**SOCIO CULTURAL ASPECTS OF GENDER**

**Capsule Statement:**

This course will help the students to understand the impact of culture and society in shaping gendered identities of individuals. It further analyses in detail about the functions of society and culture and how these institutions are playing the role of agents of socialization in shaping gendered individuals. The course has capacity to introduce students with the foundational theoretical and sociological notion of society and culture, which will further help the students to understand and analyze the theories of gendered identities. The deep insight of theories of gendered identities will further help the students to analyze and address gender issues in Pakistan’s context.

#### Course Objectives:

After the completion of this course, students will be able to

* Become familiar with the basic structure and functions of culture and society
* Understand the different foundational theoretical perspectives about society and gender role socialization
* Identify and understand the socio-cultural dynamics, which are shaping gender roles in Pakistan

#### Contents:

1. **How gender is socially constructed? (Introductory lecture-revisiting definitions of gender, sex, etc)**
2. **Basic institutions of society**
3. **Evolution of society [from hunting and gathering age to post-industrial societies]**
4. **Defining social norms, values, customs, tradition and status**
5. **Culture, its types and functions**
6. **Social control (both formal and informal) used in shaping gender role identities**
7. **Understanding different social perspectives (theories of consensus and conflict in society):**
   1. Functionalism
   2. Marxism
   3. Weberianism
   4. Symbolic interactionism
   5. Ethnomethodology
   6. Feminism
   7. Post-modernism

#### Socialization:

* 1. Defining socialization and its basic agents
  2. Primary and secondary socialization
  3. Theories of socialization:
     1. Social learning theory
     2. Gender role socialization theory
     3. Reward and punishment theory
     4. Imitation Theory
     5. Social Cognitive theory of gender development and differentiation

#### Institution of family and gender role socialization

1. **Education and its impact (gendered classrooms, reinforcement of social ideals through curriculum-hidden as well)**
2. **Gendered Workplaces**
3. **Gender role Stereotyping, labeling**

**Suggested Readings:**

Agarwal, Bina. 1988. *Structures of patriarchy: the state, the community, and the household*.

London: Zed Books.

Andersen, Margaret L. 2000. *Thinking about women: sociological perspectives on sex and gender*. Boston: Allyn and Bacon.

Azher Hameed Qamar (2012) *Gendered aspects of informal education in childhood: research reflections from the rural Punjab, Pakistan*’ [www.savap.org.pk/journals/ARInt./Vol.2(1)/2012(2.1-42).pdf](http://www.savap.org.pk/journals/ARInt./Vol.2(1)/2012(2.1-42).pdf)

Bem, S. L. (1993). *The Lenses of Gender; Transforming the Debate on Sexual Inequality*. Yale University Press.

Bussey, K., and Bandura, A. Social Cognitive Theory of Gender Development and Differentiation.

*Psychological Review* 106, 676-713.

Chafetz J. S. (2006) The Varieties of Gender Theory in Sociology. In J. S. Chafetz (Ed.), *Handbook of Sociology of Gender.* NY: Springer.

Kamla Bhsan (2000). *Understanding Gender*. New Delhi: Okhla.

Marshall, Nancy L. 2003. *The social construction of gender in childhood and adolescence*.

Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.

Ore, Tracy E. 2009. *The social construction of difference and inequality: race, class, gender and sexuality*. Bosto: McGraw-Hill, Higher Education.