

COURSE SYLLABUS



SOCIAL JUSTICE

Pune, India

US semester credit hours: 3

Contact Hours: 45

Course Code: SOCJ365

Course Length: Semester

Delivery Method: Face to face

Language of Instruction: English

COURSE DESCRIPTION

India is such a heterogeneous society with so many cultures and sub-cultures, social and religious differences that it is difficult to understand the dynamics of all these which get reflected in politics, social policies and legislations. This course is conceived and structured to enable the students to identify, comprehend, and de-construct these complexities and understand the internal dynamics of all these differences.

The course is divided into four modules that cover theories and practices of social justice. This will enable the students to understand the realities of caste, class, gender, religion and ethnicity. The first module surveys the contemporary theories of social justice, notions of fairness and issues of distributive justice. The second will address the social reality of caste, the revolutionary thinkers and practitioners. It also takes a look at the current challenges that the Dalit movement faces. The third covers gender and the different approaches to gender justice. It will also examine critically the social movements for gender justice in India. The fourth will bring in the Human Rights discourse and cover issues of the marginalized groups like adivasis, minorities and others.

COURSE DELIVERY

Students are expected to read or view assigned resources in advance and be prepared to actively discuss them in class. In most meetings, the instructor will overview the topic and then facilitate a group discussion, drawing out relevant themes, following up on specific lines of inquiry, and prompting students' thoughtful engagement with the topic.

Students are encouraged to bring their prior learning experiences into class discussions (based on experiential learning theory) and to make cognitive connections between this course and others in India whenever possible (based on the philosophy of integrative learning).

STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Students who successfully complete this course will:

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Session 07/24: *Presentations by students on the small survey on Fundamental Rights. Each student must interview minimum 5 maximum 10 persons from the community outside of the IFSA to find out what they know about their rights as citizens. (15 marks)*

Field Visit: *Phule wada 02:30- 04.30*

Session 08/24: *Theory of Liberation of the Dalits
Dr. B.R. Ambedkar & Periyar*

Readings:

- Gail Omvedt, "Ambedkarism: Theory of Liberation," in *Dalits and the Democratic Revolution* (Sage, 1994), pgs. 224- 259.
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Field Visit: *Aalochana 02:30- 04.30*

Session 09/24: *Guest lecture- Dr. Anurekha Chari Wagh
Social movements in India; Challenges in changing world*

Session 10/24: *Mahatma Gandhi - Untouchability and Social Justice*

Readings:

- 'The Un-gandhian Gandhi', By Claude Markovits; Published by, Permanent black, New Delhi, 2003
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Session 11/24: *Film Preview: "Indian Untouched" by Drishti
followed by discussion.*

Session 12/24: *Dialogue with local students from other colleges on their
perceptions and experiences on gender and caste.*

Module III Gender Justice: An Introduction to the Ideologies & Practices in India

Session 13/24: *Notions of Gender Justice in Modern India*

Readings:

- Ratna Kapoor, "Challenging the Liberal Subject: Law & Gender Justice in South Asia" in *Gender Justice, Citizenship & Development*, ed. by Maitrayee M. & Navsharan Singh, Zubaan, New Delhi, 2007, pgs. 117- 170.
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Session 14/24: *Caste and Gender - Questioning Indian patriarchy, caste and religion*

Readings:

- Uma Chakravarty, "Prologue," "Chapter One: Understanding Caste," and "Chapter 2. The Axis of Gender Stratification in India," in *Gendering Caste Through a Feminist Lens*. Stree Publications, Mumbai & Kolkata pgs. 1-36
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Session 15/24: *Debate in class on "Relevance of Mahatma Gandhi's concept of Non-Violence in today's world". Two positions for and against would have to be defended by the students forming 2 teams.*

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Session 16/24: *Affirmative Action and Social Justice: policies and enactments (i.e. 73rd and 74th amendments) to achieve this. Film followed by discussion*

Readings:

- *“New Modes of Violence The backlash against women in the Panchayat System” in ‘The violence of Development’, Edited by Karin Kapadia, Kali for Women” New Delhi, 2002.pgs 393-424*

Session 17/24: *Honour Killings, Patriarchy and daily Violence*

Module 4: Current debates on social justice:

Session 18/24: *Religious Minorities: Sacchar committee report highlights, issues of communal violence*

Readings:

- *Sacchar Committee Report pgs. 9-26 and 238-254*

Session 19/24: *Film Preview: “Bebaak”. Discussion on current issues faced by Muslim women*

Session 20/24: *Students will make presentations on current topics of Social Justice reported in the local newspapers in the classrooms followed by discussion. This exercise will carry 30 marks and is compulsory. Presentations can be made with the use of posters/ power point presentations.*

Session 21/24: *Adivasis / tribals : Status and the issues today.*

Session 22/24: *Human Rights in India and debates - Guest lecture by activist for rights of LGBT groups.*

Session 23/24: *Impact of new economic policies on the marginalized: Issues of Human Rights.*

Session 24/24: *“Inclusiveness” the biggest challenge for achieving Social Justice. Emerging new frontiers.*

Readings:

- *Martha Nussbaum, Frontiers of Justice, Oxford University press, New Delhi 2001 pgs 1-8 & 96-154.*

RESOURCES

Readings will be given in the course reader.

EVALUATION METHODS

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The course instructor will provide specific requirements and grading rubrics for individual assignments for the course. Your final grade in the course will be comprised of the following course requirements:

<i>Attendance & Class Participation</i>	10%
<i>Classroom activities (Debate and Survey)</i>	30%
<i>Classroom Presentation</i>	30%
<i>Written Assignment</i>	30%

Final Assignment

This is the final paper that the students are expected to write. This should be a well-researched paper on any topic that has been covered in the semester, through the readings or emerging from class discussions. The paper must be based on additional readings at least three and all references, works cited must be provided. The papers should be 10- 15 pages, single-spaced. Hard copy of the written assignment must be submitted by the 23rd of October. Non-compliance can affect grades. Proper references must be given for both print and Internet.

Grading

IFSA Pune programs utilize the follow standard grading policy well accepted by most US institutions.

Excellent	A	93-100%	Good	B+	87-89%	Acceptable	C+	77-79%
	A-	90-92%		B	83-86%		C	73-76%
				B-	80-82%		C-	70-72%
						Unsatisfactory	D+	67-69%
							D	63-66%
							D-	60-62%
						Failing	F	<60%

Timely Submissions

Assignments submitted after the deadline will be accepted at the discretion of the course instructor and generally only in the event of a documented illness or emergency.

COURSE POLICES

Exams and Assignments

Students are required to take all regularly scheduled exams in courses for which they are registered, and to submit all assignments on time. Any compelling academic, personal, or medical reason that might justify a rescheduled exam or assignment must be brought up to the Resident Director, not program faculty. Failure to take scheduled exams or submit the requisite assignments for a course will adversely affect your grade as per the stated grading criteria for each course.

Classroom Conduct

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Student punctuality is extremely important in India. Please do not be late for classes or other activities, as it is considered impolite to do so. It is improper to eat in class, to engage in other activities such as texting, or to slump or nap. Students are expected to be alert and engaged as a sign of respect for their professors.

Attendance

Everyone benefits by learning from each other; if students are not present, it affects everyone and negatively impacts the program. Attendance is required for all classes and mandatory field visits; attendance will be recorded. Students must notify their instructors and the Resident Director ahead of their absence from class or class-related activities. Class participation is expected and is a contributing factor to students' final course grades. Students' grades will be reduced one grade increment for more than two unexcused absences.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Any academic endeavor must be based upon a foundation of honesty and integrity. Students are expected to abide by principles of academic integrity and must be willing to bear individual responsibility for their work while studying abroad. Any academic work (written or otherwise) submitted to fulfill an academic requirement must represent a student's original work. Any act of academic misconduct, such as cheating, fabrication, forgery, plagiarism, or facilitating academic dishonesty, will subject a student to disciplinary action.

IFSA takes academic integrity very seriously. Students must not accept outside assistance without permission from the instructor. Additionally, students must document all sources according to the instructions of the professor. Should your instructor suspect you of plagiarism, cheating, or other forms of academic dishonesty, you may receive a failing grade for the course and disciplinary action may result. The incident will be reported to the IFSA resident director as well as your home institution.

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