

Syllabus

M.A. Sociology Semester I

Sociology of Family and Gender

Objective

This course is aimed at sensitizing the students regarding the basic concepts and approaches used for explaining and understanding family and gender. It also aims at sensitizing students about the process of gender socialization within the framework of family. Finally, it exposes the student to specific problems and legal provisions made available to counter these problems relating to gender inequality in the Indian context.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE PAPER-SETTER AND THE CANDIDATES

- (i) The theory question paper will be of 80 marks and 20 marks will be for internal assessment. Duration of the paper will be 3 hours.
- (ii) For private candidates, who have not been assessed earlier for internal assessment, the marks secured by them in theory paper will proportionately be increased to maximum marks of the paper in lieu of internal assessment.

The paper setter must put note (ii) in the question paper.

The syllabus has been divided into four units.

There shall be 9 questions in all. The first question is **compulsory** and shall be short answer type containing 10 short questions spread over the whole syllabus to be answered in about 30 to 35 words each, carrying 20 marks i.e. 2 marks each. Rest of the paper shall contain 4 units. Each unit shall have **two** long questions and the candidates shall be given internal choice of attempting one question from each Unit - 4 in all. Each question will carry 15 marks.

Unit-I

Concepts and Approaches to Family

Concepts-Family, Household and Domestic function;

Approaches- Structural Functional, Conflict, Symbolic-Interactionist, Exchange and Feminist.

Unit-II

Concept and Construction of Gender

- i) Concepts- Sex, Gender, Gender-Identity and Gender-roles.
- ii) Basic understanding of Patriarchy, Masculinity and Femininity, Gender Socialization and Gender Stereotyping through the institutions of family, education, work and religion.

Unit-III

Approaches to Gender

Feminism : Meaning; Liberal, Radical, Socialist-Marxist and Post Modernist Feminisms

Unit-IV

Gender Equality through Legislation (in Indian Context)

- i) Dimensions of Gender Inequality : Female Foeticide, Neglect of Girl Child and Bride Burning and Status of Elderly Women.
- ii) Brief introduction to PNDT Act, Dowry Prohibition Act and Domestic Violence Act.