

## PRINCIPLES OF SOCIOLOGY

<b>Course code</b>	<i>HUM 118</i>
<b>Course title</b>	<i>Principles of sociology</i>
<b>Course type</b>	<i>Elective</i>
<b>Year of study</b>	<i>First</i>
<b>ECTS</b>	<i>6 credits: 24 hrs. lectures, 24 hrs. seminars, 112 individual work</i>
<b>Coordinating teacher</b>	<i>Prof. dr. Irmína Matonytė, <a href="mailto:irmmat@ism.lt">irmmat@ism.lt</a></i>
<b>Studies form</b>	<i>Full-time</i>
<b>Prerequisites</b>	-
<b>Language of instruction</b>	<i>English</i>

### Course description

Sociology involves the systematic study of the character and patterns of human interactions, structured by historical events, cultural beliefs and social influences acting on an individual or on a wider social group. The course "P of Sociology" is designed for students who are interested in our (national, regional, global) society's analysis which will uncover processes occurring in social structures, culture, socialization etc. The course puts an emphasis on the themes of religion, deviation, gender and consumption in contemporary societies.

### Course aim

Using main sociological concepts and theoretical perspectives to uncover sociological way of thinking, to enable students to describe, analyse and understand various social phenomena as well as to foresee problematic situations in social life (on the level of wider social groups) and to find a reasoned way to interpret/ solve them, using sociological concepts, data and insights.

### Learning outcomes

After completing this course, students will be able to:

1. Understand main sociological definitions, concepts and theories.
2. Analyze discrete social phenomena and social change in modern society.
3. Identify and interpret connections between various social factors.

### Learning methods

The course consists of lectures and seminars (presentation of theoretical knowledge, in-class discussions, individual and group exercises, case analyses), a written assignment (group work), a midterm test and a final exam.

### Quality issues

In order to assimilate course information, it is vital to attend classes. Midterm test will be discussed straight after the midterm exam. During the course students have to uphold ISM rules and regulations on academic ethics.

### Cheating issues

Plagiarism, copying other work and other non academic behaviour is not tolerated during this course. All students have to uphold ISM rules and regulations.

### Topics

NO.	Topics	Class hours	
		Lectures	Seminars
1-2	<b>Introduction into course</b> Presentation of course content, requirements, composition of final mark etc. -Watching movies <i>Havoc</i> and <i>Requiem for a Dream</i> in the class <a href="https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0285175">https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0285175</a> <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3mW_tGcRXmk">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3mW_tGcRXmk</a> <a href="https://www.filmmai.in/requiem-svajonei-anglu-kalba">https://www.filmmai.in/requiem-svajonei-anglu-kalba</a>	4	4
3	<b>Definition of Sociology</b> The origins of Sociology. Definition, object, aims of sociology. Levels of sociological analysis -Establishing "case analysis" groups and defining themes of the group assignments	2	2

4	<b>Social institutes</b> Definition of social institutions. Institutionalization. Sociology of religion. -Discussion "Religion - opium for masses?"	2	2
5	<b>Socialization</b> Definition of socialization. Types of socialization. Re-socialization. Agents of socialization. Roles of mass media (communication).	2	2
6	<b>Society and culture</b> Culture and society. Consuming culture. - Discussion on value of social trust <a href="https://www.ted.com/talks/susan_pinker_the_secret_to_living_longer_may_be_your_social_life">https://www.ted.com/talks/susan_pinker_the_secret_to_living_longer_may_be_your_social_life</a>	2	2
7	<b>Midterm test</b>	1	1
8	<b>Social change</b> Demographic change, migration. - Discussion "Why is international migration so sensitive an issue"	2	2
9	<b>Feed-back on mid-term</b> <b>Social stratification</b> Definition and types of social stratification, social class and social group. Social role, status, prestige and life style. Systems of social stratification - Discussion: origins, features, life styles... of the "underclass", the "rich", the "middle class"	2	2
10	<b>Gender sociology</b> Sex and gender. Equal gender opportunities. Gender pay gap. Feminism. <b>Case/ movie analysis (first 3 groups)</b>	2	2
11	<b>Deviation and social control</b> Definition and types of deviation. Causes of deviation. Methods of social control. Formal and informal social control. -group discussion based on <a href="http://www.open.edu/openlearn/people-politics-law/discovering-disorder-young-people-and-delinquency/content-section-0?active-tab=content-tab">http://www.open.edu/openlearn/people-politics-law/discovering-disorder-young-people-and-delinquency/content-section-0?active-tab=content-tab</a>	0	4
12	<b>Case/movie analysis (remaining groups)</b> <b>Wrap up of the course</b>	0	4
<b>Total:</b>		<b>20 hrs.</b>	<b>28 hrs.</b>

#### Assessment

TASK	INDIVIDUAL WORK HOURS	% of FINAL MARK
Midterm test	30	25
Participation (in class discussions)	12	15
Case analysis (group assignment)	40	30
Final exam	30	30
<b>Total:</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>100</b>

**Active participation and discussion in the classroom (15 percent** of final course mark ) covers lectures and in-class discussions (not related to the **case analysis**, see below).

**Midterm test contains 25 percent** of final course mark. The midterm test will be held from 1-6 topics. Midterm test will be in a test form, with open and non-open questions (90 minutes long).

**Case analysis** contains 30 percent of final course mark. According to the movie *Havoc* or *Requiem for a Dream* (we will watch the movies in the class) and presented course material during lectures and seminars students will analyse different sociological phenomena: social class, gender relations, pop-culture, subculture, socialisation, deviation, age groups, education, values and attitudes, etc. (based on the insights from the movie, in particular, along the issue of "capitalism and compassion"). This task will require students' cooperation, creativity and application of received sociological knowledge. This task will be conducted as a group exercise (in teams of 4-5 students). Students will establish a list of questions (topics, concepts), which they will address in their presentation (12 minutes long) and discussion (5 minutes long) in the classroom. Assessment criteria: knowledge and content of delivered topic, quality of the presentation (clarity of presented material and clarity of expressed ideas), contact with auditorium, quality of

discussion after presentation, ability to raise and answer questions and critical discussion of the projects (presentations) of others. This task requires students' creativity, interpretation skills of sociological literature, presentation skills and knowledge of delivered topic, ability to communicate freely with the audience and productive communication within the group.

**Exam** contains 30 percent of final course mark. Exam will be from 7-12 topics. Exam will be in test form with open and non-open question types.

**Re-take examination.** If the final exam grade is lower than the minimum required, students have to re-sit the exam and will be assessed on the contents of **the whole course**. The re-take examination accounts for 70 % of the total grade. The marks obtained for the other assignments are added up to a final grade and cannot be re-taken.

#### **Main course literature**

1. Cohen R., Kennedy P. *Global sociology*. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2007
2. Marsh I., Keating M. *Sociology: making sense of society*. London: Pearson Education, 2006.
3. Calhoun C., Light D., Keller S. *Sociology*, 9th edition, N.Y.: The McGraw-Hill Com., 2012

#### **Additional course literature**

1. Haralambos M., Holborn M. *Sociology: Themes and Perspectives*. London: Collin, 2000.
2. Kroehler C.J. *Sociology: The Core*. New Yourk: McGraw-Hill, 2005.
3. Macionis J.J. *Sociology*. New Jersey: Pearson Prentice Hall, 2005.
4. Thio A. *Sociology: A Brief Introduction*. Boston: Pearson Education, 2005.
5. Turner B.S. *The Cambridge dictionary of sociology*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2006.
6. Griswold W. *Cultures and societies in a changing world*. Thousand Oaks: Pine Forge Press, 2004.
7. Ritzer G. Goodman D.J. *Sociological theory*. Boston: McGraw-Hill, 2004.