B.Ed. Two Year Programme

P.1.4 : Social Science

Maximum Marks: 100

Objectives of the Course

To enable the prospective teachers to address the following questions:

- What is the nature and philosophy of Social Science?
- What is his/her reflective understanding of contemporary society and the relevance in teaching of social science in schools?
- What is the status of learning social science at secondary school level?
- What are the issues and challenges in articulating the nature of social science curriculum and its pedagogical practices?
- How does one evaluate and assess the teaching and learning processes and its valuable implications in the professional development of teachers?

Units of Study

Unit I  Evolutionary Framework of Social Science

- An Overview of the Foundations of each Discipline:
  a) History and Geography- Temporal and Spatial Dimensions.

- Specialised Knowledge versus Inter Disciplinary Knowledge
- Trajectory of Social Science Evolutionary Process: Philosophical and Theoretical discourses
- Concept of Social Science and Social Studies
- Evolution of Social Science Curriculum to the present stage in terms of various Indian educational policies.

Unit II  Social Science in Schools

- Challenges in the development of Social Science Curriculum
- General Approaches in the construction of social science curriculum: thematic organization: Interdisciplinary, multi disciplinary and fused frameworks
- Cross Cultural perspectives and issues in social science
- Teaching of Social Science:
  Development of Critical Enquiry, Critical Thinking and Problem Solving in building perspectives in Social Sciences: Social, Historical, Environmental, Economic and Constitutional perspectives
Unit III Pedagogical practices in Social Science Curriculum
- Social Science and Indian School Curricula in search of new Directions.
- Review different Commissions/Committees Reports
- Critical Review of Social Science Text books from class 6th to 10th
- Concerns in Teaching Social Science: Diversity, Gender and Special Needs

Unit IV Contexts in Social Science instruction
- Inclusive Classroom
- Democratic Spaces
- ICT in Social Sciences
- Development of Unit Plan: Thematic mapping of curricular content

Unit V Evaluation in Social Science
- Challenges in evaluation: Assessing learners’ perspectives on various social issues, Assessing learners’ action for a social change at the individual level

Unit VI Professional Development of Social Science Teacher
- Social Science Teacher as A Reflective Practitioner
- In-Service Teacher Development Programmes

Suggested Practicum
a) Collaborative projects on selected cross curricular areas taken from school syllabus: written assignments on issues, seminar presentation, action research with peers' involvement.
b) Establishment and Enrichment of Social Science Resource Centre
c) Enrichment of the subject areas like geography, history, political and social life and economics.
d) Engagement with curriculum policies/documents and curriculum frameworks.
e) Critical appraisal of existing social science curriculum and text book at school level
f) Development of Unit / Thematic Plan.
g) Organizing field trips as learning experience.
h) Collection and Maintenance of relevant instructional resources.

Suggested Readings


• Edgar, B.W. & Stanely (1958), Teaching social studies in high school, Heath and company, Boston D.C.


• Kumar, Sandeep (2013). Teaching of Social Science, Project Report, University of Delhi, Delhi.


• UNESCO-World Social Science Report (2013)


