



HIMACHAL PRADESH NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY, SHIMLA

SEMESTER- IV

B.A. LL.B. (Hons.)

PAPER CODE: BL-406S

COURSE TITLE: Sociological Theories and Perspectives

CREDITS-04

A-COURSE-CONTENT

MODULE I EVOLUTIONARY PERSPECTIVE

- 1.1.Modern Social Thought and Emergence of Sociological Theory
- 1.2.Development of Sociological Thought: Modernism to Postmodernism
- 1.3.Auguste Comte: Law of Three Stages, Hierarchy of Sciences, Social Statics and Social Dynamics, Positivism
- 1.4.Herbert Spencer: Theory of Evolution, Organic Analogy, Survival of the Fittest, Classification of Societies
- 1.5.Pitirim Sorokin: Social and Cultural Dynamics

MODULE II FUNCTIONALISM AND STRUCTURALISM

- 2.1. Emile Durkheim: Theory of Suicide, Division of Labor, Collective Representations
- 2.2. Talcott Parsons: Theory of Social Action, AGIL, Pattern Variables
- 2.3. Robert K. Merton: Theories of Middle Range, Theory of Anomie, Manifest and Latent Functions
- 2.4. Bronislaw Malinowski: Theory of Culture
- 2.5. Levi Strauss: Structuralism

MODULE III CONFLICT PERSPECTIVE

- 3.1. Karl Marx: Historical Materialism, Dialectics, Alienation, Surplus Value, Religion
- 3.2. Ralf Dahrendorf: Dialectical Conflict Theory
- 3.3. Randall Collins: Towards a More Integrated Conflict Theory
- 3.4. Lewis Coser: Functions of Conflict
- 3.5. Antonio Gramsci: Theory of Hegemony

MODULE IV

INTERACTIONISM AND POST-MODERN SCHOOLS OF THOUGHT

- 4.1. Max Weber: Social Action, The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism
- 4.2. Erving Goffman: The Presentation of Self in Everyday Life
- 4.3. Post-modernism: Distinctive Features
- 4.4. Post-structuralism: Distinctive Features
- 4.5. Neo-Marxism: Distinctive Features

PRESCRIBED READINGS

- 1) Coser, L.A. (2010). *Masters of Sociological Thought*, New Delhi: Rawat Publications.
- 2) Cuff, E.C., Sharrock, W.W. and Francis, D.W. (2009). *Perspectives in Sociology*, New York: Routledge.
- 3) Ritzer, G. (1988). *Contemporary Sociological Theory*, Singapore: McGraw-Hill Publishing Company.
- 4) Turner, J.H. (1995). *The Structure of Sociological Theory*. Jaipur: Rawat Publications.

REFERENCE READINGS

- 1) Barry, P. (2010). *Beginning Theory-An Introduction to Literary and Cultural Theory*. New Delhi: Viva Books.
- 2) Bottomore, T.B. (2014). *Sociology, a guide to problems and literature*, New Delhi: Routledge.
- 3) Coser, L.A. (2010). *Masters of Sociological Thought*, New Delhi: Rawat Publications.
- 4) Doshi, S.L. (2009). *Modernity, Postmodernity and Neo-Sociological Theories*. Jaipur: Rawat Publications.
- 5) Cuff, E.C., Sharrock, W.W. and Francis, D.W. (2009). *Perspectives in Sociology*, New York: Routledge.
- 6) Giddens, A. and Sutton, P.W. (2013). *Sociology*, Seventh Edition, New Delhi: Wiley.
- 7) Horton, P.B. and Hunt, C.L. (2004). *Sociology*. New Delhi: Tata McGraw-Hill.
- 8) Inkeles, A. (2012). *What is Sociology? An Introduction to the Discipline and Profession*, New Delhi: PHI Learning.
- 9) Jary, D. and Jary, J. (2005). *Dictionary of Sociology*, Harper Collins Publisher.
- 10) Lemert, C. (2013). *Social Theory-The Multicultural & Classic Readings*. Jaipur: Rawat Publications.
- 11) Morrison, K. (2006). Marx, Weber and Durkheim, New Delhi: Sage.
- 12) Ritzer, G. (1988). *Contemporary Sociological Theory*, Singapore: McGraw-Hill Publishing Company.
- 13) Singh, Y. (2012). *Ideology & Theory in Indian Sociology*. Jaipur: Rawat Publications.
- 14) Turner, J.H. (1995). *The Structure of Sociological Theory*. Jaipur: Rawat Publications.
- 15) Weber, M. (1930). *The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism*, New York: Routledge Classics.
- 16) Woods, T. (2017). *Begining Post Modernism*, New Delhi: Viva Publications.

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