



Indraprastha College for Women University of Delhi

Work Plan for ODD SEMESTER – 2026

Course Name:	B.A. (Prog.) Sociology
Paper Title:	DSC-06: Polity and Society
Unique Paper Code:	2302202302
Semester:	Semester III
Faculty:	Dr. J. P. Singh
Year:	2026

Work Plan			
Unit No.	Learning Objective	Lecture No.	Topics to be Covered
I	Familiarize students with the sociological study of political life and political institutions.	1	Introduction to studying polity and society: sociological study of political life and political institutions.
I	Familiarize students with the sociological study of political life and political institutions.	2	Political life and political institutions: framing polity as a sociological object of study.
I	Familiarize students with the sociological study of political life and political institutions.	3	Reading focus: Elisabeth S. Clemens, What is Political Sociology?, Chapter 1, pp. 5–24.
I	Familiarize students with the sociological study of political life and political institutions.	4	Reading focus: T. B. Bottomore, Sociology: A Guide to Problems and Literature, Chapter 9: Political Institutions, pp. 151–167.
II	Familiarize students with perspectives on the sociological study of politics and their conceptual legacies.	5	Conceptual foundations: perspectives on the sociological study of politics and their conceptual legacies.
II	Understand authority as a central concept in the sociological study of politics.	6	Authority: sociological conceptualization and its relationship to political life.
II	Understand authority as a central concept in the sociological study of politics.	7	Reading focus: Robert Nisbet, The Sociological Tradition, Chapter 4: Authority, pp. 107–150.
II	Understand power and governmentality as conceptual legacies for studying politics.	8	Power: sociological approaches to understanding power in political and social relations.
II	Understand power and governmentality as conceptual legacies for studying politics.	9	Governmentality: Michel Foucault's conceptual contribution to the study of power.
II	Understand power and governmentality as conceptual legacies for studying politics.	10	Reading focus: Michel Foucault, Power: The Essential Works of Michel Foucault 1954–1984, Governmentality, pp. 201–222.
III	Map the articulation of polity and society in India from a sociological perspective.	11	Themes in politics and society in India: overview and sociological framing.
III	Examine the relationship between state and political economy in India.	12	State and the Political Economy: state–society relations in India from ancient times to the present.
III	Examine the relationship between state and political economy in India.	13	State and the Political Economy: democracy and economic transformation.

III	Understand democratic processes and local politics in the Indian context.	14	Democratic Processes and Local Politics: political participation and popular politics in North India.
III	Understand democratic processes and local politics in the Indian context.	15	Democratic Processes and Local Politics: local government and roots of contemporary Indian politics.
III	Examine political identities in Indian society.	16	Political Identities: nationalism and its articulation in Indian politics.
III	Examine political identities in Indian society.	17	Political Identities: caste and the struggle for equality in Indian politics.
III	Examine mobilizations and communications in Indian politics.	18	Mobilizations and Communications: grassroots mobilizations in Indian politics.
III	Examine mobilizations and communications in Indian politics.	19	Mobilizations and Communications: media and cultural politics.

Unit	Contents/Syllabus
I	On Studying Polity and Society (15 Hours): introduces students to the sociological study of political life and political institutions.
II	Conceptual Foundations (15 Hours): familiarizes students with perspectives on the sociological study of politics and their conceptual legacies.
III	Themes in Politics and Society in India (21 Hours): maps the articulation of polity and society in the Indian context. a. State and the Political Economy; b. Democratic Processes and Local Politics; c. Political Identities; d. Mobilizations and Communications.
S. No.	Name of Authors/Books/Publishers
1.	Clemens, Elisabeth S. (2016), What is Political Sociology?, Polity Press, Chapter 1, pp. 5–24.
2.	Bottomore, T. B. (1972), Sociology: A Guide to Problems and Literature, Vintage Books, Chapter 9: Political Institutions, pp. 151–167.
3.	Nisbet, Robert (1993), The Sociological Tradition, Transaction Publishers, Chapter 4: Authority, pp. 107–150.
4.	Foucault, Michel (2019), Power: The Essential Works of Michel Foucault 1954–1984, Penguin Books Limited, Governmentality, pp. 201–222.

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	As prescribed by Examination Branch	As prescribed
		As prescribed by Examination Branch	
		As prescribed by Examination Branch	
		As prescribed by Examination Branch	
2.	Continuous Assessment (Tutorial) • Activity 1 • Activity 2 • Attendance	As prescribed by Examination Branch	As prescribed
		As prescribed by Examination Branch	
		As prescribed by Examination Branch	
		As prescribed by Examination Branch	
3.	Practical Component: NIL	NIL	0
		NIL	
		NIL	
		NIL	
4.	End Semester Examination		