

University of Allahabad
(A Central University)
Department of Sociology

Pre-Ph.D.
(Sociology)
Course Work



Syllabus

Department of Sociology
University of Allahabad
Prayagraj - 211002

Pre-Ph.D. Courses

Course Code	Name of the Course	L-T-P-C
SOC-801	Research Methodology in Sociology	3-1-0-4
SOC-802	Data Analysis in Social Science Research	3-1-0-4
SOC-803	Emerging Trends in Sociology	3-1-0-4

Programme Outcomes (PO): Students of Pre-Ph.D. in Sociology will be able to:

- ❖ PO1: To develop an advanced understanding of sociological theories, epistemological foundations, and methodological pluralism in social research.
- ❖ PO2: To gain critical insights into the logic and process of sociological inquiry, including hypothesis formulation, conceptualization, and operationalization.
- ❖ PO3: To design and implement independent research projects using qualitative, quantitative, and mixed-method approaches.
- ❖ PO4: To acquire proficiency in data collection, sampling, and analytical techniques for empirical sociological investigation.
- ❖ PO5: To effectively use statistical tools, data visualization, and computer applications (SPSS, MS Excel, etc.) for social data analysis.
- ❖ PO6: To critically review and synthesize existing sociological literature, research papers, and theoretical debates.
- ❖ PO7: To identify emerging research trends in sociology and connect them to interdisciplinary, policy, and applied domains.
- ❖ PO8: To strengthen academic communication through seminar presentations, report writing, and publication-oriented skills.
- ❖ PO9: To demonstrate ethical integrity and academic rigor in all stages of sociological research.
- ❖ PO10: To contribute to the advancement of sociological knowledge and apply research outcomes to address contemporary social challenges and policy issues.

Programme Specific Outcomes (PSO): Students of Pre-Ph.D. in Sociology will be able to:

- ❖ PSO1: To understand the philosophical foundations of social science research, including epistemology, theory, hypothesis, and ethics.
- ❖ POS2: To critically evaluate different research designs including exploratory, descriptive, experimental, and triangulated approaches.
- ❖ POS3: To apply qualitative and quantitative research methods in sociological investigation.
- ❖ POS4: To use sampling techniques and design appropriate data collection tools such as surveys, interviews, questionnaires, and schedules.
- ❖ POS5: To analyze and interpret primary and secondary data using statistical measures and qualitative techniques.
- ❖ POS6: To employ computer applications (MS Excel, SPSS) for data entry, statistical analysis, and graphical presentation.
- ❖ POS7: To conduct fieldwork and library-based research effectively and systematically.
- ❖ POS8: To critically review and synthesize published research, academic articles, and books in sociology.
- ❖ POS9: To identify and understand emerging trends in sociological research, including new areas, interdisciplinary approaches, and contemporary social issues.
- ❖ POS10: To develop the ability to apply sociological research and emerging knowledge to policy, social interventions, and community development projects.

Course Outcomes (CO): After completing the course, the students of pre-Ph.D. Sociology will be able to:

- ❖ CO1: To demonstrate conceptual clarity of key research concepts, including theory, hypothesis, empirical generalizations, and middle-range theories.
- ❖ CO2: To critically analyze methodological perspectives in sociology, including positivist, interpretive, and post-positivist approaches.
- ❖ CO3: To design and implement research projects using qualitative, quantitative, or mixed-method approaches.
- ❖ CO4: To apply sampling strategies and select appropriate data collection methods for sociological research.
- ❖ CO5: To conduct fieldwork and participatory research exercises (PRA, observation, life/oral history, case study, FGDs).
- ❖ CO6: To collect, organize, and analyze primary and secondary data for sociological interpretation.
- ❖ CO7: To use statistical tools (mean, median, mode, correlation, chi-square) and computer applications for data analysis.
- ❖ CO8: To critically review published research and scholarly literature to identify trends and gaps.
- ❖ CO9: To present research findings effectively through reports, presentations, and seminars.
- ❖ CO10 To understand and evaluate emerging areas in sociology, such as development, urbanization, health, environment, and subaltern studies, and integrate them into research or policy contexts.

Pre-Ph.D Course work in Sociology

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY IN SOCIOLOGY

Course Code: SOC 801

Type: Core Course

Semester:

Spring/Autumn

LTPC/Credits: 4

Objectives of the Course:

Keeping in view the UGC norms the course is designed to enable students to frame research question(s), fashion appropriate methods to address the research question(s), understand the handling of different statistical and computer tools for data analysis and derive relevant conclusions. At the same time students will be exposed to different readings of the epistemological issues which will help them to understand the diversity of practice and critical thinking behind every method. The course will include continuous seminar presentations, participations and the written work for evaluation.

UNIT- I Epistemological Issues in Social Science Research:

Concept, Hypothesis, Theory and Fact; Positivism and Its Critique; Genesis and Growth of Modern Science; Role of Values - Objectivity, Subjectivity and Ethical Issues in Social Science Research.

UNIT- II Explanations in Social Science Research:

Genetic, Intentional and Functional Explanations; Empirical Generalizations; Grounded Theories; Grand Theories and Middle-Range Theories.

UNIT- III Methodological Issues and Research Design

Methodology - Qualitative, Quantitative and Triangulation; Comparative, Evolutionary, Functional, and Dialectical Methods.

Research Design - Exploratory, Descriptive, and Experimental. Sampling and Its Types.

UNIT- IV Qualitative Methods in Social Research and Computer Application

Ethnography and Observation, Life/Oral history, Case Study, Content Analysis, Focused Group Discussions, Conversational Analysis, Participatory Rural Appraisal, Computer application in social research

Evaluation:

- Computer Evaluation: MM 20
- Assignment/Group Discussion/Seminar presentation: MM 20
- End-Semester exam: 60 marks

Course Outcomes (COs)

- By the end of the course, students will be able to:

CO Code	Course Outcomes (COs)
CO1	Demonstrate understanding of the epistemological foundations and ethical considerations in sociological research.
CO2	Critically analyze different forms of explanations and theories used in social science research.
CO3	Design and implement research projects using qualitative, quantitative, or mixed-method approaches.
CO4	Apply sampling strategies and appropriate research designs to collect and organize empirical data.
CO5	Employ qualitative research techniques and computer applications for data collection, analysis, and presentation of findings.

Course Mapping

Course Outcomes (COs)	PO 1	PO 2	PO 3	PO 4	PO 5	PO 6	PO 7	PO 8	PO 9	PO 10	PS O1	PS O2	PS O3	PS O4
CO1	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	1	1	1
CO2	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	1	1	1
CO3	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	1	1	1
CO4	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	1	1	1
CO5	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	1	1	1

Essential Readings:

Brown, R. 1963. *Explanation in Social Science*. London: Rutledge and Kegan Paul.

Durkheim, E.1937. *The Rules of Sociological Method*. New York: The Free Press.

Feyerabend, P. K. 1975. *Against Method*. London: New Left Books.

Fielding, N. and Lee, R. (Eds.). 1991. *Using Computers in Qualitative Research*. London: Sage.

Geertz, C. 1973. *Interpretation of Cultures*. New York: Basic Books.

Giddens, A. (Ed.). 1974. *Positivism and Sociology*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Goode, W.J. and Hatt, P. K. 1952. *Methods in Social Research*. New York: McGraw-Hill.

Kuhn, T. S. 1970. *The Structure of Scientific Revolution*. Chicago: Chicago University Press.

Merton, R. K. 1979. *Science, Technology and Society in Seventeenth Century England* (Second Edition).

New York: Howard Forting.

Moser, C. A. and Kalton, G. 1971. *Survey Methods in Social Investigations*. London: Heinemann Educational Books.

Mueller, J. H. and Schuessler, K. F. 1977. *Statistical Reasoning in Sociology*. Houghton Mifflin.

Myrdal, G. 1970. *Objectivity in Social Research*. London: Gerald Duckworth.

Nagel, E. and Cohen, M. R. 1981. *An Introduction to Logic and Scientific Method*. Simon Publications.

Neuman, L. W. 2005. *Social Research Methods: Quantitative and Qualitative Approaches*. London: Allyn & Bacon.

Parks, R. and Alistair, T. (Eds.). 1988. *The Oral History Reader*. Routledge.

Popper, K. 1963. *Conjectures and Refutations*. London: Routledge.

Selltiz, C. and Jahoda, M. 1959. *Research Methods in Social Relations*. New York: Henry Holt and Company.

Srinivas, M. N. and Panini, M. N. 2002. *Collected Essays*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press.

Sawyer, A. 1992. *Method in Social Science* (Revised Second Edition). Routledge.

Wagner, W. 2009. *Using SPSS for Social Statistics and Research Methods*. London: Pine Forge Press.

Weber, M. 1949. *Methodology of Social Science*. Glencoe: Free Press.

Further Readings:

Agresti, A. and Finlay, B. 1997. *Statistical Method for the Social Sciences*. Prentice Hall and Pearson Publishing.

Bryman, A. 1988. *Quantity and Quality in Social Research*. London: Allen & Unwin.

Corbetta, P. 2003. *Social Research: Theory, Methods and Techniques*. London: Sage.

Newton-Smith, W. H. 1981. *The Rationality of Science*. London: Routledge and Kegan Paul.

Somekh, B. and Lewin, C. 2002. *Research Methods in Social Sciences*. London: Sage.

Smelser, N. J. 1976. *Comparative Methods in Social Sciences*. Prentice Hall.

Srinivas, M. N. et. al. 2002. *The Fieldworker and the Field*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press.

DATA ANALYSIS IN SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

Course Code: SOC-802

Type: Core Course

Semester:

Autumn/Spring

LTPC/Credits: 4

Objectives of the course:

Keeping in view the UGC norms the course is designed to sensitize the students with the data analysis and computer skills. It will help the students in writing research articles and dissertations. The course will include continuous seminar presentations, participations and the written work for evaluation.

UNIT- I Data analysis in Social Science Research:

Survey, Questionnaire, Schedule, Interview, Measurement and Scaling.

Statistical Analysis: Classification, Tabulation, Diagrammatical and Graphical Presentation; Measures of Central Tendency - Mean, Median and Mode; Measures of Dispersion - Standard Deviation; Measures of Correlation - Pearson and Spearman; Chi-Square Test.

UNIT II Skills in statistical analysis using computer

Graphical presentations, data entry through MS Excel and data analysis through SPSS.

UNIT III Study of secondary data related to research area:

Census, National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO), National Family Health Survey (NFHS) and other large data sets; District Handbooks, People of India Project; Economic Survey Reports, Environment Survey Reports, Human Development Reports, Science and Technology Survey Reports, Health Survey Reports,

UNIT IV Personality and Thesis Writing skill development

It will involve periodically writing research papers, book reviews, commentary, research proposals.

Course Outcomes (COs)

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

CO Code	Course Outcomes (COs)
CO1	Demonstrate competence in designing and implementing surveys and other data collection techniques.
CO2	Analyze and interpret social science data using statistical methods and measures of central tendency, dispersion, correlation, and chi-square tests.
CO3	Employ computer applications (MS Excel and SPSS) for efficient data management, analysis, and presentation.
CO4	Critically use secondary datasets from governmental and research organizations for sociological analysis.

CO
Code Course Outcomes (COs)

CO5 Produce well-structured academic and research outputs, including research papers, proposals, and theses, based on empirical and secondary data.

Course Mapping

Course Outcomes (COs)	PO 1	PO 2	PO 3	PO 4	PO 5	PO 6	PO 7	PO 8	PO 9	PO 10	PS O1	PS O2	PS O3	PS O4
CO1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
CO2	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
CO3	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
CO4	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
CO5	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3

Evaluation:

- Data analysis using computer: MM 20
- Theory: Assignment/Group Discussion/Seminar presentation: MM 20
- End-Semester exam: 60 marks

EMERGING TRENDS IN SOCIOLOGY

Course Code: 803
Type: Core Course
Semester:
Autumn/Spring
LTPC/Credits: 4

Objectives of the Course:

Keeping in view the UGC norms the course is designed to sensitize the students with the emerging trends in sociology in the thrust area of research. It will involve emerging trends in concerned areas of research by focusing on major concepts and theoretical models in this as well as by reviewing journal articles and books. The course will include continuous seminar presentations, participation

UNIT- I Major concepts and theories related to emerging areas in sociological research

Agrarian society and development; Health and Development; Science Technology and Development; Environment and Development; development and subaltern, Urbanisation and Development

UNIT II Published Research in the Field

UNIT III Review of books in emerging areas in sociological research

- Book-Review: (One book related to sociological perspective/research methods)
- Book-Review: (One book related to concerned research area or emerging trends in sociology).

UNIT IV Presentation skills on emerging areas in sociological research

Conducting Tutorials, Seminar Presentation and Group Discussions on topic of sociological relevance.

Course Outcomes (COs)

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

CO Code	Course Outcomes (COs)
CO1	Demonstrate understanding of contemporary sociological concepts and theories in emerging research areas.
CO2	Critically analyze and summarize published research in sociology to identify trends and methodological approaches.
CO3	Conduct scholarly reviews of books and research articles, synthesizing insights relevant to sociological research and theory.
CO4	Present sociological ideas effectively in seminars, group discussions, and tutorials, demonstrating analytical and communication skills.

CO
Code Course Outcomes (COs)

CO5 Integrate knowledge from emerging sociological research trends into academic discussions, research proposals, and future studies.

Course Mapping

Course Outcomes (COs)	PO 1	PO 2	PO 3	PO 4	PO 5	PO 6	PO 7	PO 8	PO 9	PO 10	PS O1	PS O2	PS O3	PS O4
CO1	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1
CO2	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1
CO3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1
CO4	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1
CO5	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1

Evaluation:

- Review of published research in the Field: MM 20
- Assignment/Group Discussion/Seminar presentation: MM 20
- End-Semester exam: 60 marks

Tentative List of Journals:

American Journal of Sociology, Chicago University Press.
 British Journal of Sociology, LSE.
 Actasociologica, Sage Publications.
 African Journal of Sociology, Sage Publications.
 Contributions to Indian Sociology, Sage Publications.
 Current Sociology, Sage Publications.
 Social Change, Sage Publications.
 International Sociology, Sage Publications.
 Journal of Peasant Studies, Taylor & Francis.
 Sociological Bulletin, ISS.
 Sociology of Religion, Oxford Press.
 South Asian Survey, Sage Publications.
 Economic and Political Weekly.