

Course: Discipline Specific Core 4 Semester

4

Paper Number

GSOCR 4121T

Paper Title

Methods of Sociological Enquiry

No. of Credits

6

Theory/Composite

Theory

No. of periods assigned

Th: 5 + 1

Name of Faculty member(s)

Course description/objective

The course is a general introduction to the methodologies of sociological research. It will provide the student with an elementary knowledge of the complexities and philosophical underpinnings of social research.

Syllabus

Module : 1

1. The Logic of Social Research (3 weeks) 1.1.

What is Sociological Research?

1.2. Objectivity in the Social Sciences

1.3. Reflexivity

2. Modes of Enquiry (3 weeks)

2.1 Theory and Research

2.2 Analyzing Data : Alternative Methods (Life Documents)

2.3 Writing a Survey Report

Module 2 :

3. Methodological Perspectives (5 weeks)

3.1 Qualitative Analysis (Ethnography/Field work)

3.2 Quantitative Analysis (Survey)

3.3 Comparative Method

Reading/Reference Lists

Mills, C. W. 1959, The Sociological Imagination, London: Oxford University Press, Chapter 1, pp.3-24.

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

Durkheim, E. 1958, The Rules of Sociological Method, New York: The Free Press, Chapter 1& 2, pp.1-46.

Weber, Max. 1949, The Methodology of the Social Sciences, New York: The Free Press, Foreword, pp. iii-x.

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

Radcliffe-Brown, A. R. 1958, Methods in

Evaluation

Social Anthropology, Delhi: Asia Publishing Corporation, Chapter 5, pp.91-108.

Béteille, A. 2002, Sociology: Essays on Approach and Method, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, Chapter 4, pp.72-94

Geertz, Clifford. 1973. Interpretation of Cultures, New York: Basic Books. Chapter 1, pp. 3-30.

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

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

Srinivas, M.N. et. al. 2002(reprint), The Fieldworker and the Field: Problems and Challenges in Sociological Investigation, New Delhi: OUP, Introduction, pp.1-14

CIA: 20

End-Sem: 80 marks

The mode of evaluation of this paper will be as follows,

1. Students attempt two long questions of 20 marks each out of four long questions (20 x 2 = 40 marks)

2. Students attempt four short questions of 10 marks each out of eight short questions (10 x 4 = 40 marks)