

SYLLABUS

M.A. Sociology (Semester-II)

SOC O 821 : Structural Moorings of Gender Oppression

PANJAB UNIVERSITY, CHANDIGARH

Objective

The course aims at understanding the social-structural underpinnings of gender oppression persisting in India and worldwide. The agenda of gender empowerment fails to yield the desired outcomes because of structural impediments which are, nevertheless, difficult to overcome. On the one hand, there is the socially given identity of 'otherness' of the woman and on the other, there are contested spaces and processes of self-identity formation. Various contemporary issues, perspectives and challenges in feminist scholarship, movements, agency and empowerment will be explored in a holistic framework through the course.

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

Social construction of gender: Structural myths of femininity and masculinity. Patriarchy and gendered division of labour.

Reflections on structural gender inequity in nature-culture debates.

Unit-II

Approaches to gender:

Black Feminism

Dalit Feminism

Unit-III

International Conventions with special reference to CEDAW Reports: Govt. of India, 2000 & 2007 (Articles 2 & 3)

Gendering the Human Development Indices: Recasting the Gender Development Index and the Gender Empowerment Measure for India: Govt. of India, 2009. :

Changing Status of Women in India: Historical and Contemporary Perspective

Unit-IV

Women's movement in India: National Commission of Women

Gender Narratives in Indian Epics: Sita and Draupadi.