

Sociology of Culture

Code: 104999
 ECTS Credits: 6

Degree	Type	Year	Semester
2501928 Audiovisual Communication	FB	2	2

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: spanish (spa)

Some groups entirely in English: No

Some groups entirely in Catalan: No

Some groups entirely in Spanish: Yes

Other comments on languages

The course is in Spanish, but assignments and the exam may be done in Catalan or English if preferred.

Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for this course.

Objectives and Contextualisation

The main objectives of this course are:

- a) To learn to think sociologically about culture broadly conceived.
- b) To understand the main theoretical perspectives for examining processes of cultural acquisition and the role of culture in the social construction of reality.
- c) To acquire tools for analyzing cultural phenomena empirically, putting them into context, and understanding their meaning.

Competences

- Demonstrate a critical and self-critical capacity.
- Develop critical thinking and reasoning and be able to relay ideas effectively in Catalan, Spanish and a third language.
- Master the key concepts and knowledge that allow modern society and politics to be interpreted.
- Rigorously apply scientific thinking.

Learning Outcomes

1. Assimilate the necessary knowledge of social and political structure to understand the processes and the development of modern audiovisual phenomena.

2. Define the basic concepts of political science.
3. Define the basic concepts of sociological analysis.
4. Demonstrate a critical and self-critical capacity.
5. Develop critical thinking and reasoning and be able to relay ideas effectively in Catalan, Spanish and a third language.
6. Rigorously apply scientific thinking.

Content

Part A. Sociological perspectives on culture: a theoretical, methodological and conceptual introduction

- a.1. What do we mean when we talk about culture? Conceptual clarifications
- a.2. Perspectives: Cultural Sociology vs Sociology of Culture
- a.3. Thinking sociologically about culture: knowledge, power and context
- a.4. What role does culture play in the production of society? Principal theoretical approaches

Part B. Interlude. The ethnography lab: capturing culture empirically

- b.1. Where is culture, and where isn't it? Conceptual boundaries and fuzzy empirical realities
- b.2. Educating the sociological gaze: ethnography and the sociological imagination

Part C. Interrogating culture from different angles

- c.1. Embodying culture? Reflections on culture, body, and the self
- c.2. Culture and the everyday: love, food and leisure
- c.3. Inequalities and culture: Class, gender, and race
- c.4. Sensing culture: taste, emotions and symbolic boundaries
- c.5. The production of culture: fields, scenes and actors
- c.6. Culture and the making of the community: religions, nations and memory
- c.7. Globalization and *acceleration* in the cultural world

The course program will be available on the first day of class. Students will find all information on the Virtual Campus: a description of activities, teaching materials, and any necessary information for completing the course. In case there is a change of teaching modality for reasons related to public health restrictions, the professor will make necessary adjustments.

Methodology

The course is organized around three types of activities:

- a) Lectures that outline the main approach to the subject
- b) Workshops where readings are discussed and / or joint work is carried out around specific issues
- c) Personal and group tutorials
- d) Group presentations

The proposed teaching methodology and evaluation activities may undergo some modifications depending on the health authorities' attendance restrictions.

Annotation: Within the schedule set by the centre or degree programme, 15 minutes of one class will be reserved for students to evaluate their lecturers and their courses or modules through questionnaires.

Activities

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Type: Directed			
Lectures	52	2.08	1, 3, 2
Tutorials scheduled with the professor	3	0.12	
Type: Supervised			
Research paper	35	1.4	6, 1, 3, 2, 4, 5
Type: Autonomous			
Readings and critical response papers	22	0.88	6, 1, 3, 2, 4, 5

Assessment

Students will be evaluated on the basis of:

1) Their comprehension of readings as reflected by the quality of several short critical response papers (20%)

2) Class participation and a group presentation on a topic relevant to the course (15%)

3) A final paper that may be an ethnographic study or an in-depth research paper on a topic related to culture (30%)

4) A final exam consisting of short essays that cover the subject matter of the course (35%)

- Students who have not completed the course assignments will receive a grade of "Did Not Attend."

- If a student does not pass, there is the possibility of taking a 'recovery' exam. In accordance with Article 112 ter. of the UAB Academic Regulations, to participate in the recovery exam, students must have been previously assessed in a set of activities whose evaluation comprises a minimum of two thirds of the total grade of the course. Students must also have obtained a minimum grade of 3,5.

- In accordance with article 117.2 of the UAB Academic Regulations, the assessment of repeat students may consist of a single synthesis test. Repeating students who wish to take advantage of this possibility will need to contact the professor at the beginning of the course.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is to use the work of others as if it were your own. When using books, articles, websites or any other material, it is mandatory to reference the original work, clearly indicating within the text which references correspond to which phrases or sentences. When quoting a text word by word, it is essential to put the fragment quoted in quotation marks. Plagiarism is a serious infraction, equivalent to copying on an exam. It will result in a grade of zero.

For more information on plagiarism, you can look at the guide on "How to cite and how to avoid plagiarism": [<link>](#)

Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Class participation and group presentation	15%	10	0.4	6, 1, 4, 5
Final exam	35%	3	0.12	6, 1, 3, 2, 4, 5
Final paper	30%	15	0.6	6, 1, 3, 4, 5
Readings and critical response papers	20%	10	0.4	6, 1, 4, 5

Bibliography

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Software

This subject does not require use of specific software.