

Fundamentals of Sociology

Code: 101105
ECTS Credits: 12

Degree	Type	Year	Semester
2500259 Political Science and Public Management	FB	1	A
2500262 Sociology	FB	1	A

The proposed teaching and assessment methodology that appear in the guide may be subject to changes as a result of the restrictions to face-to-face class attendance imposed by the health authorities.

Contact

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Use of Languages

Principal working language: catalan (cat)
Some groups entirely in English: No
Some groups entirely in Catalan: Yes
Some groups entirely in Spanish: No

Teachers

Josep Verdaguer Lozano
Teresa Sorde Marti
Olga Serradell Pumareda

Prerequisites

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Objectives and Contextualisation

The aim of this course is to introduce the students into the sociological perspective, revising the main theoretical concepts from classical sociological theory with the ultimate goal to better understand the social phenomena in all their complexity. Sociology analyses social facts from a scientific perspective (that means methodologically and systematically) which is essentially differentiated from common sense. The idea is to capture those dynamics which are very often latent or hidden. Last but not least, the course is also aimed at equipping the students with the horizontal competence of Gender Perspective through the learning activities and the selected contents.

Competences

- Political Science and Public Management
- Demonstrating good writing skills in different contexts.
- Distinguishing the discipline's main theories and different fields: conceptual developments, theoretical frameworks and theoretical approaches underlying the discipline's knowledge and different areas and sub-areas, as well as their value for the professional practice through concrete cases.
- Managing the available time in order to accomplish the established objectives and fulfil the intended task.

- Realising effective oral presentations that are suited to the audience.
- Showing a good capacity for transmitting information, distinguishing key messages for their different recipients.
- Synthesizing and critically analysing information.
- Working autonomously.

Sociology

- Analysing the problems arising from the implementation of public policies and conflict situations by recognising the complexity of the social phenomena and political decisions affecting democracy, human rights, social justice and sustainable development.
- Demonstrating a comprehension of the analysis of social phenomena presented in English, as well as observing their strengths and weaknesses.
- Demonstrating a comprehension of the approaches of the sociological theory in its different aspects, interpretations and historical context.
- Describing social phenomena in a theoretically relevant way, bearing in mind the complexity of the involved factors, its causes and its effects.
- Developing critical thinking and reasoning and communicating them effectively both in your own and other languages.
- Developing self-learning strategies.
- Enumerating the methodology and investigation techniques that support the main hypothesis about social relationships, the positions and practices of individuals in a social structure and the social changes.
- Respecting the diversity and plurality of ideas, people and situations.
- Searching for documentary sources starting from concepts.
- Students must be capable of assessing the quality of their own work.
- Students must be capable of managing their own time, planning their own study, managing the relationship with their tutor or adviser, as well as setting and meeting deadlines for a work project.
- Working in teams and networking in different situations.

Learning Outcomes

1. Clearly distinguishing between facts and value judgements.
2. Contextualizing them in their time.
3. Defining the main sociological concepts.
4. Demonstrating a comprehension of the analysis of social phenomena presented in English, as well as observing their strengths and weaknesses.
5. Demonstrating good writing skills in different contexts.
6. Describing the major processes of life in society: socialization and institutionalization.
7. Describing the structural framework of life in society.
8. Developing critical thinking and reasoning and communicating them effectively both in your own and other languages.
9. Developing self-learning strategies.
10. Differentiating their theoretical and methodological assumptions.
11. Distinguishing between a sociological hypothesis and a value judgement on democracy, human rights, social justice or sustainable development.
12. Distinguishing the main qualitative methods and techniques.
13. Explaining the elements that affect an individual's inclusion in society: family, education, media, culture, religion and ideology.
14. Expressing their methodological basis.
15. Identifying their validity or obsolescence in other times.
16. Identifying these approaches: functionalism, interactionism, action sociologies, etcetera).
17. Managing the available time in order to accomplish the established objectives and fulfil the intended task.
18. Properly applying main concepts about societies, its processes and its structures.
19. Realising effective oral presentations that are suited to the audience.
20. Respecting the diversity and plurality of ideas, people and situations.
21. Searching for documentary sources starting from concepts.

22. Showing a good capacity for transmitting information, distinguishing key messages for their different recipients.
23. Students must be capable of assessing the quality of their own work.
24. Students must be capable of managing their own time, planning their own study, managing the relationship with their tutor or adviser, as well as setting and meeting deadlines for a work project.
25. Synthesizing and critically analysing information.
26. Using the main contributions of the sociological theory: Durkheim, Comte, Weber and Marx.
27. Working autonomously.
28. Working in teams and networking in different situations.

Content

Part 1. The Sociological Perspective

- a) The perspective on society.
- b) Society in perspective: socialization, institutionalization and stratification (i.e. social class, gender, ethnicity, age).

Part 2. Historical and social conditions of the emergence of sociology

- a) Social forces at the birth of the discipline: Scientific Revolution, Capitalist Revolution and French Revolution.
- b) Intellectual forces at the birth of sociological theory: The emergence of modernity. The genesis of sociological thought in France, Germany and the United States of America. Feminist contribution to the origin of sociology.

Part 3. Functional elements of classical sociological thought

- a) Karl Marx: The sociology of social relations. The critique of the political economy. Materialism, mode of production and social classes. Origin, development and social structure of capitalism. Religion and its disappearance. The discomforts of modernity: alienation and reification. Social relations and gender.
- b) Émile Durkheim: The sociology of social facts. The rules of the sociological method. Normality and pathology. Social cohesion and division of labour: the forms of solidarity. Suicide as a social phenomenon. Elementary forms of religious life. The discomforts of modernity: anomie. Social facts and gender.
- c) Max Weber: The sociology of social actions. Comprehensive sociology. Power, authority and domination. Religion, capitalism and modernity. Reason, rationality and rationalization: "The iron cage". The discomforts of modernity: the disenchantment of the world. Social actions and gender.
- d) Georg Simmel: The sociology of social interactions. Social forms and social types. Social functions of conflict. Money, urban life and its effects on culture. Religious devotion. The comforts of modernity: the extension of social circles. Social interactions and gender.
- e) Jane Addams: The sociology of social reforms. Research, residence and reform. Poverty and social structure. Religious diversity. Democracy and participation. The disenchantment of modernity: urban transformations and segregation. Reforms and gender.
- f) Sigmund Freud: Social relations in the individual. Who "are I"? The analysis of the unconscious. Instincts and social bond. The constitution of the subject and sexuality. The masses and the "I". The future of religion. The discomforts of modernity: civilization and its discontents. Subjectivity and gender.

Methodology

Lectures

Reading texts

Comprehension activities

F

Activities

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Type: Directed			
Lectures, seminars	99	3.96	2, 3, 6, 8, 1, 12, 11, 10, 14, 19, 16, 15, 20, 25, 28, 18, 26
Type: Supervised			
Tutorials	30	1.2	23, 9, 8, 20
Type: Autonomous			
Reading texts, study, exercises	157	6.28	21, 2, 4, 5, 7, 1, 11, 13, 24, 17, 16, 15, 22, 20, 25, 27, 28, 18, 26

Assessment

The evaluation of learning is organized in the following way:

- 1) Written evaluation 1: (30%)
- 2) Written evaluation 2: (30%)
- 3) Comparative evaluation: (25%)
- 4) Reading seminars: (15%)

Class attendance might condition the evaluation of some of the above-mentioned exercises.

At the beginning of the academic year the main characteristics and the exact calendar of all the tests will be provided. If plagiarism is detected, the evaluation of the test will equal to 0.

Definition of Unsubmitted: A student will have the grade of "Unsubmitted", if he or she has delivered less than 30% of the necessary exercises to be eligible for grade.

Remedial: In order to be eligible for the remedial exam, it will be necessary to have been previously evaluated of a minimum of two thirds of the total course. A student may retake up to 30% of the evaluation examinations.

Regarding the evaluation of students who repeat the subject, in accordance with article 117.2 of the UAB academic regulations, the evaluation may consist of a single synthesis work. Repeat students who wish to take advantage of this possibility, should contact the teachers at the beginning of the course.

Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Reading seminars	15%	8	0.32	2, 3, 4, 7, 6, 8, 12, 10, 13, 16, 15, 25, 18, 26
Written evaluation 1, Written evaluation 2, Comparative evaluation	30%, 30%, 25%	6	0.24	23, 21, 5, 9, 1, 11, 14, 19, 24, 17, 22, 20, 27, 28

Bibliography

Compulsory BIBLIOGRAPHY

At the beginning of the course, students will be informed of the list of selected readings of the subject. Additionally, each teacher will be able to indicate some more specific readings.

- Berger, Peter L. (1963). *Invitació a la sociologia*. Barcelona: Herder, 1986.
- Marx, Karl (1844). *Manuscritos: Economía y filosofía*. Madrid: Alianza, 1970
- Marx, Karl (1845). *Once tesis sobre Feuerbach*. Madrid: Alhambra, 1989.
- Marx, Karl i Friederich Engels (1846). *La ideologia alemanya*. Barcelona: Edicions 62, 1969.
- Marx, Karl (1848). *Manifiesto comunista*. Madrid: Fundación Friedrich Engels, 2005.
- Marx, Karl (1865). *Salario, precio ganancia*. Barcelona: DeBarris, 1997.
- Marx, Karl (1867) *El capital*. Madrid: Akal, 2000.
- Durkheim, Émile (1893). *La división del trabajo social*. Madrid, Akal, 1982.
- Durkheim, Émile (1895). *Las reglas del método sociológico*. Madrid: Alianza, 1986.
- Durkheim, Émile (1897). *El suicidio*. Madrid, Akal, 1976.
- Durkheim, Émile (1912). *Les formes elementals de la vida religiosa*. Barcelona: Edicions 62/Diputació de Barcelona, 1986.
- Weber, Max (1904). *La "objetividad" del conocimiento en la ciencia social y en la política*. Madrid: Alianza, 2009.
- Weber, Max (1921). *La acción social ensayos metodológicos*. Barcelona: Península, 1984.
- Weber, Max (1922). "Clases, status, partido". A: Gerth, H.H., Wright Milles, C.(Comp.) (1946). *Ensayos de Sociología Contemporánea*. Barcelona: Martínez Roca, 1972, pàg. 221-240.
- Weber, Max (1919). *El político y el científico*. Madrid: Alianza. 1967.
- Weber, Max (1904-1905). *L'ètica protestant i l'esperit del capitalisme*. Barcelona: Edicions 62, 1984.
- Simmel, Georg (1896). *Cultura líquida y dinero. Fragmentos simmelianos de la modernidad*. Barcelona: Cuajimalpa i Anthropos, 2010.
- Simmel, Georg (1903). *El individuo y la libertad*. Barcelona: Península, 2001.
- Simmel, Georg (1908). *Sociologia. Investigacions sobre les formes de socialització*, (2 Vols.). Barcelona: Edicions 62, 1988.
- Addams, Jane (1910). *Veinte años de Hull House*. Murcia: Universidad de Murcia, 2014.
- Addams, Jane (1910). *Hull House: el valor de un centro social*. Madrid: Consejo General del trabajo Social, 2013.
- Freud, Sigmund (1901). "Psicopatología de la vida cotidiana", Tomo III *Obras completas*. Madrid: Ed. Biblioteca Nueva, 1987, pàg. 759-764.
- Freud, Sigmund (1923). El 'yo' y el 'ello', Tomo VII *Obras completas*. Madrid: Ed. Biblioteca Nueva, 1987, pàg. 2701-2728.
- Freud, Sigmund (1930). *El malestar en la cultura y otros ensayos*. Madrid: Alianza, 1984, pàg. 7-88.
- Freud, Sigmund (1927). *Psicología de las masas, Más allá del principio del placer, El porvenir de una ilusión*. Alianza: Madrid 1993.