

Sociology of Culture

Code: 101134
ECTS Credits: 6

Degree	Type	Year	Semester
2500262 Sociology	OT	4	2
2504235 Science, Technology and Humanities	OT	4	0

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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

Prerequisites

Those of a subject of 4rt. year in Sociology.
I suggest the following readings for those who don't come from this degree.
Whole books:

- P.L.Berger, *Invitació a la sociologia*, Barcelona: Herder, 2016
- P.L. Berger i Thomas Luckmann, *La construcció social de la realitat*, Barcelona: Herder, 1988.

Some fragments of the main founders of Sociology:

- Karl Marx i Frederick Engels, *La ideologia alemanya (Vol1)*, Barcelona: Laia, 1987, pàg 41-92 (Feurbach. Oposició entre la concepció materialista i idealista)
- Émile Durkheim, *Les formes elementals de la vida religiosa*, Barcelona: ED.62/Diputació, 1987, 27-69(classificació, representació col·lectiva, natural/sobrenatural, sagrat/profà, definició de religió), 311-335 (el culte negatiu i les seves funcions) i 420-449 (conclusions).
- Émile Durkheim, i Marcel Mauss, "Clasificación primitiva" a Marcel Mauss *Institución y Culto (Vol.II Obras)* Barcelona: Barral Ed., 1971, 13-20(qüestió), 59-67(China), 69-73 (conclusions)
- Émile Durkheim, *La división del trabajo social*. Madrid: Akal, 1982, pàg333-358.
- Max Weber, *Economia y sociedad*, Mèxic: FCE, 2008, pàg 682-694 (Divisió del poder en la comunitat: classes, estaments i partits), pàg749-752 (burocràcia i educació)

Objectives and Contextualisation

The objective of this subject is to introduce the undergraduate student in the sociology of culture. A specialty in constant growth and transformation. There are well-informed sources and legitimized opinions that identify the sociology of culture with the study of more or less differentiated institutionalized areas (art, literature and music, mass communication, religion, science or law). But there are also those authorized ones who say that the study of culture is not a different area of social life than an aspect present in any social phenomenon (ideology, attitude, mentality, discourse ...). In this initiation program we take both positions. In the first part of the course, after introducing the discussion about the idea of culture in our society, we will work on the foundations of the sociology of culture. In the second part, we will work on some of the ideas of the first, applying them to the specific field of the arts, and we will talk about culture, in a restricted way, to present sociology of production, mediation and cultural consumption. In the third and last part of the course we will emphasize the study of popular culture as a mechanism of communion. In all three parts, the objective is to treat culture in relation to the construction, reproduction or challenge of social structures and existing subjectivities.

Competences

Sociology

- Applying the concepts and approaches of the sociological theory, specially the explanations of social inequalities between classes, between genders and between ethnic groups, to the implementation of public policies and to the resolution of conflict situations.
- 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.
- Effectively communicating the basic analysis of social phenomena in an elementary level of English.
- Generating innovative and competitive proposals in research and professional activity.
- 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.

Science, Technology and Humanities

- Act with ethical responsibility and respect for fundamental rights and duties, diversity and democratic values.
- Analyse the relationships between nature and culture using concepts from anthropology, philosophy and history.
- Innovate in the methods and processes of this area of knowledge in response to the needs and wishes of society.
- Make critical use of digital tools and interpret specific documentary sources.
- Produce written papers and give effective oral presentations, adopting the appropriate register in different languages.
- Recognise the political, social and cultural dimension of science and technology development in the different historical periods.
- Students must be capable of collecting and interpreting relevant data (usually within their area of study) in order to make statements that reflect social, scientific or ethical relevant issues.

Learning Outcomes

1. Compare the different theoretical approaches to culture.
2. Comparing the different theoretical approaches about culture.
3. Comparing the reading of cultural phenomena from several ideologies of the social reality of Spain and Catalonia.
4. Defining the sociological concepts that interpret the cultural phenomena.
5. Defining the underlying social phenomena of cultural policies and conflicts.
6. Developing critical thinking and reasoning and communicating them effectively both in your own and other languages.
7. Developing self-learning strategies.
8. Effectively communicating the basic analysis of social phenomena in an elementary level of English.
9. Explain the social interpretations of culture in accordance with these approaches.
10. Explaining the social interpretations of culture according to these approaches.
11. Express the debates around these approaches, with regard to culture.
12. Expressing the debates regarding these approaches, that refer to culture.
13. Generating innovative and competitive proposals in research and professional activity.
14. Give an oral presentation in an academic or work-related context.

15. Plan strategies for analysing processes of social change, based on the interpretation of documentary, oral and material sources.
16. Relate theoretical approaches to the debates on social order and on action.
17. Relating the debates regarding these approaches, that refer to culture, with the historical context in which they emerged.
18. Relating the theoretical approaches with debates about social order and action.
19. Respect diversity in ideas, people and situations.
20. Respecting the diversity and plurality of ideas, people and situations.
21. Searching for documentary sources starting from concepts.
22. Show familiarity with the basic conceptual tools of sociology, anthropology, economics and political science.
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. Synthesise, analyse and explain complex qualitative and quantitative information on cultures, geographic spaces, social groups, legal frameworks and different historical periods.

Content

B 1. The concept of culture in society and sociology. Culture and society. Sociological theories and sociology of culture. Interpretation of cultures.

B 2. The study of Culture (giving special relevance to the arts) from the sociology of culture. The social construction of Culture and Arts. Sociology of cultural consumption. Sociology of cultural production. Market, administration and cultural policies

B 3. Popular cultures and communion. Isolation, hybridity, integration, resistance, transformation.

The calendar detailed with the content of the different sessions will be presented on the day of presentation of the subject. It will be uploaded to the Virtual Campus, where students will also be able to access the detailed description of the exercises and practices, the various teaching materials, and any necessary information for the proper follow-up of the subject.

Methodology

Conferences

Practical exercises in the classroom.

Individual meetings and small group seminars.

Reading texts and working with audiovisual material.

Forum of questions.

Elaboration of teamwork.

Exhibition of teamwork.

Writing of working papers on readings

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			
Lessons, text commentary and class expositions.	35	1.4	23, 21, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 6, 10, 12, 13, 24, 17, 18, 20
Type: Supervised			
Individual meetings or in small groups to resolve doubts, prepare questions and monitor the preparation of teamwork and two papers.	5	0.2	23, 2, 4, 6, 10, 12, 24, 17, 18
Type: Autonomous			
Study, reading texts, weekly preparation of questions and elaboration of two papers based on readings and team work and preparation of class expositions	60	2.4	23, 21, 2, 3, 8, 4, 5, 7, 6, 10, 12, 24, 17, 18, 20

Assessment

The subject consists of the following evaluation activities:

- 1) Elaboration of three original papers (1000 words each). 25% of the final grade. To be evaluated in these papers is necessary to attend classes regularly (75%).
- 2) Preparation of a teamwork and exposition to class group. Group. 25% of the final grade.
- 3) Weekly questions. Individual. 25% of the final grade. To be evaluated in this section, you must have attended classes regularly (75%) and be present in the sessions directly related to the questions presented.
- 4) Written exam, at the end of the course. In order to make the average it will be necessary a grade equal or superior than 4. Individual. 25% of the final grade.

Other considerations:

- The student will be entitled to the revaluation of the subject if he or she has been evaluated of the set of activities the weight of which equals a minimum of 2/3 of the total grade of the subject. To have access to revaluation, the previous grades average should be minimum 3,5. The activities that are excluded from the revaluation process are 2) and 3).
- The student who performs any irregularity (copy, plagiarism, identity theft...) that can lead to a significant variation of the qualification of an evaluation act, will be qualified with 0 this act of evaluation. In case there are several irregularities, the final grade of the subject will be 0. In order not to fall into plagiarism, consult <https://www.uab.cat/doc/GuiaCitesiPlagiEstudiants>
- 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 must contact the teacher at the beginning of the course.
- Online adaptations if necessary (Covid-19)

Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
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Preparation and presentation of a teamwork	25%	20	0.8	14, 23, 21, 2, 1, 3, 8, 4, 5, 7, 6, 10, 9, 12, 11, 13, 24, 17, 18, 16, 20, 19, 15, 25, 22
Three papers	25%	15	0.6	23, 21, 2, 1, 3, 8, 4, 5, 7, 6, 10, 9, 12, 11, 13, 24, 17, 18, 16, 20, 19, 25, 22
Weekly questions	25%	12	0.48	23, 21, 2, 1, 8, 4, 5, 7, 6, 10, 9, 12, 11, 24, 17, 18, 16, 20, 19, 25, 22
Written exam	25%	3	0.12	2, 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 6, 10, 9, 12, 11, 24, 17, 18, 16, 20, 19, 25, 22

Bibliography

Basic bibliography:

Specific bibliography for each Block of this subject (usually fragments of books, mostly those of the General Bibliography) will be provided in class and on Virtual Campus.

General Bibliography:

- Adorno, Theodor W., Sociológica, Madrid, Taurus, 1989.
- Alexander, Jeffrey C. (Ed.) Culture and Society, Cambridge: Cambridge University P., 1990
- Altamirano (Ed.) Términos críticos de la sociología de la cultura, Buenos Aires: Paidós, 2002
- Ang, Ien, Living Room Wars: Rethinking Media Audiences for a Postmodern World, Londres: Rotledge, 1996
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- Arendt, Hannah, La crisis de la cultura, Barcelona: Pòrtic, 1989.
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- Barthes, Roland, Mitologías, Madrid: Siglo XXI, 2005
- Baudrillard, Jean, Cultura y simulacro, Barcelona: Kairós, 2005
- Beezer, Anne i Martin Barker I (Eds.) , Introduccion a los Estudios Culturales. Barcelona: Bosch, 1994
- Becker, Howard S. Los mundos del arte, Universidad Nacional de Quilmes, 2008
- Bell, Daniel, Las contradicciones culturales del capitalismo, Madrid: Alianza, 1992.
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- Benjamin, Walter, L'obra d'art a l'època de la seva reproductibilitat tècnica: tres estudis de sociologia de l'art, Barcelona: Edicions 62, 1993
- Berger, John, Maneres de mirar, Barcelona: Edicions de 1984, 2011
- Berger Peter L., Luckmann, Thomas. 1966. La construcció social de la realitat. Barcelona: Herder, 1988,
- Bernstein, Basil . Clases, código y control. Madrid: Akal, 1989
- Bloom, Harold, El canon occidental, Barcelona, Anagrama, 1995
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- Bourdieu, Pierre. Sociología y cultura. México: Grijalbo .
- Bourdieu, Pierre, La distinción: criterio y bases sociales del gusto, Madrid: Taurus, 1998
- Bourdieu, Pierre, La miseria del mundo, Madrid: Akal, 1999
- Bourdieu, Pierre, Las reglas del arte, Barcelona: Anagrama, 1995
- Butler, Judith P, Cossos que encara importen. Barcelona: CCCB, 2017
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- During, Simon (Ed.), The cultural Studies Reader, Londres, Nova York, Roudledge, 1993
- Durkheim, Émile. Les formes elementals de la vida religiosa, Barcelona: ED.62/Diputació, 1987, Durkheim,Émile . La división del trabajo social. Madrid: Akal, 1982
- Eco, Humberto, Apocalípticos e integrados, Barcelona : Ediciones de Bolsillo, 2004
- Eisenstein, Elizabeth L. La revolución de la imprenta en la Edad Moderna Europea, Akal, Madrid, 1994
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Software

Office or equivalent