

# PROGRAMME PROJECT REPORT FOR M.A PROGRAMME IN SOCIOLOGY

## CENTRE FOR OPEN AND DISTANCE LEARNING

### TEZPUR UNIVERSITY

Name of the Programme	:	MA in Sociology
Academic Unit	:	Department of Sociology, Tezpur University
Mode of teaching	:	Open and Distance Mode
Prospective Group	:	Graduate students
Effective Session	:	July, 2018
Programme Code	:	MSO
Programme Credit	:	64 Credit
Duration	:	Min 4 semester, Max 8 semester

#### **OVERVIEW**

Today studying Sociology is not simply contemplating on the traditional focuses such as social stratification, issues of mobility, culture, and religion etc. but also having expanded to other focuses such as health, internet, government and corporate agencies, thereby presenting a multifarious utility for the learners of Sociology as a subject. Sociological knowledge as a field has experienced a sea change over the decades when the subject encompassed all areas of human life from Social Science to Science, politics to religion, art to architecture, film studies, cultural studies and the study of information and communication. Consequently, the scope of such studies has been broadened to cater the requirements of different stakeholders interested in issues of society. During the study of varied areas under Sociology degree, students will scrutinize and debate a variety of texts and contexts, movements, periods and critical approaches, theory and study of human society that are pretty central to modern knowledge and communication system. Given that a Sociology degree holder is a necessity in more or less every industry, filling a variety of roles – from activist to academic and legal advisor to manager, a course offered through open and distance mood will open up opportunities to many.

#### **MISSION AND OBJECTIVE OF THE PROGRAMME**

##### **MISSION**

To foster critical and analytical ability among the learners through study of Sociology, hone their professional skill and make the learners self-sufficient for employability.

##### **OBJECTIVE**

Research points to continued demand and ongoing growth for various online courses, such as certificates and programs. The reason is that against growing number of students feeling the need to learn, the opportunities are not always in favour of the interested groups. Students having interest in analyzing human activities and holistic approach to understand human societies are always attracted

by the multiple and critical approaches facilitated by sociological knowledge. The proposed programme not only looks deep into sociological concepts and theories, but also provides ample opportunity to learn the aspects of teaching, emerging areas of socio-cultural-political through a single window system. In this context, the objectives of the course may be summarised as follows

- The main objective of the proposed programme will be to expose the interested group of students to a facility that is equivalent to the regular programme offered by the concerned department of the university/universities. As online instruction continues to mature there is a pressing need to address course quality, so that the beneficiaries may compete with the regular students opting a course of similar weightage.
- M.A. in Sociology is a programme proposed to be offered through distance mode to keep pace with the educational programmes of the University; promoting inter-disciplinary studies and higher research by means of innovative teaching-learning processes.
- The course offered as a combination of e-learning and face to face interaction, will enhance the scope of blended learning more effectively than the regular classroom interaction. Even a Sociology student can be exposed to the nuances of the use of technology, audio-visual etc. which is not possible in the traditional way of learning of the discipline.
- This programme will enable to develop comprehensive analytical and research skills, identify ways the sociological knowledge is applied in real world, making them skilled and employable.

#### **TARGET GROUPS**

- The target group of learners will be those who had to discontinue their higher studies due to the constraint of time and economic restrains. The proposed M.A programme will benefit two types of learners, those disadvantaged by being at a distance and those disadvantaged due to their time schedules and other commitments or both. This programme will be particularly beneficial to the stakeholders already in job and desiring promotion, enables to give solutions to the problems associated with distance and time, as well as using technology to enhance any learning environment.

#### **PROGRAMME OUTCOME**

- Comprehensive and analytical understanding of human society, the network systems, identifying large scale behavioural patterns, and group dynamics is an essential requirement in almost all fields of professions. The degree holders will be eligible to choose career opportunity in areas such as teaching and academics, media, organizational planning, journalism, social work, human resource management, law firms, advertising and marketing, archiving, industrial relations, information and research, tourism, health, penal institutions, events management, youth work, retail management and sales, freelance writing, interpretation/translation etc.
- This learner friendly programme will be particularly helpful for people less exposed to opportunities, specially women and weaker sections of the society, who fail to continue higher studies and avail multiple choices available in the job market. This course will open up

prestigious opportunities from home like analyzing market and global trends, editing, writing online blogs, article in newspapers and magazines, etc. which all draw upon effective research and statistical skills, understanding of different cultures, and studies of organizational behaviour effectively, without affecting the familial responsibility. Thus, this course will provide wide range of self-employment opportunity to the stakeholders.

## **INSTRUCTIONAL DESIGN:**

### **Curriculum Design**

The programme is designed to be offered as a two year programme. The total period is divided into 4 semesters where the learners have to earn 16 credits in each semester with a total of 64 credits in two years. For the benefit of the learners maximum period of 8 semesters (4 years) is given to complete the programme. The programme is based on the concept of blended learning where both online and face-to-face teaching-learning methods in the form of interactive sessions have been implemented. Twelve (12) hours' face-to-face counselling will be provided to the learners in this programme. The learners may have weekly online interactive sessions with instructors as and when required. The learners may be exposed to audio-visual aids, such as films and dramatized versions of classics and other technological advantages for better understanding of the topic discussed.

### **Module of the programme**

With the help of a group of experts a learner friendly module has been prepared to introduce the learners to the variegated field of Sociology. Each course is divided into 14-16 units with an introduction of the course and clearly stating the objective of that particular area on offer. The objective such a module is to bring better clarity on each topic discussed in a particular unit.

## **ADMISSION, CURRICULUM TRANSACTION, EVALUATION ETC.**

### **Eligibility**

Minimum eligibility criterion for enrolment in the programme is graduation in any discipline. Admission will be conducted twice in an academic year, i.e. January and June. Online admission procedure will be put in place.

### **Fee structure**

The fee structure of the programme may be as stated below. The fees and other charges etc. to be paid by the candidates shall be decided by the Academic Council from time to time and the same will be incorporated in the Prospectus

<b>Sl No</b>	<b>Head</b>	<b>Amount (INR)</b>
01	Admission	500.00
02	Study material	5500.00
03	I Card	100.00
04	Transcript	150.00
05	Provisional Certificate	150.00