

Contemporary Social Theories

**I. The Crisis of Sociology and the Critique of Positivism**

1. Alvin Gouldner
2. C. Wright. Mills

**II. Marxism from 30s to 70s:**

1. Frankfurt school,
2. Althusser (Theory of Ideology)
3. Gramsci (Hegemony, Civil Society)

**III. Post Structuralism:**

1. Foucault
2. Derrida

**IV. Recent Trends in Sociological Theory:**

- a) Post-modernism: Jameson, Baudrillard, Lyotard
- b) Jurgen Habermas, Anthony Giddens and Pierre Bourdieu

## Sociology of Development

### **Unit I. Understanding Development – History and basic concepts**

1. Historical context of the idea of development – post II world war and end of colonialism, making of the Third World and desire for development
2. Basic concepts and indicators – Social change, Growth and Development, Social Development, Human Development Index, Gender Development Index, Millennium Development Goals, Sustainable development and Sustainable development Goals

### **Unit II. Perspectives on Development**

1. Modernization theory – Main tenets and arguments, limitations of modernization
2. Dependency theory – Main tenets and arguments, experience of Latin America
3. The Capability Approach
4. Doing Development – Experiences of Asia and Africa

### **Unit III. Alternative approaches and epistemological critiques of development**

1. Mahatma Gandhi's views on Development
2. Schumacher – Small is Beautiful
3. Feminist critique of development
4. Post-development perspective

### **Unit IV. Strategies and models of development – towards new paradigms**

1. Development and State – State driven development, role of planning
2. Civil society, NGOs and Community Development
3. Neo-liberalism and capitalist development
4. New paradigm of degrowth

## Urban Studies

### **Unit 1. Introduction to Urban Sociology**

1. What is Urban Sociology? Emergence and Evolution
2. History of Urbanization/City
3. Development of Urban Sociology in India
4. Importance and Relevance of Urban Sociology

### **Unit 2. Basic Concepts, Trends and Problems**

1. Town, city, urban agglomeration, metropol, megalopol/mega city, global city, edge city, satellite city
2. Urbanism, urbanization, urbanity, conurbation, over-urbanization, urban ecology, rural-urban fringe, Suburbanization, Urban Sprawl, Urban Renewal, and Gentrification/Urban Recycling

### **Unit 3. Theoretical Perspectives**

1. Classical Theories of City: Weber (The City); Simmel (Metropolis and Mental Life)
2. The Chicago School: Theories of Wirth, Burgess, Park
3. The New Urban Sociology: Henri Lefebvre, David Harvey, Manuel Castells, Cities in the South (M.P.Smith)

### **Unit 4. Neo-liberalism and Urban Policies and Governance**

1. Various policies and schemes in the last decade: JNNURM, Smart City, SRA RAY
2. Social Justice and Right to the Cities - Class, Caste, Ethnic and Gendered Segregation of Space
3. Migrant Informal sector labour, COVID-19 pandemic and Post-COVID cities

## Sociology of Gender

### **Unit I. Introduction to Sociology of Gender**

1. Conceptualising Gender- Sex, Gender, Gender Roles - Stereotypes, Gender Inequality/Power and Hierarchy, Sexual division of labour, Patriarchy, Politics of Body, Construction of Sexuality, Understanding masculinities
2. Gender Debates- Race, Caste, Class, Nationalism, State, Citizenship, Development
3. Feminist Thought- Liberal Feminism, Marxist Feminism, Socialist Feminism, Radical Feminism, Post-Modernist Feminism, Black Feminism, Dalit Feminism

### **Unit II. Gender, Family and Labour Markets**

1. Family as a Gendered Institution, Family as a site for violence
2. Women as 'Izzat'/Honour, Honour Killings
3. Women and work, gender stereotyping of jobs, glass ceiling
4. Globalisation and newer forms of gender-based exploitation, women and unorganised sector
5. Violence at the workplace and public spaces

### **Unit III. Gendering Education and Health**

1. Gender in School, Higher Education
2. Gendering Health: Perspective, Policy, and Programmes

### **Unit IV. Women's Movement and Resistance**

1. Rewriting History
2. Women's Movement- Campaigns, Organizations, Issues
3. Women's Movement and emergence of Women's Studies