

Core Course 11

Sociological Thinkers –I

Objectives:

The course introduces the students to the classics in the making of the discipline of sociology through selected texts by the major thinkers.

Outline:

1. August Comte

- 1.1. Law of Human Progress
- 1.2. Hierarchy of Sciences

2. Karl Marx

- 2.1. Materialist Conception of History
- 2.2. Capitalist Mode of Production

3. Max Weber

- 3.1. Social Action and Ideal Types
- 3.2. Religion and Economy

4. Emile Durkheim

- 4.1. Social Fact
- 4.2. Individual and Society

COURSE CONTENTS AND ITINERARY

1. August Comte

- 1.1. Coser, Lewis, A: *Masters of Sociological Thought*, New York , Harcourt Brace Jovanovich 1977

2. Karl Marx (Weeks 1-5)

- 2.1. Intro : McLellan, David. 1975. *Marx*. London: Fontana Press. Pages: 7-23 (16)
- 2.2. Marx, K. and F. Engels. 1969. *Selected Works Vol. 1*. Moscow: Progress Publishers. pp. 13-15, 16-80, 98-106, 142-174, 502-506
- 2.3. Marx, K. and F. Engels. 1969. *Selected Works Vol. 1*. Moscow: Progress Publishers. pp. 13-15, 16-80, 98-106, 142-174, 502-506.

3. Max Weber (Weeks 6-9)

- 3.1 Poggi, Gianfranco. 2006. *Weber*. Cambridge, UK: Polity. Pages: 1-16 (16)
- 3.2. Weber, Max. 1947. *The Theory of Social and Economic Organization*. New York: The Free Press, pp. 87-123
- 3.3. Weber, Max. 2002. *The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism* (translated by Stephen Kalberg). London: Blackwell Publishers, pp. 3-54, 103-126, Chapters I, II, III, IV & V

4. Emile Durkheim (Weeks 10-14)

- 4.1 Gane, Mike. 1992. *The Radical Sociology of Durkheim and Mauss*. London:

Routledge. Pages: 1-10

4.2. Durkheim, E. 1958. *The Rules of Sociological Method*. New York: The Free Press. pp. 48-107, 119-144

4.3. Durkheim, E. 1951. *Suicide: A Study in Sociology*. New York: The Free Press, pp. 41-56, 145-276

SUGGESTED READINGS

Ritzer, G. 1996. *Sociological Theory*. New York: McGraw Hill Companies.

Giddens, A. 1971. *Capitalism and Modern Social Theory: An Analysis of the Writings of Marx, Durkheim and Max Weber*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Core Course 12
Sociological Research Methods – I

Course Objective: The course is a general introduction to the methodologies of sociological research methods. It will provide the student with some elementary knowledge of the complexities and philosophical underpinnings of research.

Outline: 1. The Logic of Social Research (weeks 1-7)

1.1 What is Sociological Research?

- (a) Research , Science and Sociology.
- (b) Scientific Method : Positivist and Constructionist Interpretation of Science
- (c) Trend of Sociological Research , Sociological Imagination

1.2 Objectivity in the Social Sciences

- (a) Objectivity as explained by Emile Durkheim
- (b) Objectivity as explained by Max Weber

1.3 Reflexivity

- (a) The coming Crisis in Western Sociology –Methodological Approach
- (b) A Critique to Conventional Sociology : Reflexivity
(Harold Garfinkle)

2. Methodological Perspectives (weeks 8-11)

2.1 Comparative Method

- (a) Comparative Method in the works of Emile Durkheim, Max Weber and Redcliff Brown
- (b) Feminist Method : Approach and Design

2.2 Feminist Method : Approach and Design

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3. Modes of Enquiry (weeks 12-14)

3.1 Theory and Research

3.2. Inductive and Deductive Logic

3.3 Quantitative and Qualitative Research :Characteristics , Purpose and Types

COURSE CONTENTS AND ITINERARY

1.1 The Logic of Social Research (Weeks 1 and 2)

1.1.1 Mills, C. W. 1959, *The Sociological Imagination*, London: OUP Chapter 1
Pp. 3-24

1.1.2 Gluckman, M. 1978, 'Introduction', in A. L. Epstein (ed.), *The Craft of Social Anthropology*, Delhi: Hindustan Publishing Corporation, Pp. xv-xxiv

1.2. Objectivity in the Social Sciences (Weeks 3-7)

1.2.1. Durkheim, E. 1958, *The Rules of Sociological Method*, New York: The Free Press, Chapter 1, 2 & 6 Pp. 1-46, 125-140

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1.2.2. Weber, Max. 1949, *The Methodology of the Social Sciences*, New York: The Free Press, Foreward and Chapter 2 Pp. 49-112

1.3. Reflexivity

1.3.1 Gouldner, Alvin. 1970, *The Coming Crisis of Western Sociology*, New York: Basic Books, Chapter 13 Pp. 481-511

2. Methodological Perspectives (Weeks 8-11)

2.1. Comparative Method

2.1.1. Radcliffe-Brown, A.R. 1958, *Methods in Social Anthropology*, Delhi: Asia Publishing Corporation, Chapter 5 Pp. 91-108

2.1.2. Beiteille, A. 2002, *Sociology: Essays on Approach and Method*, New Delhi: OUP, Chapter 4 Pp. 72-94

2.3. Feminist Method

2.3.1. Harding, Sandra 1987, "Introduction: Is there a Feminist Method?" in Sandra Harding (ed.) *Feminism & Methodology: Social Science Issues*, Bloomington: Indiana University Press, Pp. 1-14

3. Modes of Enquiry (Weeks 12-14)

3.1. Theory and Research

3.1.1 Merton, R.K. 1972, *Social Theory & Social Structure*, Delhi: Arvind Publishing House, Chapters 4 & 5 Pp. 139-171

3.2 Analyzing Data: Quantitative and Qualitative

3.2.1 Bryman, Alan. 2004, *Quantity and Quality in Social Research*, New York: Routledge, Chapter 2 & 3 Pp. 11-70