Course Code:

Title: Identity Discrimination and Development

Type of Course: Compulsory

Programme Title: MA in Development Studies

No of Credits: 4

Semester and Year Offered: Monsoon semester, July-December, 2017

Course Coordinator and Team: Dr Nandini Nayak (coordinator); Prof. Sumangala Damodaran; Mr. Moggallan Bharti.

Email of course coordinator: nandini@aud.ac.in

Pre-requisites: None

Aim: 1. To critically discuss the concept of ‘development’
2. To discuss social discrimination, and ‘multi-discrimination’ by looking at literature on ‘identity’ and specifically Caste, Gender and Race as markers of identity that are important to study for a critical understanding of development.

Brief description of modules/ Main modules:

Unit 1: Conceptualising Discrimination (Week 1) (Sumangala Damodaran)
This unit introduces students to basic ideas around social identity and the bases of discrimination. It will serve as the basic framework within which the discussion in the next unit on race and racial discrimination is organized.

Unit 2: Race and Racial Discrimination (Weeks 2 and 3) (Sumangala Damodaran)
The idea of race as a modern concept that underpins fundamental notions of the ‘other’ and hence as going beyond commonly understood notions of race will be introduced. Examples of racial discrimination that encompass various notions of racial identity will be examined as cases to draw out the nuances of an expanded notion of race.

Unit 3: Gender: Reflections on some critical concepts (Weeks 4-6) (Nandini Nayak)
The course will by now have introduced the idea that development is a complex and far from linear and uniformly experienced phenomenon, and moreover that identity can impact one’s
experience of ‘development’. In this unit, we move on to discussing some key concepts in relation to ‘gender’. We will look at how ‘gendered identity’ can impact and shape our relationship with development. The key concepts are ‘gender’, ‘masculinity’, ‘patriarchy’ and ‘feminism’.

**Unit 4: Caste (Weeks 7-10) (Moggallan Bharti)**

Among the various forms of discrimination found across the world, untouchability is a unique and a distinct social institution – this leads to the question of how & why in modern India, caste discrimination and untouchability are still experienced. This module will discuss perspectives, theories and concepts used to construct the idea of caste, learning and knowing about caste, the connection/difference between caste and race. Terms, definitions and features of the caste system will be covered in addition to a discussion on relevance of concepts of hierarchy and difference in understanding caste.

**Assessment Details with weights:**

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<tr>
<th>S.No</th>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Date/period in which Assessment will take place</th>
<th>Weightage</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Essay – Race</td>
<td>End of Race section</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Book review – Gender</td>
<td>End of Gender section</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Essay – Caste</td>
<td>End of Caste section</td>
<td>20</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Exam</td>
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<td>40</td>
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**Reading List:**

**References:**

*Conceptualising discrimination –*


*Race and Racial discrimination -*


Fanon, Frantz (1952): Black Skin, White Masks, Pluto Press*


**Gender**


Kumar, Radha (1999), From Chipko to Sati: The Contemporary Indian Women’s Movement from Nivedita Menon (ed.) Gender and Politics in India, New Delhi: Oxford University Press.


**Caste**

Bayly, Susan (1999) Caste, Society and Politics in India from the Eighteenth Century to the Modern Age, The New Cambridge History of India series, CUP India, Chapter 3


