



Dr Debnarayan Modak (b. 1956) is presently Professor of Political Science at *Netaji Subhas Open University* (NSOU). He was the Director of the unified *School of Humanities & Social Sciences* and subsequently of the *School of Social Sciences* for about six years. Earlier, he served *Vidyasagar University*, Midnapore, for eighteen years and *Nabadwip Vidyasagar College*, Nadia, for nearly a decade. Besides teaching and

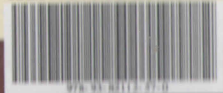
administration, Dr Modak has always been very active in multifarious research activities and his numerous publications bear the fruits of those. Apart from those published from the *School of Social Sciences*, NSOU, his major publications include *Politics of National Question in India : The Communist Approach (1942-64)*; *Pratiya Samaj O Rajniti : Jatiyata. Sampradayikata Ebang Dalit Prasanga* (in Bengali) and *Sahitya O Samaj Pragati : Banga Manisha-r Alope* (in Bengali). Added to these are some edited volumes like *Terrorism : Concepts and Problems*; *Open and Distance Learning : Future Perspectives* (Co-editor : Anirban Ghosh); *Women in Contemporary India : Aspects of Participation and Empowerment* (Co-editor : Parvin Khan); *Parasmonir Pradip Tomar* (A Bi-lingual Tribute to Rabindranath Tagore on his 150th Birth Anniversary) [Co-editor : Manan Kumar Mandal]



Dr Chandan Basu (b.1971) is Professor of History and Director, School of Social Sciences, Netaji Subhas Open University. He did his Ph. D. in the Department of History Jadavpur University on the development of left ideology and politics in West Bengal during the post-colonial era. He is currently working on the social history of left politics in West Bengal. He has a very good number of publications to his credit. Besides those published by the

School of Social Sciences, NSOU, his other publications include *The Making of the Left Ideology in West Bengal: Culture, Political Economy, Revolution 1947-1970* (Calcutta: 2009) and *Radical Ideology and Controlled Politics: CPI and the History of West Bengal, 1947-1964* (Kolkata: 2015). He is also co-editor of 'Gender Socialization, Women Empowerment and Distance Education: History, Society and Culture' (Kolkata: 2014) and *Women, Violence and Law: An Intimate Interrogation - Volume I & II* (Kolkata: 2015 & 2016). Dr Basu has also published a number of papers in the reputed journals.

ISBN : 978-93-82112-59-5



Price : ₹ 750.00

Published by
Registrar
Netaji Subhas Open University
DD-26, Sector-I, Salt Lake City, Kolkata - 700 064

Teaching Social Sciences through Open and Distance Learning
A Twenty First Century Perspective

Editors
Debnarayan Modak
Chandan Basu



Teaching Social Sciences through Open and Distance Learning

A Twenty First Century Perspective

Editors

Debnarayan Modak

Chandan Basu



Netaji Subhas Open University

DD-26, Sector-I, Salt Lake City, Kolkata - 700 064

Website : www.wbnsou.ac.in

Teaching Social Sciences through Open and Distance Learning A Twenty First Century Perspective

Editors

Debnarayan Modak
Chandan Basu



NETAJI SUBHAS OPEN UNIVERSITY
DD-26, Sector-I, Salt Lake City, Kolkata-700 064

© Netaji Subhas Open University.

No part of this volume may be reproduced either electronically or by any means without written permission from the publisher.

First Published: September, 2017

Published by:

The Registrar,
Netaji Subhas Open University,
DD 26, Salt Lake City, Sector I,
Kolkata - 700064
Website: www.wbnsou.ac.in

ISBN: 978-93-82112-59-4

Price: ₹ 750.00

Printed by:

Cyber Graphics

Disclaimer:

The views expressed by the authors/contributors are personal and do not necessarily represent the views of the University. It is the sole responsibility of the Authors for any legal ramifications for the contents in the research papers.

FOREWORD

Netaji Subhas Open University (NSOU), since its inception in 1997, has crossed a number of important milestones in making breakthroughs in the fields of *Open and Distance Learning* (ODL) in the eastern region of the country. In the field of Social Sciences too, it has been contributing both in teaching and research in a very big way. Apart from imparting instructions to the thousands of learners covering different branches of social science disciplines through its network of comprehensive Student Support Services, the *School of Social Sciences (SoSS)*, which emanated from the erstwhile *School of Humanities & Social Sciences* in 2015, has been engaged in organising seminars, symposia, workshops etc. both in the core areas of the respective disciplines as well as in the applied aspects of ODL. It also undertakes several research projects with particular emphasis to carry forward the fruits of research to extend the border of ODL. The publications of the members of the School in different aspects of Social Science are also noteworthy.

The present publication entitled ***Teaching Social Sciences through ODL: A 21st Century Perspective*** is the outcome of a National Seminar organised by the *School of Social Science*, NSOU, on 03 March, 2017 and attended by scholars all around and graced by some doyens in the disciplines of Social Sciences as well as the policy-makers of the ODL at different levels. The publication and the Seminar represents one of the functional aspects of a research project entitled ***Teaching Political Science through Open and Distance Learning: A Comparative Study of Student Support Services in Indian Universities*** undertaken by Dr Debnarayan Modak, Professor of Political Science, SoSS. It may be regarded as one of the pioneering attempts to assess the very status of the

teaching-learning process in social science disciplines under ODL. It may help one to understand the gaps, if any, between the promises and performances and to take fresh initiatives to make social science teaching through ODL more effective and fruitful. I congratulate Professor Chandan Basu, Director, SoSS and Professor Debnarayan Modak, the Principal Investigator of the Project and former Director of the School, for their initiatives and efforts to bring the contributions made in the Seminar under two covers. I am also very grateful to Professor Radharaman Chakraborti, the First Vice Chancellor of NSOU for contributing a thought-provoking lead article for the volume. I take this opportunity to convey our heartfelt thanks to the *Distance Education Bureau* of the *University Grants Commission* for making available to us the necessary financial assistance in this regard.

I do hope that the publication, will help all concerned to understand the specificities of the problems in this regard and enlighten us the scope of using the fruits of modern technology in commensurate with the potentialities of the 21st century and encourage us to initiate further steps towards the quality assurance in teaching social science disciplines through ODL.



Professor Subha Sankar Sarkar

Vice-Chancellor

Netaji Subhas Open University

DD-26, Salt Lake City, Sector-I

Kolkata-700064

Contents

Foreword

Professor Subha Sankar Sarkar
Vice Chancellor
Netaji Subhas Open University

Introduction

Debnarayan Modak
Chandan Basu

Looking Ahead

Professor Radharaman Chakrabarti
First Vice Chancellor
Netaji Subhas Open University

SECTION : ONE

ODL, ICT and Knowledge Society: New Roles with Knowledge Gaps and Policy Apathy in India

Debal K. Sinha Roy 25 - 41

Distributed Distance Learning: Designing a Prototype Portable Learning System

Parthasarathi Mukhopadhyaya 42 - 57

Studying History : The Frontiers of Ideology, Identity and ODL

Chandan Basu 58 - 70

Debating Open and Distance Learning : A Feminist Perspective
Barnana Guba Thakurta (Banerjee) 71 - 83

Application of Digital Rights Management System in Protecting Indigeneous Knowledge
Barnali Roy Chowdhury 84 - 96

SECTION : TWO

Reshaping the Future of Education through ODL
Ashit Baran Aich 97 - 103

ODL in the 21st Century : Problems and Prospects
Arnab Chowdhury 104 - 114

Importance of Open and Distance Learning in 21st Century India
Debajit Goswami 115 - 122

Open and Distance Learning : Past, Present and Future
Ananta Paul and Rakesh Manna 123 - 137

Making Distance Learning Programmes More Effective : Strategies in the 21st Century
Arnab Das 138 - 150

Student Support Services in Distance Education: Overall Scenario
Anwesha Acharya, Md. Kutubuddin Halder, Nimai Chand Maiti 151 - 170

Counselling Culture in ODL : Importance of Quality Assurance in Personal Contact Programmes
Manosanta Biswas 171 - 195

Impact of Information and Communication Technology in Distance Education
Arunava Samanta 196 - 208

A Casket of Novel Educational Resources: Learning through Distance Mode
Moumita Sarkar and Chandan Adhikary 209 - 218

SECTION : THREE

Teaching Social Science Disciplines through ODL : The Indian Scenario
Debnarayan Modak 219 - 250

Social Sciences under ODL : An Evaluative Study of Dual Mode Universities in West Bengal
Juran Krishna Sarkhel 251 - 284

Digitization and MOOCs : Exploring the Linkage and its Implications for Teaching Social Sciences through 'SWAYAM'
Srabanti Choudhuri 285 - 297

Open Educational Resources in Social Sciences : Prospects in the 21st Century
Manoj Kumar Halder 298 - 312

**Information Resources of Social Science
Research Institutions in India : An Unexplored
Area of ODL Support System**
Madhusri Ghosh Upadhaya 313 - 336

**Developing Learner Autonomy and Enriching
Teaching Learning Process through ICT in ODL:
The Case of Social Sciences**
Monita Mitra 337 - 367

**Social Science Curriculum of D.El.Ed.
Course (ODL Mode) : An Evaluation**
Sujit Samanta 368 - 382

SECTION: FOUR

**Methodological Differential of Teaching
Political Science in ODL : A Comparative
Perspective**
Sanjay Ratnaparakhi 383 - 402

**Leaners' Support at National and State
Open Universities in India– The Case of
Political Science**
Ayan Das and Debajit Goswami 403 - 435

**Students' Support Services in Political
Science at State Open Universities in India:
A Comparative Study**
Ayan Das 436 - 453

**Students' Support Services in Political Science
at IGNOU and DDEs of DMUs in West Bengal
– An Evaluation**
Ayan Das and Debajit Goswami 454 - 472

Our Contributors 473 - 478