

Course name <i>Sociological Imagination</i>		ECTS code <i>02.06-S2-EN-CC1</i>
Provider <i>University of Opole / Faculty of Social Sciences / Institute of Sociology</i>		
Year of the study programme, semester, academic year: <i>1st year, semester I, 2018/2019</i>		
Name of the instructor(s) & email address: 1. Lecture – Elżbieta Nieroba enieroba@uni.opole.pl 2. dicussion class (konwersatorium) – Borys Cymbrowski borys.cymbrowski@uni.opole.pl		
Forms of instruction / forms of classroom activity and ECTS credit points in relation to student's duties		ECTS credits: 4
A. Forms of instruction and the number of hours: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> lecture (15h) class discussions based on readings (30h) 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> lecture: 15h preparation for test: 15h preparation for class discussions: 70h
B. Classroom activity: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> didactic room 		
Course status: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> elective complimentary/integration course 		Language of instruction: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> English
Methods of instruction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lecture with presentation Class discussion of problems present in the readings. 		Forms of crediting and basic criteria of evaluation or examination requirements.
		Form of credit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> grade
		B. Forms of evaluation: 1. Lecture: <i>multiple choice test</i> 2. Konwersatorium / discussion class: <i>oral pass</i>

C. Basic criteria:

Lecture - choice test –pass: > 51% p.

Discussion class - assessment of the performance of each student based on their activity in the class discussions during the semester.

Short essay written in the classroom possible.

The topics:

- How do you define the notion of 'culture'?
- How do you define the term 'acculturation'?
- How would you define the term 'habitus'?
- What are the most important dimensions of social structure within the framework of culture and personality?
- Describe the process of self-constraining in the process of 'civilization'
- What is your understanding of 'magic'?
- What is the difference of thick and thin description?
- Practical and ethical dilemmas of the researcher in the field: draw some conclusions based on Bronisław Malinowski's fieldwork experiences and the discussion of his posthumously published Diary.

Entry requirements:

none

Course objectives:

The primary objective of this course is to awaken students' sociological imagination, to get students beyond the individual when trying to understand and explain human behavior, by helping them to see how social forces and social environments affect human behaviors in multiple and complex ways. This course will introduce students to the sociological perspective in examining their lives and social experiences, as well as many issues facing society today. Another purpose of the course is the integration of the group – the students come from different cultural backgrounds and different disciplines, so it is necessary to introduce them into the common disciplinary language. The present programme offers a culturally oriented sociology as a common denominator in this respect. Its main notions and problems have to become familiar to the students.

Course content:**A.** Lecture:

1. Introducing the Sociological Imagination
2. Sociology of Culture
3. Socialization and the Life Course
4. Social Interaction and Social Structure
5. Social Class, Social Stratification, Global Stratification
6. Deviance and Crime

B. Discussion class:

1. **Defining Culture** / Kroeber, Alfred & Kluckhohn, Clyde, *Introduction*, in: *Culture: A Critical Review of Concepts and Definitions*, Cambridge, Mass., 1952, pp. 3 - 5.
2. **Acculturation** / Redfield, Robert; Linton, Ralph; Herskovits, Melville, *Memorandum for the Study of Acculturation*, "American Anthropologist" vol. 38, 1936, pp. 149 - 152.
3. **Habitus and subtle intercultural differences** / Mauss, Marcel, *Techniques of the body*, "Economy and Society"

2 (1) 1973, pp. 70 – 88.

4. **Age, Gender and social roles** / Linton, Ralph, *Social Structure and Culture Participation*, in: *The Cultural Background of Personality*, pp. 55 – 82. (two meetings)
5. **The Civilizing Process** / Elias, Norbert, *The Social Constraint towards the self-constraint*, in: *The Civilizing Process*, pp. 365 - 379. (two meetings)
6. **The Scientific Scope on Magic** / Lévi-Strauss, Claude, *The Sorcerer and his magic*, in: *Structural Anthropology*, pp. 167 – 185.
7. **Thick Description or how to do a good observation** / Geertz, Clifford, *Thick description: toward an interpretive theory of culture*, in: *The Interpretation of Cultures*, pp. 3 - 30. (two meetings)
8. **Fieldwork and and ethical dilemmas** / Malinowski, Bronisław, *A Diary in the Strict Sense of the Term* (an excerpt)
and
- Kaberry, Phyllis, *Malinowski's contribution to field-work methods and the writing of ethnography*, in: *Raymond Firth, Man and Culture: An Evaluation of the Work of Bronisław Malinowski, 1957*, pp. 71 - 91.
and
Geertz Clifford, *Under the mosquito net*, *The New York Review of Books*, vol. 9, No. 4, September 14, 1967. (two meetings)

Reading list*

A. Obligatory reading (to get a credit):

- Kendall, Diana, *Sociology in Our Times*, 7th Edition
- Tischler, Henry J., *Introduction to sociology*
- Elias, Norbert, *The Social Constraint towards the self-constraint*, in: *The Civilizing Process: Sociogenetic and Psychogenetic Investigations*, Malden (USA) - Oxford (England) 1994, pp. 365 - 379.
- Freud, Sigmund, *Civilization and its Discontents* (an excerpt): *Civilization and the Individual*, in: Lemert, Charles (ed.) *Social Theory: Classical and Multicultural Readings*, pp. 145 - 148.
- Geertz, Clifford, *Thick description: toward an interpretive theory of culture*, in: *The Interpretation of Cultures*, pp. 3 - 30.
- Geertz, Clifford, *Under the mosquito net*, *The New York Review of Books*, vol. 9, No. 4, September 14, 1967.
- Kaberry, Phyllis, *Malinowski's contribution to field-work methods and the writing of ethnography*, in: *Raymond Firth, Man and Culture: An Evaluation of the Work of Bronisław Malinowski, 1957*, pp. 71 - 91.
- Kroeber, Alfred & Kluckhohn, Clyde, *Introduction*, in: *Culture: A Critical Review of Concepts and Definitions*, Cambridge, Mass., 1952, pp. 3 - 5.
- Lévi-Strauss, Claude, *The Sorcerer and his magic*, in: *Structural Anthropology*, pp. 167 - 185.
- Linton, Ralph, *Social Structure and Culture Participation*, in: *The Cultural Background of Personality*, pp. 55 - 82.
- Malinowski, Bronisław, *A Diary in the Strict Sense of the Term*, London 1989 (1967)
- Mauss, Marcel, *Techniques of the body*, "Economy and Society" 2 (1) 1973, pp. 70 - 88.
- Redfield, Robert; Linton, Ralph, Herskovits, Melville, *Memorandum for the Study of Acculturation*, "American Anthropologist" vol. 38, 1936, pp. 149 - 152.

Effects	Forms of evaluation	Reference to the programme effects
Knowledge Upon successful completion of this course students should <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • understand the sociological point of view • explain fundamental sociological theories, concepts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • choice test (lecture) 	K_W01 K_W09

<p>Skills</p> <p>Upon successful completion of this course students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - develop understanding of their place in society and how society influences all of their decisions and actions - apply sociological perspectives to various issues and problems in society 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>choice test (lecture)</i> 	<p>K_U01 K_U09</p>
<p>Social competences</p> <p>Student:</p> <p>Upon successful completion of this course students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • - use the knowledge they have; to formulate and solve complex and untypical problems as well as do assignments in unpredictable circumstances in an innovative way – by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - appropriate selection of sources and information; - assessment and critical analysis, - synthesis and creative interpretation and presentation of that information. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>class discussion</i> - <i>asking questions to the readings and problems presented in them.</i> 	<p>K_K01 K_K09</p>