

# Syllabus

## M.A. Sociology – Semester-I

### SOC R 411 : History of Social Thought

PANJAB UNIVERSITY, CHANDIGARH (2021-2022)

#### Objective :

1. To introduce students to historical evolution of sociological thought.
2. To sensitize students to a detailed study of Classical Sociologists, i.e. Karl Marx, Max Weber and Emile Durkheim.
3. To apply the formulation of these thinkers to contemporary issues.

#### INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE PAPER-SETTER AND THE CANDIDATES

- (i) The theory question paper will be of 80 marks and 20 marks will be for internal assessment. Duration of the paper will be 3 hours.
- (ii) For private candidates, who have not been assessed earlier for internal assessment, the marks secured by them in theory paper will proportionately be increased to the maximum marks of the paper in lieu of internal assessment.

**The paper setter must put note (ii) in the question paper.**

*The syllabus has been divided into four units.*

There shall be 9 questions in all. The first question is compulsory and shall be short answer type containing 10 short questions spread over the whole syllabus to be answered in about 30 to 35 words each, carrying 20 marks i.e. 2 marks each. Rest of the paper shall contain 4 units. Each unit shall have two long questions and the candidates shall be given internal choice of attempting one question from each Unit – 4 in all. Each question will carry 15 marks.

#### Course Outline:

##### Unit-I

A brief review of Enlightenment Thought with special reference to Rousseau; and of the Conservative Reaction to it, with special reference to St. Simon and Auguste Comte.

##### Unit-II

**Karl Marx:** Methodology - the concepts of Totality: Historical Materialism, Human Praxis.

Basic Concepts: Means, Relations and Modes of Production: Base and Super-structure; Contradiction; Exploitation; Alienation.

Epochs of social development with special reference to Capitalism; Classes and Class Conflict.

##### Unit-III

**Max Weber:** Methodology-Verstehen, Value-Neutrality and Objectivity, Generality and the Ideal Type;

Basic concepts: Social action and its Types, Social Relationships; Power, Domination and Legitimate Order.

Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism; the Rationalization Process, Bureaucracy, Distribution of Power and Social Stratification.

##### Unit-IV

**Emile Durkheim:** Methodology-the nature of Social Facts and their Causation.

Basic concepts: Individual and Collective Conscience, Social Solidarity and Anomie; the Sacred and Profane, the nature of Religion, Suicide as social fact.

Mechanical to Organic Solidarity, Differentiation and Social Division of Labour.

**Note:** Please compare the Syllabus with the Syllabus issued by the University. We are not responsible about it.