

DSC -1 - INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY

This introductory paper intends to acquaint the students with Sociology as a social science and the basic concepts used in the discipline. It also focuses on the social processes and the social institutions that man encounters as a member of the society.

Objectives: After studying these two papers, the student can

- Can get to know the convergence and divergence of Sociology with other social science disciplines in terms of the subject matter, nature and scope of the discipline and its approach.
- Develop knowledge about its historicity.
- Can get acquainted with the basic concepts used in the subject.
- Can generate ideas about the social processes and social institutions man encounters as a member of the society.

Learning Outcomes: This paper is expected to clarify and broaden the student's notion about the subject, the basic concepts used and some universal societal processes. This will provide a wholesome picture about what the subject is all about.

Unit-1: Sociology: Definition and Subject matter, Nature and Scope, Emergence of Sociology, Sociology and its relationship with Anthropology, Political Science, Economics, and History

Unit-2: Basic Concepts: Society, Culture, Community, Institutions, Association, Social Structure, Status and Role, Norms and Values, Folkways and Mores, Associative and Dissociative processes – Cooperation, Assimilation, Accommodation, Competition, and conflict

Unit-3: Individual and Society : Individual and society, Socialization, Stages and Agencies of Socialization, Development of Self – Contributions of George Herbert Mead, C.H. Cooley's Looking Glass Self The Concept of Group : Types of Groups – Primary and Secondary groups, In-Group and Out-group, Reference Group

Unit-4: Social Stratification: Meaning and definition, Dimensions of Stratification, Theories of Stratification – Functionalist, Marxist, Weberian. Social mobility and its determinants.

Unit-5: Social Control: Meaning and types, Formal and Informal social control, Agencies of Social control

Essential readings:

1. Bottomore. T.B. 1972, Sociology: A guide to problems and literature. Bombay :George Allen and Unwin (India)
2. Harlambos, M.1998. Sociology: Themes and perspectives. New Delhi Oxford University Press
3. Inkeles, Alex, 1987. What is Sociology? New Delhi: Prentice-Hall of India
4. Jaiaram, No. 1988 . What is Sociology .Madras:Macmillan, India :
5. Johnson, Harry M. 1995. Sociology: A Systematic Introduction. New Delhi , Allied Publishers
6. Schaefer, Richard T. and Robert P. Lamm. 1999 Sociology. New Delhi Tata-Mac Graw Hill.