

## Undergraduate Courses

### *Introduction to Sociology*

This course is designed to be a broad introduction to the discipline of sociology. This course has three goals: (1) to introduce students to the different perspectives within sociology; (2) to encourage students to think deeply and critically about our social world; and (3) to help students establish well-informed links between theory, problems and practice. The course will particularly focus on the broad sociological concern of inequality and how it plays out in several macro-level social processes such as globalization, immigration, urbanization and consumption. In addition, throughout the course students will be encouraged to examine differences and inequalities across gender, sexuality, race, class and other social categories. Examples will be drawn from India and beyond.

- **Textbook:** Giddens, Anthony (2009). *Sociology*, 6<sup>th</sup> Edition, Wiley India Private Ltd. (Copies of the textbook are available at the library. In addition, copies of the relevant chapters from the Giddens book will be available for your reference at the library)
- Chapters from Ritzer, George (2013). *Introduction to Sociology*, SAGE Publications Inc.
- Supplementary and online readings will be uploaded on the course website

### *Introduction to Social Demography*

The course is intended to serve as a general introduction to the field of demography from a sociological perspective. The course will examine how population processes (e.g. fertility, mortality & migration) interrelate with social institutions, such as family, society and economy, by engaging in critical population debates from both the developed and developing worlds. More specifically, the course will cover Demographic Theories (emphasis on the Demographic Transition Theory); fertility, mortality & epidemiological transitions (concepts, measurement issues and population policy); population growth and economic development (implications for environment and policy issues); Family demography (changing family behavior, marriage, divorce, non-marital fertility and cohabitation)

### *Globalization & social change*

This course will focus on the competing definitions and paradigms of globalization, drawing from a variety of disciplines including sociology, economics, political science and culture studies. It will include discussions on global production networks, development debates, role of global governance institutions and global inequalities. In addition, the course will analyze sources, consequences and modalities of transnational migrations and related issues of identity, belonging, citizenship and diaspora, with particular attention to how definitions of gender and sexuality are reproduced, deployed and negotiated in these processes. Overall, the course is open to myriad forms of economic, social and cultural globalization in our times.

### *Gender, Culture & Society*

This course critically examines the socio-cultural construction of gender and explores gendered institutions such as family, education, work, and media. The course examines the sociological question of inequality through intersectional lenses and cross-cultural studies. As such, this course will be organized around three substantive themes.

1. **Locating Gender/Theoretical Foundations:** This theme explores contemporary foundational thinkers on gender and sexuality including perspectives on "doing gender" and gender performativity.

2. **Gendered Identities, Gendered Institutions:** This theme focuses on gender and sexual identities, gendered institutions (family, higher education, work, and media). Transgendered identities and queer theories will be examined to facilitate a broader understanding of gender conundrum.

3. **Gendered Interactions:** This theme examines questions on bodies, intimacies, violence and masculinities.