



## Sociology Optional 2026 Course Batch 1

Focus Areas: **Content + Regular Answer Writing + Mentorship**

Topic	Date
<b>Introduction to the Course</b>	
<b>Introductory-cum-Orientation Lectures</b>	<b>Must Watch</b> (Already available in your Course under Sociology - Introduction, Strategy & Warning section.)
<b>Paper - 1</b>	
<b>1. Sociology - The Discipline:</b>	
(a) Modernity and social changes in Europe and emergence of sociology.	<b>24-Mar-2025</b>
(b) Scope of the subject and comparison with other social sciences.	
(c) Sociology and common sense.	
<b>2 Questions for Answer Writing and Evaluation</b>	
<b>2. Sociology as Science:</b>	
(a) Science, scientific method and critique.	<b>31-Mar-25</b>
(b) Major theoretical strands of research methodology.	
(c) Positivism and its critique.	
(d) Fact value and objectivity.	
(e) Non- positivist methodologies.	
<b>2 Questions for Answer Writing and Evaluation</b>	
<b>3. Research Methods and Analysis:</b>	
(a) Qualitative and quantitative methods.	<b>7-Apr-2025</b>
(b) Techniques of data collection.	
(c) Variables, sampling, hypothesis, reliability and validity.	
<b>2 Questions for Answer Writing and Evaluation</b>	
<b>4. Sociological Thinkers:</b>	
(a) Karl Marx- Historical materialism, mode of production, alienation, class struggle.	<b>14-Apr-2025</b>
(b) Emile Durkheim- Division of labour, social fact, suicide, religion and society.	
<b>2 Questions for Answer Writing and Evaluation</b>	<b>21-Apr-2025</b>
(c) Max Weber- Social action, ideal types, authority, bureaucracy, protestant ethic and the spirit of capitalism.	
(d) Talcott Parsons- Social system, pattern variables.	
<b>2 Questions for Answer Writing and Evaluation</b>	

(d) Talcott Parsons- Social system, pattern variables.	28-Apr-2025
(e) Robert K. Merton- Latent and manifest functions, conformity and deviance, reference groups.	
(f) Mead - Self and identity.	
<b>2 Questions for Answer Writing and Evaluation</b>	
<b>5. Stratification and Mobility:</b>	
(a) Concepts- equality, inequality, hierarchy, exclusion, poverty and deprivation.	5-May-2025
(b) Theories of social stratification- Structural functionalist theory, Marxist theory, Weberian theory.	
<b>NO TEST</b>	
(c) Dimensions- Social stratification of class, status groups, gender, ethnicity and race.	12-May-2025
(d) Social mobility- open and closed systems, types of mobility, sources and causes of mobility.	
<b>2 Questions for Answer Writing and Evaluation</b>	
<b>Half-Length Test-1 (10 Questions Test)</b>	
<b>19-May-2025</b>	
<b>ONE WEEK'S BREAK</b>	
<b>6. Works and Economic Life:</b>	
(a) Social organization of work in different types of society- slave society, feudal society, industrial /capitalist society.	26-May-2025
(b) Formal and informal organization of work.	
(c) Labour and society.	
<b>2 Questions for Answer Writing and Evaluation</b>	
<b>7. Politics and Society:</b>	
(a) Sociological theories of power.	2-Jun-2025
(b) Power elite, bureaucracy, pressure groups, and political parties.	
<b>NO TEST</b>	
(c) Nation, state, citizenship, democracy, civil society, ideology.	9-Jun-2025
(d) Protest, agitation, social movements, collective action, revolution	
<b>2 Questions for Answer Writing and Evaluation</b>	
<b>8. Religion and Society:</b>	
(a) Sociological theories of religion.	16-Jun-2025
(b) Types of religious practices: animism, monism, pluralism, sects, cults.	
(c) Religion in modern society: religion and science, secularization, religious revivalism, fundamentalism.	
<b>2 Questions for Answer Writing and Evaluation</b>	
<b>9. Systems of Kinship:</b>	
(a) Family, household, marriage.	
(b) Types and forms of family.	

(c) Lineage and descent.	23-Jun-2025	
(d) Patriarchy and sexual division of labour.		
(e) Contemporary trends.		
<b>2 Questions for Answer Writing and Evaluation</b>		
<b>10. Social Change in Modern Society:</b>		
(a) Sociological theories of social change.	30-Jun-2025	
(b) Development and dependency.		
(c) Agents of social change.		
(d) Education and social change.		
(e) Science, technology and social change.		
<b>2 Questions for Answer Writing and Evaluation</b>		
<b>Half-Length Test-2 (10 Questions Test)</b>		
<b>7-Jul-2025</b>		
<b>ONE WEEK'S BREAK</b>		
<b>Paper - 2</b>		
<b>Introduction to Paper - 2</b>		
<b>14-Jul-2025</b>		
<b>A. Introducing Indian Society:</b>		
<b>(i) Perspectives on the study of Indian society:</b>		
(a) Indology (GS. Ghurye)	14-Jul-2025	
(b) Structural functionalism (M N Srinivas)		
(c) Marxist sociology (A R Desai)		
<b>(ii) Impact of colonial rule on Indian society:</b>		
(a) Social background of Indian nationalism.		
(b) Modernization of Indian tradition.		
(c) Protests and movements during the colonial period.		
(d) Social reforms.		
<b>2 Questions for Answer Writing and Evaluation</b>		
<b>B. Social Structure:</b>		
<b>(i) Rural and Agrarian Social Structure:</b>		
(a) The idea of Indian village and village studies.	21-Jul-2025	
(b) Agrarian social structure - evolution of land tenure system, land reforms.		
<b>(ii) Caste System:</b>		
(a) Perspectives on the study of caste systems: GS Ghurye, M N Srinivas, Louis Dumont, Andre Beteille.		
(b) Features of caste system.		
(c) Untouchability - forms and perspectives.		
<b>2 Questions for Answer Writing and Evaluation</b>		
<b>(iii) Tribal communities in India:</b>		

(a) Definitional problems.	28-Jul-2025
(b) Geographical spread.	
(c) Colonial policies and tribes.	
(d) Issues of integration and autonomy.	
<b>(iv) Social Classes in India:</b>	
(a) Agrarian class structure.	
(b) Industrial class structure.	
(c) Middle classes in India.	
<b>2 Questions for Answer Writing and Evaluation</b>	
<b>(v) Systems of Kinship in India:</b>	
(a) Lineage and descent in India.	4-Aug-2025
(b) Types of kinship systems.	
(c) Family and marriage in India.	
(d) Household dimensions of the family.	
(e) Patriarchy, entitlements and sexual division of labour.	
<b>(vi) Religion and Society:</b>	
(a) Religious communities in India.	
(b) Problems of religious minorities.	
<b>2 Questions for Answer Writing and Evaluation</b>	
<b>Half-Length Test-3</b>	
<b>ONE WEEK'S BREAK</b>	
<b>C. Social Changes in India:</b>	
<b>(i) Visions of Social Change in India:</b>	18-Aug-2025
(a) Idea of development planning and mixed economy.	
(b) Constitution, law and social change.	
(c) Education and social change.	
<b>(ii) Rural and Agrarian transformation in India:</b>	
(a) Programmes of rural development, Community Development Programme, cooperatives, poverty alleviation schemes.	
(b) Green revolution and social change.	
(c) Changing modes of production in Indian agriculture .	
(d) Problems of rural labour, bondage, migration.	
<b>2 Questions for Answer Writing and Evaluation</b>	
<b>(iii) Industrialization and Urbanisation in India:</b>	25-Aug-2025
(a) Evolution of modern industry in India.	
(b) Growth of urban settlements in India.	
(c) Working class: structure, growth, class mobilization.	
(d) Informal sector, child labour.	
(e) Slums and deprivation in urban areas.	
<b>2 Questions for Answer Writing and Evaluation</b>	

<b>(iv) Politics and Society:</b>	
(a) Nation, democracy and citizenship.	<b>1-Sep-2025</b>
(b) Political parties, pressure groups , social and political elite.	
(c) Regionalism and decentralization of power.	
(d) Secularization	
<b>2 Questions for Answer Writing and Evaluation</b>	
<b>(v) Social Movements in Modern India:</b>	
(a) Peasants and farmers movements.	<b>8-Sep-2025</b>
(b) Women’s movement.	
(c) Backward classes & Dalit movement.	
(d) Environmental movements.	
(e) Ethnicity and Identity movements.	
<b>2 Questions for Answer Writing and Evaluation</b>	
<b>(vi) Population Dynamics:</b>	
(a) Population size, growth, composition and distribution.	<b>15-Sep-2025</b>
(b) Components of population growth: birth, death, migration.	
(c) Population policy and family planning.	
(d) Emerging issues: ageing, sex ratios, child and infant mortality, reproductivehealth.	
<b>2 Questions for Answer Writing and Evaluation</b>	
<b>(vii) Challenges of Social Transformation:</b>	
(a) Crisis of development: displacement, environmental problems and sustainability.	<b>22-Sep-2025</b>
(b) Poverty, deprivation and inequalities.	
(c) Violence against women.	
(d) Caste conflicts.	
(e) Ethnic conflicts, communalism, religious revivalism.	
(f) Illiteracy and disparities in education.	
<b>2 Questions for Answer Writing and Evaluation</b>	
<b>Half-Length Test-4</b>	<b>29-Sep-2025</b>
<b>Full Length Test-1</b>	<b>6-Oct-2025</b>
<b>Full Length Test-2</b>	<b>13-Oct-2025</b>
<p>1. The last date for test submission is September 20, 2026.</p> <p>2. Students can attempt the tests at their own pace, but it is advised to attempt them along with the schedule.</p> <p>3. All the tests <b>can be attempted only once</b></p>	