

## Sociology Optional Last Offline & Live Batch for 2027

*Class Timings: 5 PM – 7 PM | 4 Days a Week*

Introduction & Orientation

10 -August -2026

### Understanding the 5-Level Learning Structure

***Before we begin the Sociology journey, it's important to know how we'll cover the syllabus.***

*Instead of directly jumping into complex theories or UPSC questions, we'll move through five structured levels - each designed to make your understanding stronger and more applied at every step.*

#### Level 0 - Absolute Basics (NCERT Foundation)

*We start from the roots - basic sociological ideas from NCERTs. This helps even non-sociology students build a clear understanding of society, institutions, culture, and change.*

#### Level 1 -Static & Timeless Content

*Next, we move to the core theoretical foundation - the thinkers, theories, and concepts that never change in UPSC. This builds the backbone of Sociology Optional.*

#### Level 2 - Sociological Perspectives on Contemporary Society

*Here, we learn how to apply those theories to real-world changes - like digital life, gender roles, economy, and social movements understanding how Sociology explains modern India.*

#### Level 3 – Current Affairs with a Sociological Lens

*At this stage, we connect newspaper headlines, reports, and government policies with sociological ideas — building depth for Paper II and essay-style answers.*

#### Level 4 – Previous Year Questions & Integration

*Finally, we bring everything together. By solving PYQs, you'll learn how to combine static theory, dynamic understanding, and current relevance into UPSC-ready answers.*

| Level | Name                      | Nature of Learning                            | Sources / Focus                     | Outcome                                        |
|-------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| 0     | Absolute Basics           | Conceptual foundation                         | NCERT 11th & 12th Class             | Core Sociology Basics                          |
| 1     | Static Portion            | Theoretical core                              | UPSC Paper I + Paper II ( Thinkers) | Strong Theoretical Foundation                  |
| 2     | Contemporary Sociology    | Dynamic application                           | Real-world analysis                 | Sociology Value Addition Topics For Mains Exam |
| 3     | Current Affairs (Monthly) | Current Affairs From Sociological Perspective | Reports, Policies, News, EPW        | Understanding in-depth Sociological Relevance  |
| 4     | PYQs Practice             | Integration & Exam Oriented Prep              | 2013–2025 UPSC PYQs                 | Learn Sociological Way of Answer-writing       |

NCERT of 11th Class

NCERT of 12th Class

Available From Day 1

| Paper - 1 (12 August 2026 to 5th October 2026)                                                                                |        |  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|--|
| 5. Stratification and Mobility:                                                                                               |        |  |
| (a) Concepts- equality, inequality, hierarchy, exclusion, poverty and deprivation.                                            | Week 1 |  |
| (b) Theories of social stratification- Structural functionalist theory, Marxist theory, Weberian theory.                      |        |  |
| (c) Dimensions–Social stratification of class, statusgroups, gender,ethnicity andrace.                                        | Week 2 |  |
| (d) Social mobility- open and closed systems, types of mobility, sources and causes of mobility.                              |        |  |
| 2 Questions for Answer Writing and Evaluation                                                                                 |        |  |
| 4. Sociological Thinkers:                                                                                                     |        |  |
| (a) Karl Marx- Historical materialism, mode of production, alienation, class struggle.                                        | Week 3 |  |
| (b) Emile Durkheim- Division of labour, social fact, suicide, religion and society.                                           |        |  |
| 2 Questions for Answer Writing and Evaluation                                                                                 |        |  |
| (c) Max Weber- Social action, ideal types, authority, bureaucracy, protestant ethic and the spirit of capitalism.             | Week 4 |  |
| (d) Talcott Parsons- Social system, pattern variables.                                                                        |        |  |
| 2 Questions for Answer Writing and Evaluation                                                                                 |        |  |
|                                                                                                                               |        |  |
| (d) Talcott Parsons- Social system, pattern variables.                                                                        |        |  |
| (e) Robert K. Merton- Latent and manifest functions, conformity and deviance, reference groups.                               |        |  |
| (f) Mead - Self and identity.                                                                                                 |        |  |
| 2 Questions for Answer Writing and Evaluation                                                                                 |        |  |
| 7. Politics and Society:                                                                                                      |        |  |
| (a) Sociological theories of power.                                                                                           | Week 5 |  |
| (b) Power elite, bureaucracy, pressure groups, and political parties.                                                         |        |  |
| (c) Nation, state, citizenship, democracy, civil society, ideology.                                                           |        |  |
| (d) Protest, agitation, social movements, collective action, revolution                                                       |        |  |
| 2 Questions for Answer Writing and Evaluation                                                                                 |        |  |
| 8. Religion and Society:                                                                                                      |        |  |
| (a) Sociological theories of religion.                                                                                        | Week 6 |  |
| (b) Types of religious practices: animism, monism, pluralism, sects, cults.                                                   |        |  |
| (c) Religion in modern society: religion and science, secularization, religious revivalism, fundamentalism.                   |        |  |
| 2 Questions for Answer Writing and Evaluation                                                                                 |        |  |
| 9. Systems of Kinship:                                                                                                        |        |  |
| (a) Family, household, marriage.                                                                                              | Week 7 |  |
| (b) Types and forms of family.                                                                                                |        |  |
| (c) Lineage and descent.                                                                                                      |        |  |
| (d) Patriarchy and sexual division of labour.                                                                                 |        |  |
| (e) Contemporary trends.                                                                                                      |        |  |
| 2 Questions for Answer Writing and Evaluation                                                                                 |        |  |
| 1. Sociology - The Discipline:                                                                                                |        |  |
| (a) Modernity and social changes in Europe and emergence of sociology.                                                        | Week 8 |  |
| (b) Scope of the subject and comparison with other social sciences.                                                           |        |  |
| (c) Sociology and common sense.                                                                                               |        |  |
| 2 Questions for Answer Writing and Evaluation                                                                                 |        |  |
| 2. Sociology as Science:                                                                                                      |        |  |
| (a) Science, scientific method and critique.                                                                                  |        |  |
| (b) Major theoretical strands of research methodology.                                                                        |        |  |
| (c) Positivism and its critique.                                                                                              |        |  |
| (d) Fact value and objectivity.                                                                                               |        |  |
| (e) Non- positivist methodologies.                                                                                            |        |  |
| 2 Questions for Answer Writing and Evaluation                                                                                 |        |  |
| 3. Research Methods and Analysis:                                                                                             |        |  |
| (a) Qualitative and quantitative methods.                                                                                     |        |  |
| (b) Techniques of data collection.                                                                                            |        |  |
| (c) Variables, sampling, hypothesis, reliability and validity.                                                                |        |  |
| 2 Questions for Answer Writing and Evaluation                                                                                 |        |  |
| 6. Works and Economic Life:                                                                                                   |        |  |
| (a) Social organization of work in different types of society- slave society, feudal society, industrial /capitalist society. |        |  |
| (b) Formal and informal organization of work.                                                                                 |        |  |
| (c) Labour and society.                                                                                                       |        |  |
| 2 Questions for Answer Writing and Evaluation                                                                                 |        |  |

|  |                                               |        |
|--|-----------------------------------------------|--------|
|  | 10. Social Change in Modern Society:          | Week 9 |
|  | (a) Sociological theories of social change.   |        |
|  | (b) Development and dependency.               |        |
|  | (c) Agents of social change.                  |        |
|  | (d) Education and social change.              |        |
|  | (e) Science, technology and social change.    |        |
|  | 2 Questions for Answer Writing and Evaluation |        |
|  |                                               |        |

| Paper - 2 (Starting Date - 6th October 2026 to 7th November 2026)                                                |  |         |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|---------|
| Introduction to Paper - 2                                                                                        |  | Week 10 |
| A. Introducing Indian Society:                                                                                   |  |         |
| (i) Perspectives on the study of Indian society:                                                                 |  |         |
| (a) Indology (GS. Ghurye)                                                                                        |  |         |
| (b) Structural functionalism (M N Srinivas)                                                                      |  |         |
| (c) Marxist sociology (A R Desai)                                                                                |  |         |
| (ii) Impact of colonial rule on Indian society:                                                                  |  |         |
| (a) Social background of Indian nationalism.                                                                     |  |         |
| (b) Modernization of Indian tradition.                                                                           |  |         |
| (c) Protests and movements during the colonial period.                                                           |  |         |
| (d) Social reforms.                                                                                              |  |         |
| 2 Questions for Answer Writing and Evaluation                                                                    |  |         |
| B. Social Structure:                                                                                             |  |         |
| (i) Rural and Agrarian Social Structure:                                                                         |  | Week 11 |
| (a) The idea of Indian village and village studies.                                                              |  |         |
| (b) Agrarian social structure - evolution of land tenure system, land reforms.                                   |  |         |
| (ii) Caste System:                                                                                               |  |         |
| (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.                                                                     |  |         |
| 2 Questions for Answer Writing and Evaluation                                                                    |  |         |
| (iii) Tribal communities in India:                                                                               |  | Week 12 |
| (a) Definitional problems.                                                                                       |  |         |
| (b) Geographical spread.                                                                                         |  |         |
| (c) Colonial policies and tribes.                                                                                |  |         |
| (d) Issues of integration and autonomy.                                                                          |  |         |
| (iv) Social Classes in India:                                                                                    |  |         |
| (a) Agrarian class structure.                                                                                    |  |         |
| (b) Industrial class structure.                                                                                  |  |         |
| (c) Middle classes in India.                                                                                     |  |         |
| 2 Questions for Answer Writing and Evaluation                                                                    |  |         |
| (v) Systems of Kinship in India:                                                                                 |  |         |
| (a) Lineage and descent in India.                                                                                |  |         |
| (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.                                                      |  |         |
| (vi) Religion and Society:                                                                                       |  |         |
| (a) Religious communities in India.                                                                              |  |         |
| (b) Problems of religious minorities.                                                                            |  |         |
| 2 Questions for Answer Writing and Evaluation                                                                    |  |         |
| C. Social Changes in India:                                                                                      |  |         |
| (i) Visions of Social Change in India:                                                                           |  | Week 13 |
| (a) Idea of development planning and mixed economy.                                                              |  |         |
| (b) Constitution, law and social change.                                                                         |  |         |
| (c) Education and social change.                                                                                 |  |         |
| (ii) Rural and Agrarian transformation in India:                                                                 |  |         |
| (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.                                                                |  |         |
| 2 Questions for Answer Writing and Evaluation                                                                    |  |         |
| (iii) Industrialization and Urbanisation in India:                                                               |  | Week 14 |
| (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.                                                                        |  |         |
| 2 Questions for Answer Writing and Evaluation                                                                    |  |         |
| (iv) Politics and Society:                                                                                       |  |         |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |         |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| (a) Nation, democracy and citizenship.                                                                                                                                                                                                       |         |
| (b) Political parties, pressure groups , social and political elite.                                                                                                                                                                         |         |
| (c) Regionalism and decentralization of power.                                                                                                                                                                                               |         |
| (d) Secularization                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |         |
| 2 Questions for Answer Writing and Evaluation                                                                                                                                                                                                |         |
| (v) Social Movements in Modern India:                                                                                                                                                                                                        |         |
| (a) Peasants and farmers movements.                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Week 15 |
| (b) Women’s movement.                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |         |
| (c) Backward classes & Dalit movement.                                                                                                                                                                                                       |         |
| (d) Environmental movements.                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |         |
| (e) Ethnicity and Identity movements.                                                                                                                                                                                                        |         |
| 2 Questions for Answer Writing and Evaluation                                                                                                                                                                                                |         |
| (vi) Population Dynamics:                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |         |
| (a) Population size, growth, composition and distribution.                                                                                                                                                                                   |         |
| (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.                                                                                                                                                     |         |
| 2 Questions for Answer Writing and Evaluation                                                                                                                                                                                                |         |
| (vii) Challenges of Social Transformation:                                                                                                                                                                                                   |         |
| (a) Crisis of development: displacement, environmental problems and sustainability.                                                                                                                                                          |         |
| (b) Poverty, deprivation and inequalities.                                                                                                                                                                                                   |         |
| (c) Violence against women.                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |         |
| (d) Caste conflicts.                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |         |
| (e) Ethnic conflicts, communalism, religious revivalism.                                                                                                                                                                                     |         |
| (f) Illiteracy and disparities in education.                                                                                                                                                                                                 |         |
| 2 Questions for Answer Writing and Evaluation                                                                                                                                                                                                |         |
| Half-Length Test-1 (Chapter 1 to 5)                                                                                                                                                                                                          |         |
| Half-Length Test-2 (Chapter 6 to 10)                                                                                                                                                                                                         |         |
| Half-Length Test-3 (Paper 2 A 1 to B 6)                                                                                                                                                                                                      |         |
| Half-Length Test-4 (Paper 2 Part C)                                                                                                                                                                                                          |         |
| Full Length Test 1 (Paper 1 )                                                                                                                                                                                                                |         |
| Full Length Test 2 (Paper 2 )                                                                                                                                                                                                                |         |
| 1. The last date for test submission is <b>September 20, 2027</b> .<br>2. Students can attempt the tests at their own pace, but it is advised to attempt them along with the schedule.<br>3. All the tests <b>can be attempted only once</b> |         |