

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMME IN SOCIOLOGY

			Semester:	6	Paper No:	16
Paper Title:	SOCIAL STRATIFICATION					

COURSE SUMMARY

Objectives: The course introduces the student to the many kinds of differences and inequalities that exist in society. The different forms and institutional manifestations of social stratification are explored both theoretically and through case studies.

Outline:

- 1. The Idea of Social Stratification**
 - 1.1. Natural and social inequalities
 - 1.2. Hierarchy and differences
- 2. Approaches to Social Stratification**
 - 2.1. Functionalist
 - 2.2. Marxian
 - 2.3. Weberian
- 3. Forms of Social Stratification**
 - 3.1. Class and Caste
 - 3.2. Race and Ethnicity
 - 3.3. Gender and Sexuality
 - 3.4. Intersectionality

COURSE CONTENTS AND ITINERARY

1. The Idea of Social Stratification (Weeks 1-3)

- 1.1 Beteille, A. 1983. 'Introduction' in Andre Beteille (ed.): *Equality and Inequality: Theory and Practice*; Delhi: Oxford University Press. pp.1-27.
- 1.2 Gupta, D. 1991. 'Hierarchy and Difference' in Dipankar Gupta (ed.): *Social Stratification* Delhi: Oxford University Press , pp 1-21.

2. Approaches: (Weeks 4-8)

2.1 Functional Approach

- 2.1.1 Parsons, T.1970. "An Analytical Approach To The Theory Of Stratification", in *American Journal of Sociology*, vol. 45: 841-862.
- 2.1.2 Tumin, M.M. 1967. *Social Stratification: The Forms and Functions of Inequality*. Englewood, Cliffs N.J: Prentice Hall, pp.1-62.
- 2.1.3 Davis, K and Moore, W.E. 1945. "Some Principles of Stratification", in *American Sociological Review*, 10, pp. 242-249.

2.2 Marxian Approach

- 2.2.1 Marx, K. 1852/1963. *The Eighteenth Brumaire of Louis Bonaparte*. New York: International Publishers. Preface, pp.i-ix.
- 2.2.2 Bendix, R and Lipset,S.M. (eds.). 1966. *Class, Status and Power: Social Stratification in Comparative Perspective*. New York: The Free Press. (Part I), pp.5-11.
- 2.2.3 Grusky, D.V. 1994. *Social Stratification Perspective*. Boulder: Westview Press, Part, III, Pp-65-78, 82.

2.3 Weberian Approach

- 2.3.1 Bendix, R. and Lipset, S.M. (eds.). 1966. *Class, Status and Power: Social Stratification in Comparative Perspective*. New York: The Free Press. (Part I), pp.21-28.
- 2.3.2 Collins, and Parkin. 1984. *The Structure of Closure: A Critique and Development of the Theories of Weber*, *The British Journal of Sociology* Volume XXXV, Page 547 of 547-567

3. Contemporary Issues and Debates in Stratification: [Weeks 9-10]

3.1 Class and Caste

- 3.1.1 Beteille, A. 2012. *Class, Caste and Power: Changing patterns of stratification in a Tanjore village*. Oxford University Press, Conclusion.
- 3.1.2 Wright, Erik Olin. *Class Counts*, Cambridge University Press. pp.4-24.
- 3.1.3 U. Sharma. 1999. *Caste*. Open University Press, pp.1-94.

3.2 Race and Ethnicity

- 3.2.1 Wilson, William Junius. 1978, *The Declining Significance of Race: Blacks and Changing American Institution*. University of Chicago Press, - 1 to 23. And 183-188.
- 3.2.2 Feagin, Joe R. 'The Continuing significance of Race' *American Sociological Review*, 56, (Feb-91) PP-101-116.
- 3.2.3 McClintock, Anne, and George Robertso. 'Soft-soaping Empire: Commodity Racism and Imperial Advertising' In Nicholas Mirzoeff (ed) *The Visual Culture Reader: Second Edition*. 2002. Routledge Taylor & Francis Group (12 pgs).
- 3.2.4 Barth, Frederik (ed,). *Ethnic Groups and Boundaries* ,Little Brown and Co. Boston, 1969, pp.10-16
- 3.2.5 Wallerstein, Immanuel M. 1991. "The Construction of Peoplehood: Racism, Nationalism, Ethnicity", in I.M. Wallerstein and E. Balibar (eds) *Race, Nation, Class: Ambiguous Identities*, Verso: London, pp.71-85.

3.3 Gender and Sexuality

- 3.3.1 Crompton, R. and M. Mann. (eds.). 1986. *Gender and Stratification*. Cambridge: Polity Press, Chapter 3, pp.23-39.
- 3.3.2 Menon, Nivedita (ed.) 2007. *Sexualities. Women Unlimited: New Delhi*. "Outing Heteronormativity: Nation, Citizen, Feminist disruptions"(pp3-51)

3.4 Intersectionality

- 3.4.1 Angela Davis 1983. *Women, Race and Class*, New York: Virago Press. Chapters 3,4,9 (pp. 46-69, 70-86, 137-148).

As part of their internal assessment evaluation, besides regular assignments students will be encouraged to critically examine contemporary issues pertaining to stratification.