



**THE WEST BENGAL COLLEGE SERVICE COMMISSION**  
**STATE ELIGIBILITY TEST**

**SET SYLLABUS**

**Subject: SOCIOLOGY**

**Code No. : 17**

**Unit -1 : Sociological Theory**

**1. Classical Sociological Traditions**

- Emile Durkheim
- Max Weber
- Karl Marx

**2. Structure- Functionalism and Structuralism**

- Bronislaw Malinowski
- A.R. Radcliffe- Brown
- Talcott Parsons
- Robert K. Merton
- Claude Levi Strauss

**3. Hermeneutic and Interpretative Traditions**

- G.H. Mead
- Karl Manheim
- Alfred Schutz
- Harold Garfinkel
- Erving Goffman
- Clifford Geertz

**4. Post Modernism, Post Structuralism and Post Colonialism**

- Edward Said
- Pierre Bourdieu
- Michel Foucault
- Jurgen Habermas
- Anthony Giddens
- Manuel Castells

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## 5. Indian Thinkers

- M.K. Gandhi
- B.R. Ambedkar
- Radha Kamal Mukherjee
- G. S. Ghurye
- M.N. Srinivas
- Irawati Karve

## **Unit - 2 : Research Methodology and Methods**

### 1. Conceptualizing Social Reality

- Philosophy of Science
- Scientific Method and Epistemology in Social Science
- Hermeneutic Traditions
- Objectivity and Reflexivity in Social Science
- Ethics and Politics

### 2. Formulating Research Design

- Reading Social Science Research, Data and Documents
- Induction and Deduction
- Fact, Concept and Theory
- Hypotheses, Research Questions, Objectives

### 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Methods

- Ethnography
- Survey Method
- Historical Method
- Comparative Method

### 4. Techniques

- Sampling
- Questionnaire and Schedule
- Statistical Analysis
- Observation, Interview and Case study
- Interpretation, Data Analysis and Report Writing

## **Unit -3 : Basic Concepts and Institutions**

### 1. Sociological Concepts

- Social Structure
- Culture
- Network
- Status and Role
- Identity
- Community
- Diaspora

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- Values, Norms and Rules
  - Personhood, Habitus and Agency
  - Bureaucracy, Power and Authority

## 2. Social Institutions

- Marriage, Family and Kinship
- Economy
- Polity
- Religion
- Education
- Law and Customs

## 3. Social Stratification

- Social Difference, Hierarchy, Inequality and Marginalization
- Caste and Class
- Gender, Sexuality and Disability
- Race, Tribe and Ethnicity

## 5. Social Change and Processes

- Evolution and Diffusion
- Modernization and Development
- Social Transformations and Globalization
- Social Mobility

## **Unit – 4 : Rural and Urban Transformations**

### 1. Rural and Peasant Society

- Caste-Tribe Settlements
- Agrarian Social Structure and Emergent Class Relations
- Land Ownership and Agrarian Relations
- Decline of Agrarian Economy, De-Peasantization and Migration
- Agrarian Unrest and Peasant Movements
- Changing Inter-Community Relations and Violence

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## 2. Urban Society

- Urbanism, Urbanity and Urbanization
- Towns, Cities and Mega-Cities
- Industry, Service and Business
- Neighbourhood, Slums and Ethnic Enclaves
- Middle Class and Gated Communities
- Urban Movements and Violence

## **Unit – 5 : State, Politics and Development**

### 1. Political Processes in India

- Tribe, Nation State and Border
- Bureaucracy
- Governance and Development
- Public Policy: Health, Education and Livelihoods
- Political Culture
- Grass-root Democracy
- Law and Society
- Gender and Development
- Corruption
- Role of International Development Organizations

### 2. Social Movements and Protests

- Political Factions, Pressure Groups
- Movements based on Caste, Ethnicity, Ideology, Gender, Disability, Religion and Region
- Civil Society and Citizenship
- NGOs, Activism and Leadership
- Reservations and Politics

## **Unit – 6 : Economy and Society**

- Exchange, Gift , Capital, Labour and Market
- Mode of Production Debates
- Property and Property Relations
- State and Market: Welfarism and Neoliberalism
- Models of Economic Development
- Poverty and Exclusion
- Factory and Industry Systems
- Changing Nature of Labour Relations
- Gender and Labour Process
- Business and Family
- Digital Economy, E-Commerce
- Global Business and Corporates
- Tourism
- Consumption

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**Unit - 7: Environment and Society**

- Social and Cultural Ecology: Diverse Forms
- Technological Change, Agriculture and Biodiversity
- Indigenous Knowledge Systems and Ethno-Medicine
- Gender and Environment
- Forest Policies, Adivasis and Exclusion
- Ecological Degradation and Migration
- Development, Displacement and Rehabilitation
- Water and Social Exclusion
- Disasters and Community Responses
- Environmental Pollution, Public Health and Disability
- Climate Change and International Policies
- Environmental Movements

**Unit - 8: Family, Marriage and Kinship**

- Theoretical Approaches: Structure-Functionalist, Alliance and Cultural
- Gender Relations and Power Dynamics
- Inheritance, Succession and Authority
- Gender, Sexuality and Reproduction
- Children, Youth and Elderly
- Emotions and Family
- Emergent Forms of Family
- Changing Marriage Practices
- Changing Care and Support Systems
- Family Laws
- Domestic Violence and Crime against Women
- Honour Killing

**Unit - 9 : Science, Technology and Society**

- History of Technological Development
- Changing notions of Time and Space
- Flows and Boundaries
- Virtual Community
- Media: Print and Electronic, Visual and Social Media
- E-Governance and Surveillance Society
- Technology and Emerging Political Processes
- State Policy, Digital Divide and Inclusion
- Technology and Changing Family Relations
- Technology and Changing Health Systems
- Food and Technology
- Cyber Crime

**Unit - 10 : Culture and Symbolic Transformations**

- Signs and Symbols
- Rituals, Beliefs and Practices

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- Changing Material Culture
  - Moral Economy
  - Education: Formal and Informal
  - Religious Organizations, Piety and Spirituality
  - Commodification of Rituals
  - Communalism and Secularism
  - Cultural Identity and Mobilization
  - Culture and Politics
  - Gender, Body and Culture
  - Art and Aesthetics
  - Ethics and Morality
  - Sports and Culture
  - Pilgrimage and Religious Tourism
  - Religion and Economy
  - Culture and Environment
  - New Religious Movements

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