

TARAS SHEVCHENKO NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF KYIV
FACULTY OF SOCIOLOGY

Department of Theory and History of Sociology



Approved by
Vice-Dean of Faculty of Sociology
« » 2024

CURRENT ISSUES IN SOCIAL SCIENCES

for students

science type	05 Social and Behavioral Sciences
Specialty	054 «Sociology»
Education level	Master
Academic program	Sociology
Course type	compulsory

Form of study	full time
Academic year	2024-2025
Semester	3
ECTS credits	4
Language of teaching	English
Final control	exam

Lecturer: Prof. SUDAKOV Volodymyr

Syllabus for the course was developed ¹by Doctor of Sociological Sciences, Professor Volodymyr SUDAKOV.

APPROVED

Acting Head of the Theory and History of
Sociology Department

 Prof. Volodymyr SUDAKOV

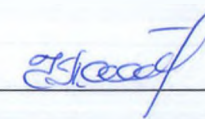
Protocol № 17 30.08 2024

APPROVED

by the Academic (Scientific and Methodic) Council of Faculty of Sociology Taras Shevchenko
National University of Kyiv

Protocol №7 31. 08 2024

Head of the Academic Council



Tetiana CHERVINSKA

KYIV – 2024

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1. The goal of the course is to introduce students into the world discourse of the current social sciences debate on the core social problems, the recent results of comparative studies; to improve skills in English, to focus on the contradictory character of the social problems in different contemporary societies, and to create the appropriate information base for own the MA research.

2. Preliminary requirements for the course:

- to know English at the level of B1 (average level), theoretical foundations of sociology, contemporary sociological research projects, sociological approach to the analysis of social phenomena, terminology, conceptual basis and foundations of modern sociological theory and research.
- to be able to work with sociological data, read professional sociological publications and formulate ideas in English
- to have basic skills in searching and selecting relevant information in English; to use methodologies and conceptual ideas of sociological analysis; to debate the issues; to present and discuss own position on the selected topic.

3. Annotation of the course:

The content of the course focuses on students' research interests, on the one hand, and, on the other hand, is open to discussion of the most important current issues of international comparative sociological researches that stimulate progressive changes in the contemporary social sciences. The work focuses on analyzing and discussing recent publications in English-language sociological peer-reviewed journals in order to include undergraduates in the most relevant agenda for academic debate based on recent research findings. The format of work is the colloquium, which combines discussion, lectures, practical tasks, that is adequate for students of the Master's degree. Teaching and learning is in English to enhance the professional language ability of MA students, enriching their professional academic vocabulary in sociological terminology, developing academic skills for writing abstracts, presentation and debate skills.

4. Tasks (training objectives) are:

- to study the core issues of social sciences within the framework of international advanced scientific discussions in the cotemporary theoretical sociological debates (within the framework of the major reports of congresses of the International Sociological Association)
- to improve qualifications in finding and selecting, analyzing and developing sources and ideas for self-study MA, as part of the latest publications in peer-reviewed international sociological journals in English.
- to improve academic discussion and presentation skills in English, comparative analysis of social problems in different societies.

these are aimed at development of the following competencies:

- Ability to identify, diagnose and interpret social problems of Ukrainian society and the world community (CK02)
- Ability to discuss the results of sociological research and projects in Ukrainian and foreign languages (CK05)
- Ability to cooperate with European and Euro-Atlantic institutions (CK08)
- Ability to use sociological theories in scientific and professional activities. (CK14)

5. Expected learning outcomes:

learning outcomes (1. knowledge; 2. skills; 3. communication; 4. autonomy and responsibility)		Forms (and/or methods) of teaching and learning	Methods of evaluation	Percent in final grade
Code	learning outcomes			
1.1	to know the results of contemporary sociological research on key social issues	Lectures, workshops	Discussions	10
1.2	to know the system of basic sociological indicators for studying the quality of life and social problems of modern societies	Lectures, workshops	Discussions, test	10
2.1	to be able to work with social information, data from sociological research	Lectures, workshops, assignments	Individual work	10
2.2	to be able to identify, analyze and interpret the actual social problems of society development	Lectures, workshops, assignments.	Individual work, final paper	10
2.3	to do adequate and accurate referencing of scientific sources in English, to substantiate their own position, to make independent conclusions.	Individual work, final paper, creative tasks	Individual work, final paper	10
2.4	to be able to use current and actual information and communication technologies in professional communication; exchange of information; collecting, analyzing, processing and interpreting data and visualizing the results of scientific activity	Individual work, workshops, final work	Individual work, final presentation	10
3	to demonstrate skills of reasoned presentation of own opinion, competent and tolerant discussion with opponents.	Lectures, creative tasks, workshops,	Individual work, group work	20
4	to demonstrate skills of independent research work, mastering of new knowledge	Individual work, workshops, final paper.	Individual work, final paper	20

6. The correspondence of the results of studying with program learning outcomes

Learning outcomes (title)	Learning outcomes (code)	1.1	1.2	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.4	3	4
To demonstrate the cognitive skills in \ diagnostic and interpretation of the social problems of the Ukrainian society and the world community, the causal factors of their arising and consequences (IPH02)		+	+	+	+		+	+	+
To fluent communicate in oral or write forms in Ukrainian of one of foreign languages during discussions on the professional questions, researches in sociology and social sciences taking into account the context of cooperation with European and Euroatlantic institutions. (IPH 06)			+	+		+	+	+	+
To demonstrate the skills in the use of the sociological; theory in scientific and professional activity. (IPH 15)		+	+		+	+	+	+	+

7. Scheme of evaluation.

7.1 Forms of Student Assessment:

-- Semester assessment:

- Participation in discussions - in classes in the different forms of individual and group work of different questions on the basis of analysis of read materials (RL1.1, RL1.2, RL2.1, RL3, RL4) – 20/12 points
- Presentatin on the topic of the MA research which is based on analysis of the 5 articles published in English (taking from peer reviewed journals) (RL.2.1, RL.2.2, RL.2.3) -10/6 points.
- Commented bibliography (RL2.3, RL2.1) – 10/6 points
- Peer-Review of presentation by student-mate (RL 3) – 10/6 points.
- Control work. (RL2.1, RL2.2, RL2.4, RLH3, RL 4) – 10/6 points

- Final assessment is the Exam RL1.1, RL1.2, RL2.2, RL2.3

-- conditions of admission to the final exam:

For students who have scored a total of less than the critical-calculated minimum of 36 points, in order to be admitted to the exam, it is mandatory to submit written work - working out missed practical classes (tasks for independent work) on each unworked topic of the discipline and final written work (annotated bibliography, analytical note and its presentation)

7.2. Organization of evaluation

1. Participation in discussions in classes during workshops on themes 1-8
2. Presentation of analytical characteristics – after theme 6
3. Commented bibliography 3-8 topics (by topic, by schedule)
4. Analysis of presentation by the student-coleg 3-8 topics (by topic, by schedule)
5. Control work - after theme 8

7.3 Table of the course grades:

Excellent	90-100
Good	75-89
Satisfactory	60-74
Fail	0-59

8. Structure of the discipline. Thematic plan of classes

№	Topic	Hours		
		lectures	workshops	Individ. work
1. Theoretical and methodological challenges to social sciences				
1	Sociology and the situation of theoretical and methodological pluralism in social sciences	4	4	8
2	The current debate on quantitative and qualitative methodologies in sociology	2	2	8
2. Current issues in sociology and their cognitive sense for the contemporary social sciences				
3.	Dynamics of social inequalities: global and local challenges	2	2	8
4.	Modern labor practices and the quality of life: sociological measurement in global and regional dimensions	2	2	8
5.	Globalization and Eurointegration: challenges to Ukrainian society	2	2	8
6.	Future Challenges: current studies on the global labor market, social justice and intercultural communications	2	2	8
7.	Groups of migrants and, refugees: the problem of democratic social control and its humanization,	2	2	8
8.	Social risks, social security, terrorism	2	2	8
	Control work		2	18
	Total	18	20	82

Total course size 120 hours, including:

Lectures – 18 h.

Workshops – 20 h

Individual work - 82 h.

9. Recommended Reader:

Main

1. Battistelly F., Galantino M. Dangers, risks and threats: An alternative conceptualization to catch-all concept of risk // Current Sociology. – 2019. - Vol. 67. - N1 (January). – pp. 64-78.
2. Condon R. The coronavirus crisis and the legitimization crisis of neoliberalism. // European Societies. – 2021.- Vol.25. - Issue sup 1.1. - pp.805-816.
3. Crilley Rh. Where We At: New Directions for Research on Popular Culture and World Politics // International Studies Review. -2021.- Vol. 23 (March). –pp. 164-180.
4. Macionis J. Sociology - 17th ed. – Pearson, 2020. - pp. 2-9; 24-56: 111-148.
5. Macionis J., Plumer K. Sociology: A Global Introduction. – 5th ed. – Pearson, 2012 – pp. 10-36; 78-96; 136-163.
6. Opilowska E. COVID-19 crisis; the end of a borderless of Europe? // European Societies. – 2021. - Vol.25. Issue suppl. 1. – pp. 589-600.
7. Sorrels K. Intercultural Communication. Globalization and Social Justice. - Thousand Oaks. California,-2013: SAGE Publ. – pp.22-38.
8. Stukalo N., Simakhova A. COVID-19 Impact on Ukrainian Higher Education // Universal Journal of Education Research. – 2020. - N 8 (8). - pp. 3673-3678.

9. *Sudakov V. I.* The causal determinants of social tension in the contemporary global and regional labor markets: conceptual approach to identification and measurement // Актуальні проблеми соціології, психології, педагогіки.- 2017.-№1(32).- С.3-10.
10. *Sudakov V. I.* The global determinants of the conflict interactions in the contemporary models of employment (archetypical analysis) // Public management- 2017, - N 3.(8). – pp. 335-343.-
11. *Sudakov V.I.* Archetype of social justice and ideological confrontation of the contemporary models of social policy // Public management: collection. (Special edition). - June 2019. - № 3 (18). – pp.417 -427.
12. *Sudakov V. I.* Conceptual prospects of the comparative analysis of multicultural practices // Культурологічна думка. - 2016. - №10. – С. 82-86.
13. *Sudakov V. I.* The archetypes of culture and subculture as the determinants of social actions and social management. // Public management: collection. — № 1 (21). — January 2020. – pp. 286-296.
14. *Tabery P., Pilnasek M.* The network structure of trust in the COVID-19 pandemic. // European Societies. – 2021. - Vol.25., suppl. 1, - pp. 689-701.
15. *The ISA Handbook of Diverse Sociological Traditions* .- Edited by S. Patel.- London, 2010 : SAGE Publ.- pp. 3-23; 46- 67.
16. *Tsourapes G.* Global Autocrats: Strategies of Transnational Repression, Legitimation and Co-optation in World Politics // International Studies Review. - 2020. - Vol. 22 (August). – P.8-29.

Optional:

1. *Albrow, Martin* . The Global Shift and Its Consequences for Sociology. In: Nikolai Genov (ed.) *Advances in Sociological Knowledge over Half a Century*. – 2002. - Paris-ISSC. - pp. 25-45.
2. *Beck U.* Risk Society. Towards a New Modernity. London 1996: SAGE Publ., 1996.- pp. 24-44
3. *Berger P., Huntington S.* Many Globalizations. - New York: Oxford University Press, 2002 - pp.12-32.
4. *Comparative Research in the Social Sciences.* (Ed.) N.Genov. – Paris-Sofia, 2007. – pp. 12-18; 116-127.
5. *Inglehart R.* Globalization and Postmodern Values // The Washington Quarterly. - Winter 2000. – N 23:1. – pp. 215–228.\
6. *Kittel B.* A Crazy Methodology? On Limits of macro-Quantitative Social Science Research // International Sociology. - September 2006, Vol. 21(5) – pp. 647-677
7. *Mills M., Bunt G., Bruijn J.* Comparative Research. Persistent Problems and Promising Solutions // International Sociology. September 2006, Vol. 21(5) – pp. 619-631
8. *Pluralism and the Multiple Forms of Modernity.* An Interview with S.N. Eisenstadt // European Journal of Social Theory 7(3)- : 391–404.
9. *Sztompka, P.* “One Sociology or many?” in *The ISA Handbook of Diverse Sociological Traditions*, edited by S. Patel. – 2010.- Londjn: SAGE. - pp.21-28
10. *Schwartz, S. H..* Beyond Individualism/Collectivism: New cultural dimensions of values. In U. Kim, H.C. Triandis, C. Kagitcibasi, S-C. Choi, & G. Yoon (Eds.), *Individualism and collectivism: Theory, method and applications*.- 1994. - Newbury Park, CA: SAGE Publ. - pp. 85-119.
11. *Tosini D.* Sociology of Terrorism and Counterterrorism: A Social Science Understanding of Terrorist Threat // Sociology Compass. -2007. – Vol.1-2. – pp. 664–681

Recommended Sources:

- International Sociological Association congresses <https://www.isa-sociology.org/en/conferences/world-congress>
- Ulrich Beck: 'Europe at Risk: The Cosmopolitan Turn' https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4L_ksmXh8po&ab_channel=EuropeanUniversityInstitute
- Michael Burawoy Global sociology <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VO0CZsOciO8>

- European Social Survey (the ESS) <http://europeansocialsurvey.org/>
- EuroBarometer http://ec.europa.eu/public_opinion/index_en.htm
- European Values Study (EVS) <http://www.europeanvaluesstudy.eu>
- UN Human development index <http://hdr.undp.org/en/statistics/hdi/>
- Bertelsmann transformation index <http://www.bti-project.org/index/>
- Transparency international Corruption Perception Index <http://www.transparency.org/research/cpi/overview>
- World Bank Governance index http://info.worldbank.org/governance/wgi/sc_country.asp
- Democracy index http://www.democracybarometer.org/links_en.html
- R.Inglehart Happiness is Different Things to Different People: Subjective Well-being in Global Perspective https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y1acwqllFtY&list=PLUold1t9EA7B_nuU-LHirTtdiF9K4Azl0