

**Open Elective: Themes and Perspectives in Sociology**

**Preface:** Themes and Perspectives in Sociology paper is designed basically to provide an opportunity for students from other sciences to know Sociology as a social science. Sociology as an art of living explores areas of human experience that are beyond the crude sense of science. Sociology provides knowledge that can be applied in social situations to achieve welfare and wellbeing of humans. Sociology as a science provides an opportunity to sensitize the students and general public to a wide range of more sensitive issues like, women and women issues, labour and labour issues and the issues of various disadvantage groups in society.

**15 Hours**

**UNIT 01: Introduction to the field of Sociology.**

- a. Origin and Development: Transition from social philosophy to Sociology.
- b. Concept of Society: Society as a social structure (Anthropological Perspective).
- c. Society as a Social System: Sociological Perspective.
- d. Society as a Social Process: Interactionist Perspective/ Social constructionist Perspective.
- e. Society as an arena of social conflict.

**10 Hours**

**UNIT 02: Methods and Techniques of Social Research.**

- a. Sociological Method: Holistic aspect, Empirical aspect and Empathic aspect.
- b. Types of Social Research: Survey Research, Participant observation method, Case study method, Historical Method and Library research.

**10 Hours**

**UNIT 03: Social Ecology.**

- a. Society and Ecological Processes.
- b. Society and primary demographic processes: Fertility, Mortality and Migration.
- c. Characteristics of Population: Size, Growth, Composition and Distribution.
- d. Emergence of social groups and typology of social groups.

**15 Hours**

**UNIT 04: Social Change.**

- a. Concept of change and development and progress.
- b. Theories of social change.
- c. Social change and patterns of human adaptation.

**Reading List:**

1. Dube S.C., 1982, "Indian Society", National Book Trust of India, New Delhi.
2. Kingsley Davis, 1969, "Human Society", Mac Millan Publications, New Delhi.
3. Jayaram N, "Introduction to Sociology: An Indian Adaption", Mac Millan Publications, New Delhi.
4. Bottomore T.B., "Sociology: A Guide to Problems and Literature", revised edition, S Chand Company, New Delhi.
5. Alex Inkeles, 'What is Sociology?' Eastern Economy Edition.
6. Haralanbus M., 1980, "Sociology: Themes and Perspectives, Oxford University Press, Cambridge.
7. Ramchandra Guha, 2001, "Social Ecology", New Delhi, Oxford University Press.