transformations: Politics, Economics and Culture*. In politics at the edge (pp. 14-28). Palgrave Macmillan UK.
4. Gayatri Spivak, (1999). *A Critique of Postcolonial Reason*. Harvard University Press
5. Urry, J. (2012). *Sociology Beyond Societies: Mobilities for The Twenty-First Century*. Routledge.
6. Manuel Castells, (ed). (2004). *The Network Society: A Cross Cultural Perspective*.
7. Sassen, Saskia. (2007). *A Sociology of Globalization*. W. W. Norton & Company, Inc.

Essential Readings for Unit II:

1. Jenkins, Richard. (1994). *Social Identity*. Routledge (Key Idea series).
2. Giddens, A. (1991). *Modernity and Self-Identity: Self and Society in The Late Modern Age*. Stanford University Press.
3. Calhoun, Craig. (1994). *Social Theory and Politics of Identity*. Blackwell.
4. Arendt, Hannah. (2013). *The Human Condition*. University of Chicago Press.
5. Bauman, Zygmunt. (1991). *Modernity and Ambivalence*. Polity Press.
6. Gayatri Spivak. (1998). "Can The Subaltern Speak?" (Article).
7. Sennett, Richard. (1992). *The Fall of Public Man*. WW Norton & Company.
8. Habermas, J. (1991). *The Structural Transformation of the Public Sphere: An Enquiry into A Category of the Bourgeois Society*. MIT press.

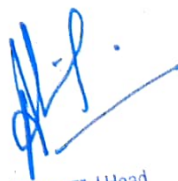
Essential Readings for Unit III:

1. Arendt, Hannah. (1970). *On Violence*. New York: Harcourt Books.
2. Bloch, Ernst. (1986). *The Principle of Hope*. Massachusetts: MIT Press.
3. Lovett, Frank. (2010). *A General Theory of Domination and Justice*. OUP: Oxford.
4. Agamben, G. 2005. *State and Exception*. University of Chicago Press.
5. Warren, Mark. (1999). *Democracy and Trust*. Cambridge University Press.
6. Turner, C. (2010). *Investigating Sociological Theory*. Sage Publications (chap. 6 and 7).
7. Levitas, R. (1990). *The Concept of Utopia*. Syracuse, NY: Syracuse University Press. (chap. 2,3 and 4).
8. Jacobson, M.H. & Tester, K. (2012). *Utopia: Social Theory and Future*. Routledge (selected chapters).
9. Zizek, Slavoj. (2008). *Violence: Six Sideways Reflections*. Picador, New York.

Suggested Readings:

1. Aillen O Carroll. (2015). *Working Time, Knowledge Work and Post Industrial Society*. (Illustrative).
2. Bermudez, Jose Manual Sanchez. (2012). *Neoliberal Patterns of Domination*. Brill: Leiden, Boston. (Illustrative).

- 32
3. Fraser, Nancy. (2007). "Transnationalizing the Public Sphere". *Theory, Culture and Society*. Sage. Vol. 24 (4): 7-30.
 4. Mannheim, K. 1940. *Ideology and Utopia*.
 5. Robinson, W. I. (2009). *Saskia Sassen and The Sociology of Globalisation: A Critical Appraisal*. Orfalea Centre for Global & International Studies. (Illustrative).
 6. Sharpe, P Joanne et al. (2000). *Entanglements of Power: Geographies of Dominations and Resistance*. New York: Routledge. (selected chapters as illustrations).
 7. Swedberg, Richard. (2016). "Before Theory Comes Theorizing or How to Make Social Science More Interesting". *British Journal of Sociology*. 67 (1): 5-22.
 8. Waters, M. (1995). *Globalization*, Routledge, London.


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Advanced Social Research Methods

Ph. D. Sociology, Semester-I

Maximum Marks: 100
Credits: 04

Course Objectives:

This course entails introduction to the philosophy and practice of social science research and will cover key topics such as the assumptions of scientific inquiry, the conceptualization of research problems, qualitative and quantitative approaches, basic statistical analysis and computer assisted statistical analysis with SPSS. Essentially, this course will provide a foundation for writing Ph.D. thesis. Students will learn the skill of producing plagiarism. The main objective of the course is to provide students with a general understanding of the principles of social scientific research methods.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Students will be able to undertake their own research projects.
2. They will be able to develop sociological research questions, empirical investigation and the relevant data collection tools and techniques used to generates answers.
3. They will be able to identify the component parts of a study's design.
4. They will be able to critically evaluate research conducted by others.
5. They will be sensitive to ethical issues to work with different populations.

Unit-I

Researching Social Phenomena

- 1) Logic and ethics of social inquiry
- 2) Understanding Qualitative and Quantitative methodologies
- 3) Triangulation

Unit -II

Methods of Data Collection

- 1) Operationlization of concepts
- 2) Fieldwork, Observation, Ethnography
- 3) Survey, NSSO, Census

10/7/25
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Unit-III

Data Analysis and Presentation (to be conducted in a workshop mode)

- 1) Qualitative data analysis using softwares (e.g. Ethnograph)
- 2) SPSS, Statistical techniques for data analysis
- 3) Interpretation of data and report writing

Essential Readings:

1. Babbie, E.R and Lucia Benaquisto. 2009. Fundamentals of social research (2nd edition) Toronto. ON. Nelson
2. Brewer, John.2005. Ethnography. Buckingham. Open university press
3. Bryman, A. 2007. Social Research Methods (3rd edition). Oxford. Oxford University Press.
4. Bryman, A. 1984.The debate about Quantative and Qualitative research: A Question of method or epistemology? *British Journal of Sociology*.Vol.35
5. Bryman,A.2006.Integrating quantative and qualitative research: how is it done? *Qualitative research*.Vol.06.No.1.Sage
6. Bulmer, M. 2001.Social measurement: what stands in its way?. *Social research*. Vol.68.No.02.New York school for social research
7. Bulmer,M.1980.Why don't sociologist make more use of the official statistics? *Sociology*.Vol.14.No.4
8. Burgess,Robert.1980.Qualitative and Quantative social research : papers in honour of Paul.F.Lazarsfeld.*Sociology*.Vol.14.Sage
9. Cannell,Charles.F,Peter.V.Miller and Lois Oksenberg.1981.Research on interviewing techniques. *Socioicgical methodology*.Vol.12
10. Cargan,Leonard.2007.Doing social research. Marryland USA.Rowman and Littlefield publishers
11. Cooper, Matthew.1980. More on 'Epistemological implication of fieldwork. *American Anthropologist*.New series.Vol.82.No.02. June 80. In Memoriam Margret Mead (1901-1978)
12. Cornman,James .W.1971.Observing and what it entails. *Philosophy of science*.Vol.38.No.03.sept.
13. Denzin, N.K. and Y.Lincoln (eds.) 2005. Handbook of Qualitative Research (3rd Edition). Thousand Oaks. CA. Sage.

14. Ewing, Kathrine Pratt. 1981. Revealing and concealing- Interpersonal dynamics and the negotiation of identity in the interview. *Ethos*. Vol. 34. No. 1
15. Gilbert, N. 2002. *Researching Social Life* (2nd edition). London Sage
16. Guppy, Neil and George Yodanis. 2008. *Qualitative research: method and practice*. 4th edition). Toronto. Tomson Nelson.
17. Hamel, J. S. Dufour and D. Forti. 1993. *Case Study Method*. London. Sage
18. Hammel, E. A. 1980. The comparative method in Anthropological perspective. *Comparative studies in society and history*. Vol. 22. No. 2. April
19. Hastrup, Kristen. 1990. The ethnographic present: A reinvention. *Cultural Anthropology*. Vol. 05. No. 01
20. Henry, Gary. T. 1990. *Practical sampling*. London. Sage
21. Jenkins, Timothy. 1994. Field work and the perception of everyday life. *Man*. New Series. Vol. 29. No. 02
22. Krippendorff, K. 2004. *Contents Analysis: An introduction to its methodology*. London. Sage
23. Long, J. Scott. 1987. Introduction to common problems in qualitative social research: A special issue of sociological methods and research. *Sociological Research*. Vol. 16.
24. Marsh, C. 1982. *The survey method: The contribution of surveys Sociological Expiation*. London. Unwin Hyman
25. Marvasti, Amir. 2004. *Qualitative research in sociology*. New York. Sage publication
26. Oberdan, Thomas. 1990. Positivism and pragmatic theory of observation. PSA proceedings of the binnual meeting of the philosophy of science association. Vol. 01
27. Pallant, Julie. 2016. *SPSS survival manual*. USA. Mc Graw Hills
28. Parker, Andrew and Jonathan Titter. 2006. Focus group method and methodology. Current practices and recent debates. *International Journal of research & method in education*. Vol. 29 No. 01
29. Srivastava, Vinay Kumar (ed.). 2004. *Methodology and fieldwork*. India. Oxford University Press.

Suggested Readings:

- 1) Benton, Ted and Ian Craib. 2010. *Philosophy of social science: The philosophical foundation of social thought*. UK. Macmillan.

- 2) Onwuegbuzie, A & Leech, N. L. 2005. On becoming a pragmatic researcher: The importance of combining qualitative and quantitative research methodologies. *International Journal of social research methodologies*. Vol.8. No.5. Taylor and Francis.
- 3) Stewart, D and P. Shamdasani, 1990. Focus Group – Theory and Practice, London, Sage.
- 4) Thomas, Nicholas.1991. Against ethnography. *Cultural Anthropology*. Vol.06.No. 3
- 5) Walliman, Nicholas.2011. Research methods- The basics. London and New York. Routledge



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