

Sophia College (Autonomous)

Board of Studies in Sociology

Minutes of the meeting of the 12th Board of Studies in Sociology

Date of Meeting: **24th April 2024**

Venue: Online Meeting (Zoom)

Time: 2:00 pm to 4:30 pm

Members Present-

1. Dr. Anagha Tendulkar (Chairperson, Board of Studies)
2. Ms. Wilma Monteiro
3. Ms. Sukanya Menon
4. Dr. Rajula Shah
5. Dr. Shashi Mishra
6. Dr. Vibhuti Patel
7. Dr. Ranu Jain
8. Dr. Shanti Seshadri
9. Ms. Gayatri Maniar Shah

The agenda of the meeting was as follows:

1. To pass the minutes of the previous meeting held on 2nd November 2023
2. To approve the syllabi and assessment pattern of MA in Gender Studies (as per the NEP guidelines)
3. To approve the syllabi and assessment pattern of SY semester III and IV (as per the NEP guidelines)
4. Any other related matter with the permission of the Chairperson

The chairperson of the Board of Studies (henceforth referred to as BOS), Dr. Anagha Tendulkar began the session by welcoming the board members. Dr. Tendulkar explained to the Board members about the revival of the MA Gender Studies program and the challenges and concerns pertaining to the same.

Agenda I:

The first agenda was to discuss the minutes of the previous meeting, which had already been emailed to the members. The agenda was proposed by Dr. Vibhuti Patel and passed by Dr. Shashi Mishra.

Agenda II

Dr. Lata Pujari explained to the Board about the one-year gap and how the MA program would be with NEP compliance from the following academic year. She explained that the three major papers would remain the same, but with NEP compliance, there would be new electives and Research Methodology/Field Projects being added and thereby there would be a total of 22 Credits per semester.

Four new electives were proposed by Dr. Pujari. These included in Semester I; *Role of Gender in Sustainable Development Goals*, *Gender Perspectives on Ageing*, and in Semester II: *Gender and Human Resource Management*, *Gender and Sports*.

Dr. Tendulkar explained the modules and topics which would be covered in Gender Perspectives on Ageing. Mr. Joseph raised the pertinent area of aged lifestyle and the need for having an Indian perspective. The Board discussed possible readings which could be shared with students. Dr. Patel made several valuable suggestions with regard to the published literature and sources available in the academic discourse..

Dr. Patel commented that there should be two groups targeted to ensure greater enrollment in the MA programme. The young aspiring group for whom the department must highlight the possible career opportunities after the post graduate degree. Secondly the mid-career women who are eager to explore new learning opportunities. She insisted that there to be efficient logistic and management support through intellectual leadership and mentoring within the institution.

Agenda III

The second agenda was to discuss the Second-Year undergraduate syllabus for the academic year 2024-2025. Dr. Tendulkar informed the Board members that the Second Year would have two Major Papers and one Minor Paper, per semester. Additionally, there will be a VSC in Semester 3 and SEC in Semester IV.

The first major paper titled 'Indian Society: Critical Concepts and Challenges' was presented by Ms. Sukanya Menon. She explained the objectives and course outcomes as well as the four modules. She emphasized on the importance of taking forward the importance of theory as well as its practical implications in Indian Society. Dr. Patel

suggested including Religious Identities in Unit 3. Dr. Ranu Jain further suggested including Education to the Contemporary Debates.

The second major paper for semester III is titled 'Sociology of Ageing'. Dr. Anagha took the Board through the syllabus. Dr. Jain suggested making sociology more indigenous by looking at the difference of aging in an Indian setting as opposed to a western approach. Dr. Shashi commended the Department stating that the trajectory being followed is deeply insightful.

Ms. Wilma Monteiro explained the Minor Paper for Semester III- Sociology of Food. She talked about the need for understanding and connecting Sociology to Food, with respect to inequality, trends and the role of the government. Mr. Joseph raised a pertinent remark on the sensitivity required while handling a topic like Diet and Food among second year students. Dr. Jain suggested looking at the various changes which have come up in the areas of food studies, and to look at anthropological studies regarding the same.

Ms. Sukanya Menon explained the 2 modules which would be taught in the Vocational Skill Course- 'Data Collection in Social Sciences'. This would look at the methods of data collection and techniques used in social science research. Dr. Ranu Jain suggested incorporating Narrative Analysis in the syllabus.

Moving on to Semester IV, Ms. Sukanya Menon explained the Major Paper titled 'Sociology of Development'. This is a restructured version of a paper which was taught prior to NEP. The Board suggested adding more readings and was approved by the BOS.