

SES's L.S. RAHEJA COLLEGE OF ARTS AND COMMERCE (AUTONOMOUS)

Syllabus for Approval	BoS meeting held on: 28.3.25	AC meeting held on:
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Board of Studies: SOCIOLOGY

Sr. No.	Heading	Particulars
1	Nomenclature of the Course	Modern Sociological Theory
2	Eligibility for Admission	FYBA Pass
3	Passing Marks for eligibility	FYBA Pass
4	Regulations	College Regulations on Admission
5	Programme	BA
6	Semesters	Semester: IV
7	NEP Vertical	Major
8	Credit	Four (4)
9	Level U.G/PG	UG
10	Pattern	Semester
11	Status (Revised or New) If revised, % of change)	New
12	To be implemented from Academic Year	From the Academic Year: 2025-2026

Dr. Samya Shinde

Date:

Chairman / Chairperson:

(name & signature)

SES's L.S. RAHEJA COLLEGE OF ARTS AND COMMERCE (AUTONOMOUS)



BOARD OF STUDIES: SOCIOLOGY

PROGRAMME: BA

SEMESTER: IV

NOMENCLATURE OF THE COURSE: MODERN SOCIOLOGICAL THEORY

NEP Vertical: Major

Credit: 4

(As Per Choice Based Credit System (under NEP 2020) with effect from the academic year 2025-26)



Programme:	BA
Nomenclature of the Course	MODERN SOCIOLOGICAL THEORY
Total Marks	100 marks
Semester:	IV
Academic year	2025-26

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

1. To introduce students to post-classical sociological thinking.
2. Explain the foundational principles of functionalism, conflict theory, interactionist perspective, and contemporary theory.
3. Develop critical thinking skills through engagement with sociological texts.
4. To critically examine Contemporary Sociological Theories, including Critical Theory (Frankfurt School), Feminist Theory (Patricia Collins), and Postmodern Theory (George Ritzer), and their applications in analyzing power, culture, and social change.

COURSE OUTCOMES:

1. Explain the contributions of key sociologists from functionalist, conflict and interactionist perspectives.
2. Analyze how these theories explain social structures, institutions, and individual behaviors.
3. Apply Critical Theory, Feminist Theory, and Postmodern Theory to analyze social structures, power relations, and cultural transformations in contemporary society.
4. Apply sociological theories to analyse real-world social phenomena

Unit	Course Content	Andragogy	No of Lectures
1	Functionalism a. Talcott Parsons- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Voluntaristic Theory of Social Action, • Theory on social system (AGIL analysis) b. Merton's functionalism- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Definition of function, • Functional alternatives c. Neofunctionalism	Experiential Learning- group discussions, debates and discussion of texts Self-directed learning through exploring biographies and historical contexts	15
2	Conflict Perspectives a. Ralph Dahrendorf <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conflict Theory • Power and Authority b. Lewis Coser <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposition, causes, functions of social conflict c. Neo Marxism <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gramsci- Hegemony and the Ruling Ideas 	Experiential Learning- group discussions, debates and discussion of texts Self-directed learning through exploring biographies and historical contexts	15

3	Interactionist Perspective a. Herbert Blumer's Symbolic Interactionism b. Harold Garfinkel's Ethnomethodology c. Erving Goffman's Dramaturgical Self	Experiential Learning- group discussions, debates and discussion of texts Self directed learning through exploring biographies and historical contexts	15
4	Contemporary Theories a. Critical Theory-An overview of Frankfurt school. b Feminist theory- Patricia Collins c. Post Modern Theory- George Ritzer	Interactive, student-centered, and problem-based learning methods	15

RECOMMENDED / SUGGESTED READINGS and REFERENCES

Alexander, Jeffrey C. (ed). 1985. Neofunctionalism. Beverley Hills, CA: Sage

Delaney Tim, 2005, Contemporary Social Theory –Investigation and Application, Delhi Pearson Education Inc.

Elliott, A. (2009). Contemporary Social Theory: An Introduction. London & New York: Routledge

Elliott, A. (Ed.). (2010). The Routledge Companion to Social Theory. London & New York: Routledge.

George Ritzer and Barry Smart (eds), Handbook of Social Theory. Sage

Green, Marcus E., ed. 2011. *Rethinking Gramsci*. New York: Routledge.

Hill-Collins, Patricia. 2002. "Learning from the outsider within" in S. Jackson and S. Scott (eds.) *Gender: A Sociological Reader*. London: Routledge [pp 69-78].

Kuper, Adam. 1973. *Anthropologists and Anthropology: The Modern British School*. London: Routledge

McQuarie, D. 1994. *Readings in Contemporary Sociological Theory: From Modernity to Post-Modernity*. Pearson.

Murphy, John W. "Talcott Parsons and Niklas Luhmann: Two Versions Of The Social "System." *International Review of Modern Sociology* 12, No. 2 (1982): 291-30.

Niemann, Arne & Lefkofridi, Zoe & Schmitter, Philippe. (2019). 3. Neofunctionalism. 10.1093/hepl/9780198737315.003.0003.

Parsons, T. and E. Shils (eds). 1951. *Towards a General Theory of Action*. New York: Harper and Row Publishers, pp. 3-29

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

Ritzer, George. 2000. Modern Sociological Theory. McGraw Hill Higher Education.

Turner, J and Maryanski, A.1988. "Is „Neofunctionalism Really Functional?"
Sociological Theory 6, No. 1 (1988): 110-121.

Turner, J. 2007. The Structure of Sociological Theory. Jaipur: Rawat Publication.

Wallace Ruth .A, 2006, Contemporary Sociological Theory U.S.A., Prentice Hall.

Wallace, Ruth A. and Alison Wolf. Contemporary Sociological Theory, Fourth Edition.
New Jersey: Prentice Hall, 1980.

Wells, Alan. Contemporary Sociological Theories. California: Goodyear Pub,
York: Routledge.

**QUESTION PAPER PATTERN
FOR CONTINUOUS EVALUATION
(A-1) RUBRICS FOR CONTINUOUS EVALUATION**

Modern Sociological Theory- 40 Marks

Sr No.	Examination Method	Marks	Marking Scheme	Criteria
1	Assignment	10	Subject knowledge- 6 marks, Presentation skills – 4 marks	Clarity of thought, conceptual clarity, originality.
2	Project- Application based	20	Subject knowledge – 5/10 marks, Content – 3/6 marks, Presentation-2/4 marks	Topic will be given by faculty
3	Class Participation	5	Excellent – 5 marks, Good – 3 to 4 marks, Satisfactory – 1 to 2 marks	Attentiveness, Response & Behavior of student in class
4	Presentation / Viva-Voce	5	Based on performance	

QUESTION PAPER PATTERN FOR SEMESTER END EXAMINATION

Maximum Marks: 60

Duration: 2 Hours

The question paper will have a total of five questions.

All questions would be compulsory and there would be an internal choice in the first four questions.

The last question would be on concepts. Students will have a choice of attempting any four out of six concepts.

Question No.	Description	Total Marks
1	Essay Type Questions (Attempt Any One out of two Based on Unit I)	12
2	Essay Type Questions (Attempt Any One out of two on Unit II)	12
3	Essay Type Questions (Attempt Any One out of two on Unit III)	12
4	Essay Type Questions (Attempt Any One out of two on Unit IV)	12
5	Concepts: Attempt any 4 out of 6 given (3 marks each)	12