

# **CENTRE FOR POLITICAL STUDIES**

## **SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**

### **MA OPTIONAL COURSE**

#### **PO 527 THEORIES OF SOCIAL STRATIFICATION**

Credits: 4

##### Course description

The course Theories of Social Stratification is a fundamental course in understanding societal stratification in every human society resulting in inequalities and discrimination among different individuals, groups, communities, and cultures. The aim of the course is to enable students of postgraduate level an in-depth analysis of how stratification arises, survives and thrives across generations, eventually humans start accepting it as natural. Most conflicts, revolts, protests across the world are the result of some form of injustice based on inequality, biases, prejudices which get translated into policies and norms and get reflected in the state and society as 'accepted' values or meaning system. The course introduces students to the often-invisible realms and layers of injustice based on stratification: by birth, race, caste, gender, culture, religion, region, ethnicity. Essentially these are concepts based on identity. The course will approach stratification through the lens of decolonization and intersectionality.

I follow a mixed method of pedagogy in this optional course i.e. lectures and class- presentations by students. Every student at the beginning of the course will be allotted one or two original readings. These will be auto-biographies, biographies and literary sources, which the students will have to read thoroughly and present it in class. The class will then discuss and debate on the issue.