

GOVERNMENT GENERAL DEGREE COLLEGE, MANGALKOTE
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

ADD-ON COURSE:
SOCIOLOGY OF SOCIAL POLICY
(Academic Session: 2022-2023)



Dr. Pradipta Kumar Basu
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Dt. Purba Bardhaman, West Bengal- 713132

COURSE BACKGROUND

The add-on course titled Sociology of Social Policy will delve into the intricate relations between society and the policies designed to address social problems and issues. It examines how social policies are formulated and implemented, and their impact on individuals, communities, and society as a whole. Social Policy refers to the principles, plans, and actions undertaken by governments and other public institutions to address concerns related to poverty, inequality, healthcare, education, and welfare. Through a sociological lens, it analyses the underlying structures, ideologies, and power dynamics that shape the development, designing and implementation of social policies.

The add-on course will critically examine the origin, scope and characteristics of Social Policy, considering their intended goals, unintended consequences, and distributional impacts. It will explore contemporary debates and challenges in social policy, such as globalization, demographic shifts, and technological advancements.

Whether one is interested in pursuing a career in Social Policy, advocating for social change, or simply seeking a deeper understanding of the complex interactions between society and policy, this add-on course will provides the much needed knowledge and analytical skills to critically engage with key issues in the field of Sociology of Social Policy.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the course are to introduce the students to:

- i. the perspectives which inform study and research in the domain of Sociology of Social Policy,
- ii. the social background and conditioning of social policy through exposure to the origin, characteristics, scope, goals and models of Social Policy,
- iii. the relations that obtain between Social Policy, theories of welfare and development, and practices of planning and administration,
- iv. the complexities of theory and practice in the field of Social Policy, and
- v. the critical discourses concerning the relevance and future of Social Policy in contemporary systems of politics and governance.



COURSE OUTLINE

UNITS	TOPICS/THEMES	CONTACT HOURS
1	Sociological Perspectives on Social Policy; Social Policy and Social Research	8
2	Origin, Characteristics and Scope of Social Policy; Goals and Principles of Social Policy; Models of Social Policy; Social Policy versus Public Policy	10
3	Social Policy, Welfare and Administration; Social Policy, Planning and Development	8
4	Social Policy: Contemporary Times and the Future	4
	Total	30

PROJECTED OUTCOMES

The projected outcomes of the course are familiarity with:

- i. Social Policy as a socially embedded and contested process
- ii. the complex ways in which Social Policy is conceived, formulated and functions in real-life situations
- iii. the institutional frameworks and challenges involved in the implementation of Social Policy
- iv. the need for intervention in the domain of Social Policy formulation and implementation

CAREER PROSPECTS

The field of Sociology and Social Policy offers a wide range of career prospects for individuals interested in understanding and addressing social issues through policy making. Firstly, they can work as social policy analysts for various governmental or non-governmental organizations, think tanks, research institutes etc. Secondly, they can also find employment as policy advocates for advocacy organizations, community



groups, and grassroots movements to promote social change and influence public policy. Thirdly, a course on social policy will enable the students with the various skills of social researchers as a whole which can be utilized to study various aspects of society and help develop apt policies.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- i. Mandatory for all students of the BA Sociology Honours programme. Interested students from other programmes may also apply.
- ii. **The intake capacity is 50.**
- iii. The course will be taught by the faculty members of the Department of Sociology. Online lectures may be organized with invited resource persons.
- iv. There is no course fee.
- v. Attendance in 80% of the lectures and in the evaluations/assessments is compulsory.
- vi. All students signing up for the course will have to submit assignments and appear in the evaluations for successfully completing the course and receiving the grade card and completion certificate.
- vii. Feedback will be collected from the students after successful completion of the course.

PEDAGOGIC APPROACH

- i. Class lectures by faculty members and online lectures by invited speakers
- ii. Peer teaching, student presentations (PPT/Oral) and group discussions

SUGGESTED LEARNING RESOURCES

- i. An Introduction to Social Policy, 2013 – Edited by Peter Dwyer and Sandra Shaw, Sage Publications Ltd.
- ii. The Handbook of Social Policy, 2nd Edition, 2008 – Edited by James Midgley and Michelle Livermore, Sage Publications Ltd.
- iii. Social Science and Social Policy, 1st Edition, 1986 – Martin Blumer, Routledge.



- iv. Social Policy: Theory and Practice, 1st Edition, 2014 – Paul Spicker, Bristol University Press
- v. Unit-1 Social Policy: Concept, Characteristics, Objectives, Scope, Functions, Principles, and Models, 2022 – IGNOU, New Delhi, Link: egyankosh.ac.in/handle/123456789/87464

EVALUATION PATTERN

1. **Written Assignment and Viva-voce (10 marks):** Each student will be asked to choose any one Social Policy from the Indian context and analyze it deploying any concept or theory or approach learnt in the course. Each student will be assigned a teacher-mentor who will guide the student in identifying the Social Policy and analyze it. A viva-voce on a specified date will be conducted after submission of the written assignment.
2. **MCQ-based Test (20 marks):** Each student will have to give a test consisting of fifteen multiple-choice questions aiming to determine the attainment of course objectives and outcomes. This will also serve as the student exit survey.

The full mark of the course is 30.

GRADATION PATTERN

Percentage of marks obtained	Grade
90-100	Excellent - A
70-89	Good – B
50-69	Fair – C
40-49	Not Eligible for Certificate - D

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Department of Sociology

GOVERNMENT GENERAL DEGREE COLLEGE MANGALKOTE

(Affiliated to The University of Burdwan)

Certificate of Completion

This certificate is awarded to Mr./Missbearing Roll No.....of Semester.....of the session 2022-2023 of the Department of...**Sociology**....,G.G.D.C.Mangalkote, for successfully completing Add-on Course entitled “**SOCIOLOGY OF SOCIAL POLICY**” during his/her.....Semester study.

The candidate has fulfilled all requirements and specifications set by the institute.

Grade:

Pinaki Roy
(Head, Department of Sociology.)
G.G.D.C.Mangalkote

Dr.Debraj Biswal
(IQAC Coordinator)
G.G.D.C. Mangalkote

Dr.Pradipta Kumar Basu
(Officer In Charge)
G.G.D.C. Mangalkote

Grade for the certificate, 90-100% 'A', 70-89% 'B', 50-69% 'C' and 40-49% 'D'

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Date of issue: