

Bachelor of Arts - Special Degree in Sociology (Part I)			
Course Title	Classical Sociological Theory		
Course Code	SOC2116	Notional hours	150
No. of Credits	3	Lectures, group discussions, reading based presentations	
Pre-requisites Course Codes	None		
Course Type	<i>Core</i>		
Course Description			
<p>Eighteenth century Europe can be identified as a unique era in the history of intellectual development for many reasons. Age of enlightenment that preceded this period had already paved the way for many unique disciplines to emerge, both natural sciences and social sciences, so that eighteenth century witnesses the formation of many of these disciplines into specialized, individual disciplines, focusing on a common scientific methodological base, namely, positivism. Sociology as a discipline emerged at this important intellectual juncture of the history of human society, based on the same positivist ideology as a unique social science which takes a holistic approach to the study of society, social phenomena and social change. The development of sociology also accompanies the social changes that took place in Europe and elsewhere in the world and as a distinct social science has since then introduced a wide array of perspectives to the sociological study of society.</p> <p>This course attempts to look at the early origins and subsequent developments of sociology, from the late eighteenth century to the early twentieth century in Europe. It focuses on a number of key thinkers and their contributions to the field of sociology. Several original and secondary writings by and on these classical theorists will be used in the classes and students are expected to read widely. Other than the prescribed texts, readings will be assigned for each lecture and the reading of prescribed material to supplement the references provided in the class would be essential.</p>			

Bachelor of Arts - Special Degree in Sociology (Part I)			
Course Title	Social Institutions		
Course Code	SOC 2121	Notional hours	150
No. of Credits	3	Lectures, discussion classes	
Pre-requisites Course Codes	None		
Course Type	<i>Core</i>		
Course Description			
<p>In sociology, the importance of the concepts and theories of social institutions cannot be overstated. Every piece of sociological research concerns one or more social institution and interactions within them. This course focuses on understanding the theories, composition, role and issues pertaining to the main social institutions that form the foundation for sociological discussion.</p>			

Bachelor of Arts - Special Degree in Sociology (Part I)

Course Title	Social Inequality		
Course Code	SOC 2124	Notional hours	150
No. of Credits	3	Lectures, tutorials and movie screenings	
Pre-requisites Course Codes	None		
Course Type	<i>Optional</i>		

Course Description

Social inequalities are present among individuals and groups locally, regionally and globally. This course introduces students to aspects of social inequality by focusing on empirical findings from social-scientific research and on theoretical foundations of inequality.

Bachelor of Arts - Special Degree in Sociology (Part I)			
Course Title	South Asian Ethnography		
Course Code	SOC 2126	Notional hours	150
No. of Credits	3	Lectures, tutorials	
Pre-requisites Course Codes	None		
Course Type	<i>Optional</i>		
Course Description			
<p>This course aims to provide undergraduate students with an overview of the rich anthropological literature dealing with South Asia with an emphasis on Sri Lanka and India. Looking both at Classic texts by writers such as Louis Dumont and Edmund Leach; more recent works that are attaining the status of classics by writers such as Gananath Obeyesekere and Ranajit Guha and more contemporary work by authors such as Veena Das and Sudhir Karkar for India and Daniel Bass, Sharika Thiranagama, and Rebecca Walker for Sri Lanka, this reading intensive course will provide students with exposure both to the material as well as to the method and theories of ethnographic research and the genre of ethnographic writing.</p>			

Bachelor of Arts - Special Degree in Sociology (Part I)

Course Title	Concepts and Approaches in Social Psychology		
Course Code	SOC 2129	Notional hours	150
No. of Credits	3	Lectures, Discussions, guided practical work, self-study	
Pre-requisites Course Codes	None		
Course Type	<i>Optional</i>		

Course Description

Social psychology is a discipline that uses scientific methods "to understand and explain how the thought, feeling and behavior of individuals are influenced by the actual, imagined or implied presence of other human beings" (1985). Social psychology looks at a wide range of social aspects of interpersonal behaviour including group behavior, social perception, leadership, nonverbal behavior, conformity, aggression and prejudice. It is important to note that social psychology is not just about looking at social influences. Social perception and social interaction are also vital to understanding social behavior. The objective of the course is to broadly explain the field of social psychology. It explains that social psychology focuses on the groups' effects and social influences on the individual. Amongst the areas studied are the formation of identity, attitudes, identification and the impact of reference groups. The relevant and application of social psychological issues in Sri Lanka will be emphasized and discussed.

Bachelor of Arts - Special Degree in Sociology (Part I)			
Course Title	Environmental Sociology		
Course Code	SOC 2232	Notional hours	150
No. of Credits	3	Lectures, tutorials, field visits, discussions, presentation	
Pre-requisites Course Codes	None		
Course Type	<i>Optional</i>		
Course Description			
<p>Environment became a major concern following industrialization & urbanization as these developments contributed to the deterioration of the environment. The result has been an increasingly negative effect on the humans & other species on earth. Sociologists are concerned with the management of social change in order to maintain harmony between society and the environment. This course provides an introduction to environmental sociology while focusing on 'conservation' and sustainability as major issues from a multi-disciplinary perspective. This course also attempts to introduce the themes and concepts of political ecology and environmental anthropology parallel to environmental sociology in analyzing contemporary social-environmental issues.</p>			

Bachelor of Arts - Special Degree in Sociology (Part I)

Course Title	Urban Sociology: Theory and Practice		
Course Code	SOC 2133	Notional hours	150
No. of Credits	3	Lectures, discussions, guided practical work, self-study	
Pre-requisites Course Codes	None		
Course Type	<i>Optional</i>		

Course Description

The course examines classical and contemporary traditions of urban sociological theory to provide students with a theoretical foundation to understand the city from a sociological point of view and pursue urban sociological studies. Thus, we examine the key theoretical paradigms that have constituted the field since its' founding, assess how and why they have changed over time, and discuss the implications of these paradigmatic shifts for urban scholarship, social policy and planning practice.

Bachelor of Arts - Special Degree in Sociology (Part I)			
Course Title	Introduction to Social Work		
Course Code	SOC 2138	Notional hours	150
No. of Credits	3	Lectures and practice placement work	
Pre-requisites Course Codes	None		
Course Type	<i>Core course module offered for social work study stream</i>		
Course Description			
<p>Human beings live and engage in ongoing interactions with one another within a variety of social institutions that form a society. The task of social workers is to understand these relationships and facilitate the necessary changes in situations where people experience difficulties in continuing these relationships. The major focus of social work is to work towards social justice which is a fundamental principle of social work philosophy.</p> <p>Power imbalance is a basic characteristic of the society in which we live. These power imbalances are based on age, class, caste, ethnicity, gender, geographic location, health and physical ability. Personal problems could be seen as intrinsically linked with these oppressive structures. Social workers are expected to understand and transform the injustices prevailing in social institutions and assist individual and groups to take control of their own lives.</p>			

Bachelor of Arts - Special Degree in Sociology (Part I)

Course Title	Research Methodology		
Course Code	SOC 2219	Notional hours	150
No. of Credits	3	Lectures, discussions, guided practical work, self-study	
Pre-requisites Course Codes	None		
Course Type	<i>Core</i>		

Course Description

This course is designed to promote understanding of the research process in social sciences. The main differences between scientific and non-scientific research, philosophy of science, research methods and data analysis will be examined in detail under this course which in turn would assist the students to conduct their own scientific research.

Bachelor of Arts - Special Degree in Sociology (Part I)			
Course Title	Sociology of Gender		
Course Code	SOC 2220	Notional hours	150
No. of Credits	3	Lectures, discussions, guided practical work, self-study	
Pre-requisites Course Codes	none		
Course Type	<i>Optional</i>		
Course Description			
<p>This course will introduce students to the concept of gender as a defining element of social inequality. Engaging with early theoretical writings on gender difference that looked at the concept of “woman” critically, and looking also at the manner in which feminist theory understood concepts such as “women’s liberation,” this course will introduce students to theoretical ideas regarding gender difference. This course will also introduce the concept of masculinity as emerging from the insights brought about from understanding gender as a critical social science category. The theoretical readings will be supplemented by films produced in Sri Lanka and abroad and other material such as magazines, blogs, newspaper articles to understand the manner in which individuals become socialized as men and women and how gender roles become mobilized for political social and economic ends.</p>			

Bachelor of Arts - Special Degree in Sociology (Part I)			
Course Title	Social Statistics		
Course Code	SOC 2223	Notional hours	150
No. of Credits	3	Lectures, discussion classes	
Pre-requisites Course Codes	None		
Course Type	<i>Core</i>		
Course Description			
<p>This course introduces basics of social statistics—techniques that sociologists and other social scientists use to summarize numeric data obtained from surveys. The topics include frequency distribution, central tendency and measures of dispersion. It further covers to topics of relationship between two or more variables the basics of regression analysis.</p>			

Bachelor of Arts - Special Degree in Sociology (Part I)			
Course Title	Social Statistics		
Course Code	SOC 2223	Notional hours	150
No. of Credits	3	Lectures, discussion classes	
Pre-requisites Course Codes	None		
Course Type	<i>Core</i>		
Course Description			
<p>This course introduces basics of social statistics—techniques that sociologists and other social scientists use to summarize numeric data obtained from surveys. The topics include frequency distribution, central tendency and measures of dispersion. It further covers to topics of relationship between two or more variables the basics of regression analysis.</p>			

Bachelor of Arts - Special Degree in Sociology (Part I)

Course Title	Concepts and Approaches in Social Psychology		
Course Code	SOC 2229	Notional hours	150
No. of Credits	3	Lectures, discussions	
Pre-requisites Course Codes	None		
Course Type	<i>Optional</i>		

Course Description

According to psychologist Gordon Allport, social psychology is a discipline that uses scientific methods "to understand and explain how the thought, feeling and behavior of individuals are influenced by the actual, imagined or implied presence of other human beings" (1985). Social psychology looks at a wide range of social topics, including group behavior, social perception, leadership, nonverbal behavior, conformity, aggression and prejudice. It is important to note that social psychology is not just about looking at social influences. Social perception and social interaction are also vital to understanding social behavior. The objective of the course is to broadly explain the field of social psychology. It explains that social psychology focuses on the groups' effects and social influences on the individual. Amongst the areas studied are the formation of identity, attitudes, identification and the impact of reference groups. The relevant and application of social psychological issues in Sri Lanka will be emphasized and discussed.

Bachelor of Arts - Special Degree in Sociology (Part I)			
Course Title	Minorities and Society		
Course Code	SOC 2234	Notional hours	150
No. of Credits	3	Lectures, tutorials	
Pre-requisites Course Codes	None		
Course Type	<i>Optional</i>		
Course Description			
<p>This course is an introduction to the study of majority-minority relations from various theoretical and conceptual angles. The course focuses on introducing majority-minority relations from the perspectives of social psychology, cultural, structural and post-structural. The course will also provide students with an understanding of contemporary minority issues particularly in relation to Sri Lanka.</p>			

Bachelor of Arts - Special Degree in Sociology (Part I)			
Course Title	Social Work with Groups at Risk of Social Exclusion and Poverty		
Course Code	SOC 2269	Notional hours	150
No. of Credits	3	Lectures, practice placement work	
Pre-requisites Course Codes	None		
Course Type	<i>Core course module offered for social work study stream</i>		
Course Description			
<p>The concept of social exclusion is a central focus of government policy and is rapidly moving to the core of practitioner activity. The notion of social exclusion entered mainstream discourse as long-term unemployment and "new poverty" became common features of the industrialized world. It has since become part of larger debates such as the social effects of globalization; and the implications of fiscal crisis for the future of the welfare state. The question is the contribution made by the concept of social exclusion to the current understanding of poverty. The course suggests that the concept of social exclusion has certain advantages. It provides an integrated and dynamic analytical perspective which reveals the processes; agency; and multi-dimensionality of disadvantage. It provides a framework for analysing the relationship between livelihood, well-being and rights. And by relating social and economic status to the notion of citizenship, it generates a collective moral responsibility for social integration. The difficulty in attaining a satisfactory inclusion in society is in the centre of interest of social work profession.</p>			