

Tribhuvan University
Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

Master of Arts in Sociology
Fourth Semester

Paper	Code No.	Title of Course	Credit hrs	Remarks
1.	So 591	Agency/Micro versus Structure/Macro Perspectives	3	Required
2.	So 592	Survey Research and Computer Data Analysis (Practical)**	3	
3.	So 593	Thesis	6	
4.	So 594	Gender, Power and Sexuality	3	*Optional any one
5.	So 595	Changing Livelihoods	3	
6.	So 596	Market and Society	3	
7.	So597	Sociology of Education	3	
8.	So598	Sociology of Tourism	3	
9.	So599	Research Design and Writing	3	

(Fourth Semester)

So591: Agency/Micro versus Structure/Macro Perspectives

Credit hours: 3

Teaching hours: 48

Objectives:

The objectives of this course are the following:

- A. Learn to think and take positions on the nature of relationship between an individual and a society and about how definite social structures historically come into being and how they are transcended.
- B. As an elaboration of the preceding, learn how definite structures *and* individuals are created and how the structures and individuals unmake and reshape the structure.
- C. Learn variant and distinctive formulations of agency/micro and structure/macro, as also the variant and distinctive formulations which seek to resolve the seeming contradictions between the two polar formulations.
- D. Learn to interface the global literature on agency/micro and structure/macro with more concrete investigations of life and society in Nepal.

Unit I: Colloquium: The age-old debate in Philosophy and Sociology

(3 hours)

Is individual primary or is it society? Do individuals make their own lives or are individual lives 'manufactured' by society and social processes? If it is society that sets the rules, can we really speak of individual freedom? (3 hours)

- George Ritzer (GR). *Sociological Theory*. Third edition. Pp. 537-9, 567-9
- Bert N Adams and RA Sydie (AS). *Sociological Theory*. Pp. 487-9

Unit II: Sociological stances which prioritize agency

(12 hours)

Classical Stances

- A. George Herbert Mead
 - Ruth A Wallace and Alison Wolf (WW). *Contemporary Sociological Theory: Expanding the Classical Tradition*. Pp. 197-213
- B. Herbert Blumer
 - WW. Pp. 213-35
- C. Erving Goffman
 - WW. Pp. 235-47
- D. Harold Garfinkel
 - WW, Pp. 261-84

More Recent Stances

George Homans. 'Bringing man back in.' *American Sociological Review*, Vol 29, No 6 (December 1964): 809-18

James Coleman. Microfoundations and microsociological behavior.' In Jeffrey C. Alexander, Bernhard Giesen, Richard Munch and Neil J Smelser (eds.), *The Micro-Macro Link*. Pp. 153-73

Randall Collins. 'On the microfoundations of macrosociology.' *American Journal of Sociology*, Vol 86, No 5 (March 1981): 984-1014

Unit III: Sociological stances which prioritize structure (6 hours)

- A. Emile Durkheim
 - AS: Pp. 90-118
 - Lewis Coser (LC). Pp 129-39
- B. Peter Blau
 - WW. 338-62
- C. Later Talcott Parsons
 - AS. Pp. 345-59
 - WW. 25-45
- D. Historical social theory
 - Austin Harrington (AH). Pp. 133-53

Unit IV: Sociological stances which prioritize 'integration' (15 hours)

- A. Karl Marx and Frederik Engels
 - LC. Pp. 43-50, 55-7, 72
 - GR. Pp. 44-54
 - Marx in Robert C .Tucker (RT) (ed.) *The Marx-Engels Reader*. Second Edition. Pp. 3-7, 148-55
 - Engels in RT: Pp. 760-5
- B. Jurgen Habermas
 - WW. Pp. 180-3
 - Jonathan Turner (JT). Pp. 205-8
 - GR. 582-88
- C. Pierre Bourdieu
 - Pierre Bourdieu. *The Logic of Practice*. Book I. Chapter 3. 'Structures, *habitus*, practices.' Pp. 52-65
 - GR. 577-82
 - WW. 180-3
- D. Anthony Giddens
 - Anthony Giddens. *The Constitution of Society: Outline of a Theory of Structuration*. Chapter 1. 'Elements of the theory of structuration.' Pp. 1-40
 - GR. 569-74
 - AS. 383-5
 - WW. 186-90

- E. Stephen Fuchs. 'Beyond agency.' *Sociological Theory*. Vol 19, No 1 (March 2001): 24-40
- F. David Gary Shaw. 'Happy in our chains? Agency and language in the postmodern age.' *History and Theory*. Vol 40, NO 4 (December 2001): 1-9
- G. Brad S Gregory. 'Review: Is small beautiful? Microhistory and the history of everyday life.' *History and Theory*. Vol 38, No 1 (February 1999): 100-10

Unit V: Colloquium on Nepal

(6 hours)

- Thomas Cox. Langtang Tibetans and Hindu Norms as Political Language: A Critical Perspective on Sanskritization Theory. Contribution to Nepalese Studies. CNAS, Tribhuvan University, Nepal. Vol. 16, No. 1, January 1989.
- Youba Raj Luintel, Agency, autonomy and the shared sexuality: gender relations in polyandry in Nepal Himalaya," *Contributions to Nepalese Studies*, Vol. 31(1), pp. 43-83, 2004.
- Mark Liechty: *Suitably Modern: Making Middle-Class Culture in Kathmandu*. Chapter 3, 'Middle-class consciousness: "hanging between the high and the low,"' Pp. 61-86 and Chapter 8, 'Constructing the modern youth,' Pp. 209-31.
- Chaitanya Mishra: 'Maoists at the crossroads: Postponing new democracy or sensing the limits of agency'? Paper presented to seminars at Kyoto University, Japan and South Asian University, New Delhi.
- Saubhagya Shah. Revolution and reaction in the Himalayas: Cultural resistance and the Maoist "new regime" in western Nepal. *American Ethnologist*, Vol. 35, Issue 3, pages 481-499. August, 2008.

Unit V: Reflecting back on the perspective and variants

(3 hours)

This unit is utilized to summarize the juxtaposition of the agency/micro and structure/macro perspectives on the one hand and the 'Nepal texts' on the other. It is intended as an exercise in linkaging the theoretical and the empirical and in cultivating a habit of theoretical thinking. It is expected that the colloquium will be summarized, documented, shared, and utilized as a learning device during subsequent semesters in Kirtipur and other campuses.

Unit VI: Outlining a research plan implicating elements of the perspective

(3 hours)

This unit is utilized to promote group work intended to develop tentative ideas which link up the agency/micro and structure/macro perspectives and its variants with group research agendas. It is expected that the 'linkaging' carried out in the preceding unit will provide valuable inputs for the preparation of group research agendas. It would be useful to divide student groups in two or more opposing camps based on their current predilection and invited to come up with research plans suitable to their thinking.

So592: Survey Research and Computer Data Analysis (Practical)

Credit hours: 3

Teaching hours: 48

Objectives:

The primary objective of this course is to develop hand in skill of students to handle various survey data in computer and enable them to analyze any kind of survey data using appropriate statistical package such as SPSS. It also aims to enable students to interpret the results correctly based on sociological perspective.

Unit I: Types of Variables and Measurement Scales (3 hrs)

- A. Types of variables
- B. Scales of measurement
- C. Measurement and Relationships
- D. Cross-sectional, cohort and panel data
- E. Summarizing data: measures of central tendency (mean, median and mode) and measures of dispersion (range, variance, standard deviation).

Unit II. Analysis of Nominal-scale Data (12 hrs)

- A. Univariate data analysis: one way frequency table
- B. Bivariate data analysis: two way frequency table, chi-square test
- C. Level of significance (measures of strength of relationship)
- D. Interpretation

Unit III. Analysis of Ordinal-scale Data (12 hrs)

- A. Univariate data analysis: one way frequency table,
- B. Bivariate data analysis: two way frequency table, Spearman rho, chi-square test of independence
- C. Interpretation

Unit IV. Analysis of Interval- and Ratio-scale Data (15 hrs)

- A. Univariate data analysis: one sample z, t, F
- B. Bivariate data analysis: two way frequency table, scatter diagram, correlation coefficient, simple linear regression, two sample Z, t and F tests, significance tests of correlation and regression coefficients
- C. Interpretation

Unit V. Analysis of Variance (6 hrs)

- A. The logic of analysis of variance

B. Calculation of one-way analysis of variance

C. ANOVA and Post HOC test

Readings:

Hinton, Brownlow, McMurry and Cozens. 2004. Spss Explained. London and New York: Routledge Tylors and Francis Groups. (Selected Chapters)

Moore, Davis S. 2007. The Basic Practice of Statistics. Fourth Edition. New York: W.H. Freeman and Company. (Selected Chapters)

Blalock H. M. 1972. Social Statistics. New York: McGraw-Hill Book Company. (Selected Chapters)

Mueller, Schuessler and Costner. 1970. Statistical Reasoning in Sociology. (Selected Chapters)

Levin, Jack and Fox, James Alan. 2012. Elementary Statistics in Social Research. (Selected Chapters)

Note: This course is entirely based on computer skill. The students will be divided into groups based on availability of computer lab in the department. Therefore number of teaching hours may exceed as per the number of groups formed for the regular class of this paper.

So593: Thesis (Required)

Credit hours: 6

Teaching Hrs: 96 hrs.

594: Gender, Power and Sexuality

Credit Hrs: 3

Teaching Hrs. 48

Course Objectives:

This paper aims to provide basic knowledge on conceptual, theoretical and methodological aspects of gender, power, sexuality and feminist methodology. It enables students to understand many of the perspectives needed to analyze gender relations in the Nepalese society as sociologist and as development practitioner.

Unit I. Perspectives on Masculinity

9 Hrs

- A. Theorizing masculinity
- B. Masculinity and power
- C. Research in masculinity

Unit II: Gender and Sexuality

9 Hrs

- A. Social construction of sexuality
- B. Sexuality and power
- C. Homosexuality and heterosexuality

Unit III: Gender and Feminist Methodology

15 hrs

- A. Feminist epistemology
- B. Principles of feminist research methods
- C. Ethics in feminist research
- D. Household and intra-household debate in gender analysis
- E. Gender analysis frameworks: Social Relation Approach, Empowerment Approach, and Harvard Analytical Framework

Unit IV: Studies on Gender Relations in Nepal

15 hrs

- A. Gender and caste
- B. Gender, marriage and sexuality
- C. Gender dimension of conflict during Maoist insurgency

D. Gender and social change

Required readings

Unit I. Perspectives on Masculinity

A. Theorizing masculinity

Connell, R. W., and Messerschmidt, J. W. 2005. "Hegemonic masculinity rethinking the concept," *Gender & society*, 19(6), pp. 829–859.

Cornwall, A., & White, S. C. 2000 . Men, Masculinities and Development Politics, Policies and Practice. *IDS Bulletin*, 31(2), 1–6.

B. Masculinity and power

Lorentzen, J. 2011. Masculinity, power and change. *NORA—Nordic Journal of Women's Studies*, 06(2), 110–123.

Hayward, R. F. (1997). Needed: A new model of masculinity to stop violence against girls and women. *UNICEF Regional Office for South Asia*.

C. Research in masculinity

Curato, N. 2011. Addressing the absence of masculine-sensitive research methods: reflections from interviewing military men. *Philippine Social Sciences Review*, 62(2). (Retrieved from <http://journals.upd.edu.ph/index.php/pssr/article/view/2103>)

Unit II: Gender and Sexuality

A. Social construction of sexuality

Seidman, S. 2003. *The social construction of sexuality*, New York: Norton. (Retrieved from <http://www.old.li.suu.edu/library/circulation/Gurung/soc2370sgSocialConstrCh2Fall10.pdf>)

Anne Fausto-Sterling. 2000. "The five sexes, revisited," *The Sciences*, pp 19-23.

B. Sexuality and power

Foucault, M. 1978. "The history of sexuality," Vol. 1: An Introduction (trans. by Robert Hurley), New York: Vintage, pp. 3-13, 103-114.

Poudel, M. 2013. "Understanding sexuality in Nepalese context", paper presented at Ashmita conference for Identity, Power and Transformation, organized by Ashmita Publishing house, October 2-3, 2013, Kathmandu, Nepal.

C. *Homosexuality and Heterosexuality*

Katz, J. N. 2003. "The invention of heterosexuality," *Privilege: A Reader*, Michael L. Kimmel and Abby L. Ferber (eds.), 83–98.

Tamang, S. 2003. Patriarchy and the production of homo-erotic behaviour in Nepal. *Studies in Nepali History and Society*, 8(2), 225–258.

Unit III: Gender and Feminist Methodology

A. *Feminist Epistemology*

Nochlin, L. 1971. Why have there been no great women artists? *The Feminism and Visual Culture Reader*, pp.229–233.

Aziz, B. N. 2001. *Heir to a Silent Song: Two Rebel Women of Nepal*. Centre for Nepal and Asian Studies, Tribhuvan University. pp. xxv-xxxx, 33-71

Harding, Sandra. 1987. "Introduction: Is there a Feminist Method?" In Sandra Harding (ed.) *Feminism and Methodology: Social Science Issues*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press. Chapters 1 and 12.

B. *Principles of Feminist Methodology*

Reinharz, Shulamit. 1992. *Feminist Methods in Social Research*. Oxford University Press, pp. 240-269.

Anandhi, S., & Velayudhan, M. 2010. Rethinking Feminist Methodologies. *Economic & Political Weekly*, 45(44), 39.

Ahearn, L. M. 2001. *Invitations to Love: Literacy, Love letters, and Social Change in Nepal*. Chapter two, "Juggling roles: daughter, development worker, and anthropologist", University of Michigan Press, pp. 67-87.

C. *Ethics in Feminist Research*

Edwards, R. & Mauthner, M. 2002. "Ethics and feminist research: theory and practice," *Ethics in Qualitative Research*, pp. 14–31.

Bhadra, C. 2002. Doing Research with Women in Nepal. *The Journal of Home Science and Women Development*. Vol. 1. March 2002. Kathmandu: Home Science and Women Development Association, Nepal (HSWDAN).

D. *Household and intra-household debate in gender analysis*

Sen, A. 1987. *Gender and cooperative conflicts*. World Institute for Development Economics Research Helsinki (retrieved from http://www.wider.unu.edu/publications/working-papers/previous/en_GB/wp-18/files/82530817554384479/default/WP18.pdf).

Agarwal, Bina. 1997. "Bargaining" and gender relations: within and beyond the household," *Feminist Economics*, Vol. 3(1), pp. 1-51.

Agergaard, J. 1999. The household as a unit of analysis: reflections from migration research in Nepal. *Geografisk Tidsskrift-Danish Journal of Geography*, 99(1), 101–111.

E. Gender analysis frameworks

March, C., Smyth, I. A., & Mukhopadhyay, M. 1999. *A Guide to Gender Analysis Frameworks*. Oxfam.

Unit IV: Studies on Gender Relations in Nepal

Cameron, Mary. 2005. On the Edge of Auspicious: Gender and Caste in Nepal, Chapter Four " Low caste women's artisan and domestic work", Mandala Publications, Kathmandu. Pp.119-134.

Luintel, Youba Raj. 2004. "Agency, autonomy and the shared sexuality: gender relations in polyandry in Nepal Himalaya," *Contributions to Nepalese Studies*, Vol. 31(1), pp. 43-83.

Sharma, Mandira, & Prasain, Dinesh. 2004. "Gender dimensions of the People's War," *Himalayan People's War: Nepal's Maoist Rebellion*, Indiana University Press, pp. 152–165.

Upadhya, S. 1996. The status of women in Nepal–15 years on. *Studies in Nepali History and Society*, 1(2), 423–453.

**So599: Research Design and Writing
(Practical)**

Credit hours: 3

Teaching hours: 48

Objectives and Course Description:

This course aims to develop creative and critical thinking as well as academic writing skills among the students. In order to develop the academic skill among students overall activities throughout the contents of this course are expected to do practically. Beginning the courses with review of related literatures, writing reviews, formulating research problem/questions/hypothesis, designing research, carry out field work and finally they have to write a scientific research report/article following ASA style guide at the end of this semester. Their final evaluation will be based on the presentation and viva-voce on the research report they submit to the department.

Unit I: Conceptualizing Research Design

12hrs

a) Research in everyday life

Sarah Neal, Sarah. 2015. Researching the Everyday: An Interview with Amanda Wise. *Sociology*, 2015, Vol. 49(5) 988–1000. UK: University of Surrey. (sagepub.co.uk/journalsPermissions.nav, DOI:10.1177/0038038515598110, soc.sagepub.com)

b) Social Research and Social Problem

Gold, David. 1979. “Social Research and Social Problems: Toward a Structural Explanation of a Fuzzy Association”. *The Pacific Sociological Review*, Vol. 22, No. 3 (Jul., 1979), pp. 275–283. Published by: University of California Press. [Stable URL: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/1388759>. Accessed: 27-11-2015 15:52 UTC]

c) Book Review

Nora, Tia De. 2014. “Making Sense of Reality: Culture and Perception in Everyday Life”. London: SAGE, 2014, £24.99 pbk (ISBN: 9781446202005), 200 pp. Reviewed by: Dafne Muntanyola-Saura, Universitat Autònoma De Barcelona, Spain *Sociology*. 2015, Vol. 49(5) 1001–1007. (sagepub.co.uk/journalsPermissions.nav, DOI: 10.1177/0038038515601551, soc.sagepub.com)

d) Article Review

Moore, Lisa Jean. 2015. “A Day at the Beach: Rising Sea Levels, Horseshoe Crabs, and Traffic Jams”. New York: State University of New York, USA. *Sociology*, 2015, Vol. 49(5) 886 – 902. (sagepub.co.uk/journalsPermissions.nav, DOI: 10.1177/0038038515573474. soc.sagepub.com).

Unit II: Conceptualizing Research Problem

12hrs

a) Formulating Research Problem

Back, Les. 2015. “Why Everyday Life Matters: Class, Community and Making Life Livable Goldsmiths”. London: University of London, UK. *Sociology*, 2015, Vol. 49(5) 820–836. (sagepub.co.uk/journalsPermissions.nav; DOI: 10.1177/0038038515589292. soc.sagepub.com)

b) Designing Research

Creswell, John W. 2003. *Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative and Mixed Methods Approaches*. Second Edition. New Delhi: SAGE Publications. (International Educational and Professional Publisher Thousand Oaks- London- New Delhi)

c) Making Research Sociological

Chaitanya Mishra. 2009. Making Research Sociological. *Dhaulagiri Journal of Sociology/Anthropology*, Vol. III, pp. 1-18.

d) Theory Construction

Markovsky, Barry. 2008. "Graduate Training in Sociological Theory and Theory Construction". *Sociological Perspectives*, Vol. 51, No. 2 (Summer 2008), pp. 423-445. (Sage Publications, Inc. Stable URL: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/10.1525/sop.2008.51.2.423>. Accessed: 27-11-2015 16:04 UTC)

e) The Significance of Method

Szmatka, Jacek and Michael J. Lovaglia. 1996. "The Significance of Method". *Sociological Perspectives*, Vol. 39, No. 3 (Autumn, 1996), pp. 393-415. (Sage Publications, Inc. Stable URL: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/1389254>, Accessed: 28-11-2015 01:29 UTC)

Unit III: Understanding Methodology and Selecting Methods

12hrs

a) Understanding Methodology and Methods

Grix, Jonathan. 2002. "Introducing Students to the Generic Terminology of Social Research". *Politics*, Vol. 22(3), 175–186. (Institute for German Studies University of Birmingham).

b) Choosing Appropriate Methods

Lamont, Michèle and Swidler, Ann. 2014. "Methodological Pluralism and the Possibilities and Limits of Interviewing". *Qual Sociol.* (DOI 10.1007/s11133-014-9274-z, Springer Science+Business Media New York 2014).

c) Importance of Statistics in Sociology

Ray, John. 1974. "Should Sociology Require Statistics?" *The Pacific Sociological Review*, Vol. 17, No. 3 (Jul., 1974), pp. 370-376. (University of California Press Stable URL: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/1388572>, Accessed: 25-11-2015 01:38 UTC).

Unit IV: Writing Research Report: Academic and Technical Aspects

12hrs

a) Writing Research Report

Krest, Margie and Carle, Daria O. 1999. "Teaching Scientific Writing: A Model for Integrating Research, Writing & Critical Thinking". *The American Biology Teacher*, Vol. 61, No. 3 (Mar., 1999), pp. 223-227. (Published by: on behalf of the University of California Press National Association of Biology Teachers, Stable URL: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/4450655>, Accessed: 28-11-2015 15:04 UTC).

Graham, Steve, Harris, Karen R. and Santangelo, Tanya. 2015. "Research-Based Writing Practices and the Common Core: Meta-analysis and Meta-synthesis". *The Elementary School*

Journal, Vol. 115, No. 4 (June 2015), pp. 498-522. (The University of Chicago Press, Stable URL: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/10.1086/681964>, Accessed: 24/11/2015 20:30).

b) Referencing: ASA Style Guide

American Sociological Association. 2010a. *ASA Code of Ethics*. Washington, DC: American Sociological Association. Retrieved June 24, 2010 (<http://www.asanet.org/about/ethics.efm>).

American Sociological Association. 2010b. "The Preparation Checklist for ASA Manuscripts." Washington, DC: American Sociological Association. Retrieved June 24, 2010 (<http://www.asanet.org/images/journals/docs/pdf/Checklist%20for%20ASA%20Manuscripts.pdf>).