

EUROPEAN SOCIAL THOUGHT

• Relations of power and domination

SEMESTER: Summersemester 2013

INSTRUCTORS: Caroline Janz & Manuel Armbruster

Office Hours: Caroline Janz: Wednesday: 15:00 – 16:00
Manuel Armbruster: Monday: 14.30 – 15.30

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COURSE DATES:

Wednesday 16.00-18.00 pm, ÜR 2

No course on the following dates : 01.05.2013 ; 22.05.2013 ; 17.07.2013

METHOD OF PRESENTATION: Lectures, student presentations, seminar discussions

LANGUAGE OF PRESENTATION: English

DESCRIPTION: The course is to familiarize participants with some of the most influential social theories developed in Europe since the late 19th century. These theories are eurocentric, evolutionary and unilinear. However, they still form the basis of all social thinking anywhere in the world as they have been providing the basic concepts and theorems even for contemporary discussions. Most texts and debates in the social sciences remain unintelligible without some background knowledge of these concepts and theorems.

The course will introduce some of the "classics" of sociological thinking and the efforts of globalizing the perspective. The seminar is divided into three blocks with 3 to 4 sessions, which will be prepared by the participants.

(7 credits)

REQUIRED WORK AND FORM OF ASSESSMENT:

Two essays (1/3 each), presentation and participation in class (1/3)

Assignment:

Compulsory reading

Participation in the seminar sessions

Presentation

Two essays out of three Blocks (each essay with 2.500-3000 words):

Essay to Block I (deadline Sunday 02.06.2013)

Essay to Block II (deadline Sunday 23.06.2013)

Essay to Block III (deadline Sunday 19.07.2013)

Seminar discussions are based upon the compulsory readings and teaching introductions to the subject given during each session. Students are assigned to present a short summary of the compulsory readings/research assignments at the beginning of a session and to come up with several conclusions of their own for the discussion. The participants are expected to join the debate with (prepared) questions and points related to the readings.

The **essays** (2.500 - 3000 words) have to be handed in on time, send digital versions (pdf, doc, odt) per email, if deadline is not met one grade step will be reduced (example: 1,0 to 2,0; 2,3 to 3,3).

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

By the end of the course, students are able to:

- Understand basic theoretical concepts of sociology.
- Demonstrate substantial knowledge about European sociological concepts
- Create awareness of links between culture, history, institutions and economic transition in the region
- Integrate field study and area research into theoretical frameworks.

BLOCK I: Concepts of Society and Social Differentiation

17.04.2013 – Introduction and Organization

24.04.2013 - Session 01: Social Differentiation

R: Marx, Karl /Engels, Friedrich (1848): Manifesto of the Communist Party. In: M. Cowling (Ed.), The Communist Manifesto. New Interpretations. Edinburgh 1998: Edinburgh University Press, p. 14 – 37

08.05.2013 - Session 02: Class distinction vs. Individualization

Bourdieu, Pierre (1979) Distinction: a social critique of the judgment of taste. London / New York 1984: Harvard University Press, p. 108-129, 165-180

Beck, Ulrich (1992): Risk Society. Towards a New Modernity. London: Sage Publications, p. 91-102.

15.05.2013 - Session 03: Symbolic power and forms of capital

Bourdieu, P. (1986). 'The forms of capital' in Richardson, J.G. (ed.) Handbook of Theory and Research for the Sociology of Education. New York: Greenwood. , p. 241-258

Bourdieu, Pierre (2001): Masculine Domination. Stanford, Calif.: Stanford Univ. Press, p. 1-4, p.22-42

29.05.2012 - Session 04: The process of civilization; established and newcomers

Elias, Norbert, Scotson, John L (1965): The established and the outsiders: a sociological enquiry into community problems, p. ix-xi, 146 – 187

BLOCK II: Poststructuralist perspectives - discursive power

05.06.2013 - Session 05: Discipline society

Foucault, Michel (1979): Discipline and punish. The birth of the prison. New York, p.170-228

12.06.2013 - Session 06: Bio-power

Foucault, Michel (1978): The History of Sexuality, Volume I: An Introduction. New York: Pantheon Books, p. 135-160

19.06.2013 - Session 07: Deconstruction of gender/sex

Butler, Judith (1990): Gender trouble. Feminism and the subversion of identity. New York: Routledge, p. 1- 35

BlockIII: Provincializing Europe – globalizing the perspective

26.06.2013 - Session 08: Postcolonialism

Hall, Stuart (1992): The West and the Rest: Discourse and Power. In: Hall, Stuart/Gieben, Bram (ed.): Formations of Modernity. Cambridge: Polity Press, p. 275-320.

03.07.2013 - Session 09: Intersectionality

Crenshaw, Kimberle (1989): Demarginalizing the Intersection of Race and Sex: A Black Feminist Critique of Antidiscrimination Doctrine, Feminist Theory, and Antiracist Politics. University of Chicago Legal Forum, p. 139-67

10.07.2013 - Session 10: Global inequality

Hopkins, Terence K. / Wallerstein, Immanuel (1982): Patterns of development of the modern world-system. In: Ibid., World-systems analysis. Theory and Methodology. Beverly Hills, p. 41-57

17.07.2013 – Concluding Session