

**2<sup>ND</sup> SEMESTER  
MAJOR COURSE  
SOC222J SOCIOLOGY (SOCIAL INSTITUTIONS)  
TOTAL CREDITS: 06 (THEORY: 04; TUTORIAL: 02)**

**Course Description:**

*An exposure to the different social institutions will enable the student to appreciate how a subject dealing with such mundane and private aspects of everyday life as births, marriages and family formation can constitute a technical field of study capable of generating contentious issues for academicians. A course on social institutions, therefore, becomes essential for any student of sociology.*

**Objectives:**

*Family, marriage and Kinship are three important and fundamental institutions in the society. This paper aims at introducing these important institutions of the society to the students in a sociological perspective while also taking care of the recent academic debates surrounding these institutions like changes in social institutions.*

**Learning Outcomes**

*After reading this paper, the students will be able to understand the various sociological approaches and perspectives regarding the institution of marriage, family, kinship and religion. They will also be abreast with the various recent debates pertaining to social institutions.*

<b>1.</b>	<b>FAMILY</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Family and household</li> <li>b. Family structure and Functions</li> <li>c. Types of Family</li> <li>d. Changes in family</li> </ul>	
<b>2.</b>	<b>MARRIAGE</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Marriage: Meaning and Significance</li> <li>b. Rules of Marriage: Endogamy, exogamy</li> <li>c. Types of Marriage</li> <li>d. Challenges to marriage as an institution</li> </ul>	
<b>3.</b>	<b>KINSHIP</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Basic concepts: Incest, Affiliation, Consanguinity, Affinity, Clan, Lineage, Kindered.</li> <li>b. Kinship and Descent: Unilineal, Double and Cognatic Descent</li> <li>c. Kinship Usage</li> <li>d. Kinship Terminology</li> </ul>	
<b>4.</b>	<b>RELIGION</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Religion: Meaning and Significance</li> <li>b. Animism, Animatism, Totemism and Naturalism</li> <li>c. Function of Religion</li> <li>d. Secularization</li> </ul>	
<b>TUTORIALS (2 CREDITS)</b>		
<b>5.</b>	<b>Changing Institution of Family and Marriage</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Family in Transition</li> <li>b. Marriage Rituals and Practices</li> </ul>	
<b>6.</b>	<b>Religion and Society</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Changing Belief System</li> <li>b. Sociological understanding of Shrine Culture</li> </ul>	

## References

- Barnes, J.A. 1971. *Three Styles in the Study of Kinship* London: Tavistock.
- Carsten, Janet. 2000. *Cultures of Relatedness: New Approaches to the Study of Kinship*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Dube, Leela 1974. *Sociology of Kinship: An Analytical Survey of Literature*. Bombay: Popular Prakashan.
- Engels, F. 1948. *The Origin of the Family, Private Property and the State*. Moscow: Progress Publishers.
- Fortes, M. 1970. *Time and Social Structure and Other Essays*: London: Athlone Press.
- Fox, Robin. 1967. *Kinship and Marriage: An Anthropological Perspective*. Harmondsworth: Penguin. Books Ltd.
- Goody, Jack (ed) 1971. *Kinship*. Harmondsworth: Penguin Books Ltd.
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- Radcliffe-Brown, A.R. 1952. *Structure and Function in Primitive Society*. London: Cohen and West.
- Shah, A.M. 1974. *The Household Dimension of the Family in India*. Berkeley: University of California Press.
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