

Syllabus for sociology

Sociology - Optional of Part A - Preliminary Examination of Civil Services Exam

Unit I : Basic Concepts :

Society, community, association, institution. Culture-culture change, diffusion, Cultural-tag, Cultural relativism, ethnocentrism, acculturation.

Social Groups-primary, secondary and reference groups.

Social structure, social system, social action.

Status and role, role conflict, role set.

Norms and values-conformity and deviance.

Law and customs.

Socio-cultural processes :

socialisation, assimilation, integration, cooperation, competition, conflict, accommodation, Social distance, relative deprivation.

Unit II : Marriage, Family and Kinship :

Marriage : types and norms, marriage as contract, and as a sacrament.

Family : types, functions and changes.

Kinships : terms and usages, rules of residence, descent, inheritance.

Unit III : Social Stratification :

Forms and functions; Caste and Class. Jajmani system, purity and pollution, dominant caste, sanskritisation.

Unit IV : Types of Society :

Tribal, agrarian, industrial and post-industrial.

Unit V : Economy and Society :

Man, nature and social production, economic systems of simple and complex societies, non-economic determinants of economic behaviour, market (free) economy and controlled (planned) economy.

Unit VI : Industrial and Urban Society :

Rural-Urban Continuum, urban growth and urbanisation-town, city and metropolis; basic features of industrial society; impact of automation on society; industrialisation and environment.

Unit VII : Social Demography :

Population size, growth, composition, and distribution in India; components of population growth-births, deaths and migration; causes and consequences of population growth; population and social development; population policy.

Unit VIII : Political Processes :

Power, authority and legitimacy; political socialisation; political modernisation, pressure groups; caste and politics.

Unit IX : Weaker Sections-and Minorities :

Social justice-equal opportunity and special opportunity; protective discrimination; constitutional safeguards.

Unit X : Social Change :

Theories of change; factors of change; science, technology and change. Social movements-Peasant Movement, Women's Movement, Backward Caste Movement, Dalit Movement.

