

## **SW 451: Understanding Society**

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### **Course Objectives:**

- To develop a basic understanding of the sociological concepts
- To develop an understanding on the sociological theories
- To gather critical insights on the functioning of social institutions.
- To build perspectives on contemporary social problems.

### **Learning outcomes:**

- Understand basic sociological concepts and will be able to relate it to the field
- Develop a critical insight to analyse the any given event in the backdrop of the way a society functions
- Gather a perspective on contemporary issues and draw critical inferences.

## **COURSE CONTENT**

### **Unit I: Key Concepts**

- Introduction to Sociology and its relevance to Social Work
- Concepts- Society, Culture, Community
- Social structure and substructure, Social Stratification
- Social Institutions- Family, Marriage, Kinship, Religion
- Caste, Class, Status, Power and Authority
- Social Control
- Social mobility

### **Unit II: Sociological perspectives**

- Structural Functionalism
- Conflict and Contradiction
- Symbolic Interactionism
- Modernism and Post modernism

### **Unit III: Social Issues**

- Crime and deviance
- Politics of identity
- Agrarian Crisis
- Issues related to governance

**Text Books:**

Giddens, A. (2009). Sociology. Polity Press

Gupta, D (1997).(Ed.) Social Stratification. Oxford University Press. New Delhi

**Additional Readings:**

Burce, S. (2000). Sociology : A very short introduction : Oxford University Press

Deshpande, S. (2003). Contemporary India: A sociological: Penguin India

Menon, N., & Nigam, A. (2007). Power and contestation: India since 1989

Richard, T. S. (2010). Sociology: Tata McGraw-Hill Higher Education

Ritzer, G. (2012). Sociological theory: Tata McGraw Hill Education

Sudha, P. (2013). Dalit assertion: Oxford India Short Introductions

Jodhka, S. S. (2012). Caste: Oxford India Short Introductions

Tabassum, H. (2011). Encyclopedia of contemporary social problems in India: Anmol