

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMME IN SOCIOLOGY

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| | | | | Semester: | 6 | Paper No: | 18 |
| Paper Title: | URBAN SOCIOLOGY | | | | | | |

COURSE SUMMARY

Objectives: This course provides an exposure to key theoretical perspectives for understanding urban life in historical and contemporary contexts. It also reflects on some concerns of urban living while narrating the subjective experiences of urban communities. With case studies from India and other parts of the world this course will help students relate to the complexities of urban living.

Outline: **1. Introducing Urban Sociology: Urban, Urbanism and the City**

2. Perspectives

- 2.1. Ecological
- 2.2. Political Economy
- 2.3. Network
- 2.4. City as Culture

3. Movements and Settlements

- 3.1. Migration
- 3.2. Community

4. Politics of Urban Space:

- 4.1. Culture and Leisure
- 4.2. Caste, Class and Gender

COURSE CONTENTS AND ITINERARY

1. Introducing Urban Sociology: Urban, Urbanism and the City: [Week 1]

- 1.1 Lewis, Wirth 1938 "Urbanism as a way of Life" in *American Journal of Sociology*, Vol. 44, No.1 (July), Pp1-24
- 1.2 Mumford, Lewis 1961. *The City in History: its origins and transformations and its prospects*. Mariner Books: Pp 3-29,94-118

2. Perspectives: [Weeks 2-4 –could be more/less]

- 2.1. Hannerz, Ulf 1980. *Exploring the City: Toward an Urban Anthropology*, NY: Columbia University Press. Chapter 2. Pp 19-58
- 2.2 Manuel, Castells 2002, "Conceptualising the city in the information age", in I. Susser (ed.) *The Castells Reader on Cities and Social Theory*, Blackwell Publishers, Malden, Ma, Pp. 1-13
- 2.3 Sassen, S. 2002, "Cities and communities in the global economy: Rethinking our concepts", in Michael Pacione (ed.), *The City: Critical Concepts in the Social Sciences*, Vol.1 London: Routledge. Pp. 382-392
- 2.4 Weber, Max 1978. *The City*. The Free Press: New York. Pp 65-89

3. Movements and Settlements: [Weeks 4-7 – could be more/less]

- 3.1 Rao, M.S.A, 1981, "Some aspects of the sociology of migration", *Sociological Bulletin*, Vol. 30, 1. Pp21-38
- 3.2 Anand, Inbanathan. 2003, "Migration and Adaptation: Lower Caste Tamils in a Delhi Resettlement Colony" in Ranvinder Singh Sandhu (ed.) *Urbanization in India*. Sage: New Delhi. Pp 232-246
- 3.3 Benjamin S, 2004, "Urban Land Transformation for Pro-Poor Economies", *Geoforum*, Volume 35, Issue 2, March 2004, Pp. 177-197
- 3.4. Manuel Castells, 1983, "Cultural Identity, Sexual Liberation and Urban Structure: The Gay Community" in *San Francisco in City and the Grassroots*, Pp 138-170

4. Politics of Urban Space: [Weeks 4-7 – could be more/less]

- 4.1 Simmel, George, 1903, "Metropolis and the Mental Life" in Gary Bridge and Sophie Watson, eds. *The Blackwell City Reader*. Oxford and Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell, 2002. http://www.blackwellpublishing.com/content/bpl_images/content_store/sample_chapter/0631225137/bridge.pdf , Pp 11-19

- 4.2 Grazian, David, 2009, "Urban Nightlife, Social Capital, and the Public Life of Cities" *Sociological Forum*, Vol. 24, No. 4 (Dec., 2009), pp. 908-917, www.JSTOR.ORG
- 4.3 Kamath, Lalitha and Vijayabaskar, M, 2009 "Limits and possibilities of Middle Class Associations as Urban collective actors", *Economic & Political Weekly*, June 27, 2009 vol XLIV No. 26 & 27, Pp 368 -376
- 4.4 Ayyar, Varsha ,2013. "Caste and Gender in a Mumbai resettlement site", *Economic & Political Weekly*, May 4, Vol. XLVIII, No 18, Pp 44-55
- 4.5 Nair, Janaki "Battles for Bangalore: Reterritorialising the City", Pp 1-21 <http://www.bangalorenates.com/nairpap.pdf>
- 4.6 Shilpa, Phadke, 2006. "You can be Lonely in a Crowd" in Sujata Patel and Kushal Deb (eds) *Urban Studies*. OUP: Delhi, Pp- 466-483

[Projects, feature films and documentary screenings and field visits will be an integral part of the coursework]

SUGGESTED READINGS

Students will not be examined on the suggested readings but may use them for projects, and presentations that will be woven into the course.

Kumar, Nita, 1988. *The Artisans of Banaras. Popular Culture and Identity, 1880—1986*, Princeton: Princeton University Press.

Patel, Sujata, 2006. "Bombay and Mumbai, Identities, Politics and Populism" in Sujata Patel & Kushal Deb (eds) *Urban Studies*. OUP :Delhi (Pp 249-273)

Eck, Diana, 1983. *Banaras: City of light*, London: Routledge and Kegan Paul.

Naidu, Ratna. 1990. *Old cities and New predicaments: A Study of Hyderabad*. New Delhi: Sage