

Sophia College (Autonomous)
Board of Studies in Sociology

AGENDA for the Meeting on 16th January, 2023

**An online meeting of the members of the Board of Studies in Sociology to be held on
16.01.2023 on Zoom from 3.30 pm to 5 pm.**

The agenda for the meeting is as follows:

1. To review the conduct of MA in Gender Studies Course
2. To deliberate on the FYBA (Semesters I & II Syllabi)
3. To discuss the possibility of modifying Paper V
4. Any other related matter with the help of the Chairperson

Department of Sociology

Sophia College (Autonomous)

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Board of Studies in Sociology

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Studies in Sociology

Date of Meeting: 16th January 2023

Venue: Online Meeting (Zoom)

Time: 15:30 pm to 17:00 pm

Members Present-

1. Dr. Anagha Tendulkar (Chairperson, BOS)
2. Ms. Wilma Monteiro
3. Ms. Sukanya Menon
4. Dr Lata Pujari
5. Ms. Deepti Anil
6. Dr. Shashi Mishra
7. Dr. Joseph Pereira
8. Dr. Vibhuti Patel
9. Dr. Ranu Jain
10. Dr. Shanti Seshadri
11. Ms. Gayatri Maniar Shah

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The Chairperson of the BOS, Dr. Anagha Tendulkar began the session by welcoming the members. Ms. Sukanya Menon, new member of the department was introduced to the Board.

The BOS began with Dr. Lata Pujari presenting the review report of the M.A. in Gender Studies Course, conducted by the Sophia Centre for Women's Studies and Development, under the aegis of the Department of Sociology. She presented the course syllabi gave a basic review on the course and the number of students admitted in the course. Some points made during the presentation were:

Dr. Ranu Jain asked about the students who have enrolled in the program and the kind of activities being undertaken. The possibility of a fully offline model for the MA Course and the possible logistics for the same were discussed. Dr. Lata spoke about the extensive nature of the course and the non-availability of visiting faculty as issues to conduct the course in-person mode.

The second point on the agenda was to discuss the FYBA Syllabus. MS. Wilma Monteiro and Ms. Sukanya Menon presented the syllabus for FYBA. The suggestions made to the FYBA Syllabus were:

Unit 1: Ms. Sukanya Menon introduced the first unit of the syllabus which covers the emergence of discipline and key ideas like Sociological Imagination.

Dr. Ranu Jain and Dr. Shashi Mishra felt that Sociological Imagination as a concept should be explained with interlinkages to the institutions and it was important for students to understand its interpretation.

Dr. Ranu Jain felt that Reflexive Sociology was an important area within the syllabus. However, she agreed that it should not be looked at in detail, since many of the students were still being introduced to the subject. The

board concluded that since the idea of reflexivity is a significant concept it must be briefly explained with its application to modern society.

Unit 2

The second unit was about Society and Groups and was presented by Ms. Wilma Monteiro.

Dr. Ranu Jain reiterated that the essence of the unit is to understand the basic concept and its types. She suggested that names of these thinkers be taken off the syllabus so as to present a fuller understanding to them. However, it but should be explained in class. Dr. Shashi Mishra supported this, and stated that the unit must also cover society, but avoid the sub topic of 'evolution'.

Unit 3:

The title of this unit is 'Social Institutions' and this was presented by Ms. Sukanya Menon. There was an extensive discussions about the importance of this unit, and how it has contemporary relevance since institutions such as caste, religion and patriarchy continue to have power in society and are responsible for shaping our identity and views. The changes suggested were as following:

- Title of the third subunit (3c), which was earlier 'Religion', was changed to 'Religion, Caste and Patriarchy'.
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- Dr. Ranu Jain and Dr. Vibhuti Patel stated that while thinkers need not be mentioned in the syllabus, it is Important to include relevant theoretical perspectives.
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- A similar point was made with regard to the subunit on politics and the board members felt that the idea of *bureaucracy* by Max Weber must be discussed.
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- The title of the unit on Family was changed to - Family and Marriage: Changing Trends.

Unit 4 was discussed and approved without any changes.

The semester II syllabus was discussed next. Units 1-3 were approved without any changes. In the fourth unit, when discussing the political dimension of social media, a suggestion was made to include how the use of social media should be regulated, especially in a political context. The title of the sub-unit was thus changed to- ' Political Dimension of social media: Regulatory Mechanism' .

All members of the Board agreed with the changes suggested and the syllabus was approved.

Dr. Anagha Tendulkar spoke about how the Department was keen to introduce some changes for TYBA Paper V-B. Presently Agrarian Sociology is being taught. Possible alternatives include Sociology of Aging, Health and Wellbeing, Sociology of Media. The BOS discussed the relevance of Agrarian and the possible papers which can attract and capture the interest of the students.

The BOS was also informed about the Industrial Visit which was scheduled for 19th and 20th January for the TY students. Subject teachers for Informal Sector, Ms. Sukanya Menon spoke about how the interaction with the paithani weavers would be helpful for the students to get an insight into the informal sector and Ms. Wilma Monteiro spoke about how the visit to Sula Vineyard would help the students with their Paper VII on H.R. Mr. Joseph Pereira then asked about the Paper VII syllabus and the areas which were covered in the paper. Ms. Wilma Monteiro spoke about how the students went beyond the syllabus, and how the department encouraged a practical approach by assigning the students to interview and learn from HR Managers. Ms. Gayatri Maniar also spoke about the changes in industry using her personal experiences and encouraged more of such practical activities.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks by the chair.

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