

Study Stream in Applied Sociological Studies

Course Title	Concepts and Approaches in Social Psychology		
Course Code	SOC 2229	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.

Study Stream in Applied Sociological Studies			
Course Title	Theoretical Perspectives in Sociology		
Course Code	SOC 2130	Notional Hours	150
No. of Credits	3	Lectures, discussions, guided practical work, self-study	
Pre-requisites Course Codes	SOC 1101 & SOC 1202		
Course Type	<i>Core</i>		
Course Description			
<p>This course is intended to provide an overview of Sociological Theory from classical to modern times. It introduces to the students the theoretical developments in Sociology paying attention to the key contributors to theory and their seminal work and ideas. This course unit is designed to provide the students with an understanding of how theory provides the basis to analyze various aspects of society and social life.</p>			

Study Stream in Applied Sociological Studies			
Course Title	Social Policy and Social Planning		
Course Code	SOC 2131	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 introduces the field of social policy and social planning. While local material and experience in the field will be the main sources of empirical data for analysis, the course will be informed by an international perspective. Some of the international literature will be reviewed as a background to the course.</p>			

Study Stream in Applied Sociological Studies			
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			
<p>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.</p>			

Study Stream in Applied Sociological Studies			
Course Title	Sociological Perspectives on Media		
Course Code	SOC 2135	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 is designed with the understanding that media literacy is an essential skill for a graduate to engage with both the world of work as well as the broader social world that she/he is a part of. Therefore, this course will enable students to critically understand the historical emergence of media technologies, and the manner in which they transformed society. Students will evaluate media products and have knowledge of the formulation and creation of such media products.</p>			

Study Stream in Applied Sociological Studies

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.

Study Stream in Applied Sociological Studies			
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>			

Study Stream in Applied Sociological Studies			
Course Title	Understanding Sri Lankan Society and Cultural Diversity		
Course Code	SOC 2228	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>The present course of study takes a contemporary approach to examine sociological/ anthropological factors underlying selected key social or cultural phenomena observed to be at work in Sri Lankan society in its colonial and post-colonial period. This course seeks to develop an understanding of Sri Lankan society around several selected themes: caste and class, ethnicity and nationalism, education, violence and reconciliation, plural worship and religiosity and “popular culture”. A set of core readings are organized around the selected themes. An additional set of background readings are identified with a view to raise conceptual issues that contrast with some of the concepts found in the core readings and the contemporary sociological usage, such as the idea of “society” or the “social”, “culture” and “identity.</p>			

Study Stream in Applied Sociological Studies			
Course Title	Introduction to Social Work and Volunteerism		
Course Code	SOC 2237	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>The main aim of this course is to provide an introduction to social work and volunteering. The course will explore the critical contribution that volunteering and social work make to social development. The course provides students with the theoretical knowledge and skills required in social work and volunteer practice.</p>			