

M.A New Course Introduced

New Elective Course

SOC 225: Society and Ecology

This course will introduce students to sociological approaches to understanding the relationship between society and ecology. The scope ranges from philosophical engagements with the distinction between nature and culture, to understanding perceptions and impacts of environmental change, to examining institutions and social structures that shape our engagement with nature. The course will familiarize students with the wide range of issues that animate the field, and examine some of the key debates by engaging with ethnographic work and specific case studies.

1. **Social ecology**
 - a) Mapping the field
 - b) Ideas of Natures
2. **Explaining environmental degradation**
 - a) Population, consumption, development
 - b) Disasters, hazards and risk
3. **Environmentalism**
 - a) Environment and social movements
 - b) Environmental justice: gender, class, caste, race
4. **Environmental governance and Institutions**
 - a) State, community, commons
 - b) Global environmental governance (problems, institutions, policies, politics)

MPhil New Courses Introduced

2.17 CLIMATE CHANGE AND SOCIETY

Syllabus to be announced.

2.20 TEXTS OF OUR TIMES

Syllabus to be announced.

2.5 SOCIOLOGY OF CIVIL WAR

1. Defining civil war: Historical and contemporary perspectives
2. The logic of violence in civil war
3. The culture of civil war: A repertory of practices
4. Political economy of war
5. Democracy, sovereignty, and citizenship
6. Reparations, truth and reconciliation

TEXTS IN MODERN INDIAN SOCIAL THOUGHT

This course is designed to facilitate a text-based critical appreciation of modern Indian social thought. The term "social thought" is broadly construed and not limited by any consideration other than the availability of primary texts. In a given semester, three to four such texts and their authors would be studied, with the framework for discussion determined by the interests of the instructor and the students opting for the course. The emphasis is on primary texts, though secondary writings may be used to frame discussion. The overall objective is promote first-hand knowledge of what was written and said by socially influential thinkers and leaders who are not usually included in the sociological canon.

Evaluation will be based, as for other M.Phil. Courses, a combination of oral presentations, written assignments, and end-term exam or essay.

BIOPOLITICS AND SOCIAL LIFE

This course will begin with a thorough understanding of the foundations of bio-politics and will proceed to understand how they inform the formulation and imagination of the social. The course will privilege the various ways in which sociological and social anthropological research and writing have used the biopolitical analytic as an intervention. Moreover, the intent of the course is to understand the critical implications of bio-politics from a non-western perspective, in this case, India. Illustratively, contexts of big data, digitized citizenship, strategies of social

inclusion - exclusion, financial re-modulations etc. in India are amenable to a biopolitical analysis and can be employed in a critical exploration of the bio-power framework.

The following lists some of the core concepts (albeit, overlapping) that are likely to be discussed.

- a. Big data and Socio-technologies
- b. Governance and Citizenship
- c. Security and Surveillance
- d. Cellular Bodies and Bio-Populations
- e. Ontologies of Life and Non-life
- f. Affective and Emotional Politics of Life
- g. Economy, Labor and Human Capital