



Indraprastha College for Women University of Delhi

Work Plan for ODD SEMESTER – 2026

Course Name:	B.A. (Honours) Sociology
Paper Title:	Political Sociology
Unique Paper Code:	2302102302
Semester:	III
Faculty:	DEEKSHA GANGWAR
Year:	2026

Work Plan			
Unit No.	Learning Objective	Lecture No.	Topics to be Covered
I	To introduce the field of political sociology and enable students to critically examine classical and contemporary theorisations of power, domination and authority (Weber, Piven & Cloward, Foucault).	1	Bottomore — Political Sociology, Introduction (pp. 7–19): defining political sociology
I		2–4	Weber — Sociological Writings (pp. 9–13, 23–24, 28–46 part 1): power, domination, traditional & charismatic authority
I		5–6	Weber — Sociological Writings (pp. 28–46 part 2, 59–67): legal-rational authority and bureaucracy
I		7–8	Piven & Cloward — Rule Making, Rule Breaking and Power (pp. 33–43): power of the ruled, rule-making vs rule-breaking
I		9–10	Piven & Cloward — Rule Making, Rule Breaking and Power (pp. 43–53): disruption and protest as political power
I		11–13	Foucault — Two Lectures (pp. 200–213): power beyond the state, power as everywhere

I		14–15	Foucault — Two Lectures (pp. 213–221): disciplinary power; Unit I recap & discussion
II	To familiarize students with theories of class, elite rule, the state and nationhood, enabling them to critically assess who holds power in modern societies and how state power intersects with class, bureaucracy and national identity.	16–17	Miliband — Class Power and State Power, Ch. 4 (pp. 63–77): state and class interests
II		18–19	Albertoni — Mosca and the Theory of Elitism, Ch. 9 (pp. 109–119): the ruling class thesis
II		20–22	Bourdieu — Rethinking the State (pp. 1–18): the bureaucratic field and symbolic power
II		23–24	Chatterjee — The State (pp. 3–14): the state in postcolonial India
II		25–26	Smith & Hutchinson — Nationalism (pp. 21–25, 29–35): theorising the nation and nation-state
III	To examine key debates on democracy and citizenship, the relationship between national and local politics in India, and how caste identity and digital media shape political participation and mobilization today.	27–28	Bobbio — Future of Democracy, Ch. 1 (pp. 23–36): the promises of democracy
III		29	Bobbio — Future of Democracy, Ch. 1 (pp. 36–42): the broken promises of democracy
III		30–31	Marshall — Citizenship and Social Class (pp. 58–64): civil, political and social citizenship
III		32–33	Brass — National Power and Local Politics in India (pp. 89–108): national–local political linkages
III		34–35	Brass — National Power and Local Politics in India (pp. 108–118): local leaders, factions, unit recap
III		36–38	Weiner — The Struggle for Equality: Caste in Indian Politics (pp. 193–225): caste and political mobilization
III		39–41	Howard — Deep Democracy, Thin Citizenship (pp. 153–170): digital media and political campaigning

Unit	Contents/Syllabus
I	Introducing Political Sociology; Power and Authority — Weber's theory of power, domination and authority; Piven & Cloward on rule-making, rule-breaking and the power of the ruled; Foucault's conception of power beyond the state and disciplinary power.
II	Classes, Elites, States and Nations — Miliband on the state and class power; Mosca's theory of the ruling class; Bourdieu on the bureaucratic field; Chatterjee on the postcolonial Indian state; Smith & Hutchinson on nationalism and the nation-state.
III	Democracy, Citizenship and Local Politics — Bobbio on the promises and betrayals of democracy; Marshall on civil, political and social citizenship; Brass on national and local politics in India. Politics, Identities and Technology — Weiner on caste and political mobilization; Howard on digital media and political campaigning.

Name of Authors / Books / Publishers

S.No.	Name of Authors/Books/Publishers
1	Bottomore, Tom. (1983). Political Sociology, Bombay: BI Publications, Introduction, pp. 7–19.
2	Weber, Max. (1994). Sociological Writings. United Kingdom: Continuum. Pp. 9–13, 23–24, 28–46, 59–67.
3	Piven, Frances Fox and Richard A. Cloward. (2005). Rule Making, Rule Breaking, and Power in Thomas Janoski (Ed.), The Handbook of Political Sociology: States, Civil Societies, and Globalization. United States: Cambridge University Press. Pp. 33–53.
4	Foucault, Michel. (2021). Two Lectures, in Culture/Power/History: A Reader in Contemporary Social Theory. United States: Princeton University Press. Pp. 200–221.
5	Miliband, Ralph. (1983). Class Power and State Power. United Kingdom: Verso. Chapter 4. State Power and Class Interests. Pp. 63–77.
6	Albertoni, Ettore A. (1987). Mosca and the Theory of Elitism. United Kingdom: B. Blackwell. Chapter 9. The Italian School of Elitism: Between Myth and Reality. Pp. 109–119.
7	Bourdieu, Pierre. (1994). Rethinking the State: Genesis and Structure of the Bureaucratic Field. Sociological Theory 12(1): 1–18.
8	Chatterjee, Partha. (2010). The State. In The Oxford Companion to Politics in India. India: Oxford University Press. Pp. 3–14.
9	Smith, Anthony D. and John Hutchinson (Ed.) (1994). Nationalism. United Kingdom: Oxford University Press. Pp. 21–25, 29–35.
10	Bobbio, Norberto. (1987). Future of Democracy. United Kingdom: Wiley. Chapter 1. The Future of Democracy. Pp. 23–42.
11	Marshall, T. H. (2014). Extracts from Citizenship and Social Class. In Richard Bellamy et al. (Eds.), Citizenship: Volume I, What is Citizenship? Theories of Citizenship: Classic and Contemporary Debates. London: Routledge. Pp. 58–64.
12	Brass, P. R. (1984). National Power and Local Politics in India: A Twenty-year Perspective. Modern Asian Studies, 18(01). Pp. 89–118.
13	Weiner, Myron. (2001). The Struggle for Equality: Caste in Indian Politics, in A. Kohli (Ed.), The Success of India's Democracy. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Pp. 193–225.

14	Howard, P. N. (2005). Deep Democracy, Thin Citizenship: The Impact of Digital Media in Political Campaign Strategy. The ANNALS of the American Academy of Political and Social Science, 597(1), 153–170.
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	Paper Components		
Credits	Lecture (L)	Tutorial (T)	Practical (P)
4	3	1	0
Assessment Scheme			
S.No.	Component	Marking Scheme	Total Marks
1	Internal Assessment - Assignment - Class Test - Attendance	Assignment — 12 marks	30
		Class Test — 12 marks	
		Attendance (as per University norm)— 6 marks	
		Total 30	
2.	Continuous Assessment (Tutorial) - Activity 1 - Activity 2 - Attendance	Activity 1 — Term paper / class interactive activity based on presentation or group discussion — 15 marks	40
		Activity 2 — Film/book review based on political sociology — 20 marks	
		Attendance (as per University norms) — 5 marks	
		Total	
3.	Practical - Continuous Assessment - End Term Written/Practical Exam - Viva	Not Applicable	
		Not Applicable	
		Not Applicable	
		Not Applicable	
4.	End Semester Examination		90

