Study Stream in Urban and Community Studies			
Course Title	Social Institutions		
Course Code	SOC 2121	**Notional hours**	150
No. of Credits	3	Lectures, discussions, guided practical work, self-study	
Pre-requisites Course Codes	None		
Course Type	*Optional*		
Course Description			
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.			

Study Stream in Urban and Community Studies			
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	*Optional*		

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 Urban and Community 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	*Core*		

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.

Study Stream in Urban and Community Studies			
Course Title	Urban Social Issues and the Informal Sector		
Course Code	SOC 2136	**Notional hours**	150
No. of Credits	3	Lectures, discussions, guided practical work, self-study	
Pre-requisites Course Codes	None		
Course Type	*Optional*		

Course Description

This course unit seeks to provide students with the analytical and practical tools to engage reflexively with urban development and planning challenges thrown up by rapid social, economic and political changes in the global South. Key issues covered in the course unit include the impact of the informal economy on labor markets, weak cities, gender empowerment, urban services, urban social enterprise, social policy, and popular politics. Attention will be focused on the potential as well as risks of large informal economies in the face of contemporary development challenges, drawing on empirical evidence and comparative case studies from across the cities in the developing world.

Study Stream in Urban and Community Studies			
Course Title	Introduction to Urban and Community Studies		
Course Code	SOC 2217	**Notional hours**	150
No. of Credits	3	Lectures, discussions, guided practical work, self-study	
Pre-requisites Course Codes	None		
Course Type	*Core*		

Course Description This course is an introduction to the interdisciplinary field of Urban Studies. The course will present models of how scholars approach cities from a variety of disciplinary view points, including Anthropology, Archaeology, Architecture, Demography, Economics, Geography, History, Law, Political Science & Public Policy, Planning and Sociology. Students will learn some of the major concepts in the field of Urban Studies, and will study the works of leading scholars in the field over the last hundred years.			

Study Stream in Urban and Community Studies			
Course Title	Introduction to Urban Education		
Course Code	SOC 2218	**Notional hours**	150
No. of Credits	3	Lectures, discussions, self-study	
Pre-requisites Course Codes	None		
Course Type	*Optional*		

Course Description

Urban life is usually seen as a unique phenomenon worthy of special attention in understanding society of any given society. The 21st Century has witnessed rapid and large scale urbanization across the globe impacting all aspects of human life. School education too has experienced an urbanized flavor in its make-up, issues and processes. Across the developed and the developing world, children attending urban schools are seen as a heterogeneous group in terms of colour, ethnicity and language but homogenous in terms of social class. This course attempts to provide an understanding of the unique attributes and problems of urban schools to enable students to gain the knowledge required for a critical analysis of the urban schools in Sri Lanka.

Study Stream in Urban and Community 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	*Core*		

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.