University of Gdańsk

Subject card

Subject name and code	Theoretical dilemmas of modern sociology, PG_00186866						
Field of study	Sociology						
Date of commencement of studies	October 2027		Academic year of realisation of subject		2027/2028		
Education level	Master's studies		Subject group		Obligatory subject group in the field of study Subject group related to scientific research in the field of study		
Mode of study	full-time studies		Mode of delivery		at the university		
Year of study	1		Language of instruction		Polish		
Semester of study	1		ECTS credits		3.0		
Learning profile	academic		Assessment form		exam		
Conducting unit							
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor		dr hab. Michał Kaczmarczyk				
	Teachers						
Lesson types	Lesson type	Lecture	Tutorial	Laboratory	Project	Seminar	SUM
	Number of study hours	30.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	30
	E-learning hours included: 0.0						
Learning activity and number of study hours	Learning activity	Participation in didactic classes included in study plan		Participation in consultation hours		Self-study	SUM
	Number of study hours	30		4.0		41.0	75
Subject objectives	The goal of the course "Dilemmas of Contemporary Sociological Theories" is to critically examine the major theoretical debates and challenges within contemporary sociology. Students will explore key dilemmas and controversies, gaining a deeper understanding of the complexities and evolving nature of sociological theory, while developing their ability to engage with and contribute to these ongoing discussions						

Learning outcomes	Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
	[SOCMU2_W09] The graduate has in-depth knowledge and understanding of various views on social life, and selected social structures and institutions expressed in the everyday world, public and scientific discourse, knows the directions of their historical evolution and the dynamics and consequences of conflicts on this background	1. Understanding Sociological Debates: a. Students will understand the key debates and dilemmas within contemporary sociology. 2. Integration of Theoretical Knowledge: a. Students will integrate theoretical knowledge with empirical research to form coherent sociological arguments.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written
	[SOCMU2_W05] The graduate has in-depth knowledge of man as a creator and participant of culture in the local, regional environment, in the area of national culture and cultural global exchange	1. Presentation of Theoretical Arguments: a. Students will effectively present theoretical arguments in both written and oral formats. 2. Understanding Interdisciplinary Connections: a. Students will understand the interdisciplinary connections and influences between sociology and other social sciences.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written
	[SOCMU2_U08] The graduate is able to analyse and understand many current social phenomena in the context of knowledge about the mechanisms of human activity, the impact of a group on an individual, the processes of change in Polish, European and world society, and is able to relate his/her understanding of these phenomena to theoretical explanations and results of social research	1. Understanding Key Sociological Theories: a. Students will understand and explain major contemporary sociological theories and their historical development. 2.Critical Analysis of Theoretical Perspectives: a. Students will critically analyze and compare different sociological theories and their applications to current social issues.	[SU4] test/exam - oral or written
	[SOCMU2_W08] The graduate has in-depth knowledge and understanding of multidirectional changes in the range of various social structures and institutions and their elements, has knowledge about the causes, course and consequences of these changes in the micro- and macrosocial scale and in the global scale	1. Application of Theories to Social Phenomena: a. Students will apply contemporary sociological theories to analyze various social phenomena and issues. 2.Development of Analytical Skills: a. Students will develop advanced analytical skills to evaluate the strengths and limitations of different sociological theories.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written
	[SOCMU2_U02] The graduate is able to use theoretical knowledge from different streams of sociology and acquire data to analyse concrete social phenomena and processes and formulate own opinions about their character and course	1. Exploration of Emerging Theories: a. Students will explore and critically assess emerging theories and their potential impact on the field of sociology. 2.Engagement with Sociological Literature: a. Students will engage with and critically evaluate contemporary sociological literature.	[SU4] test/exam - oral or written
	[SOCMU2_W01] The graduate has in-depth knowledge of social sciences their place in the system of sciences and relations to other sciences and common knowledge, he/she can determine specificity of sociology as a science in relation to its history, functions, subject matter and tasks, he/she can distinguish thematic areas of sociology common with other disciplines of social sciences and knows various theoretical and methodological approaches in sociology, he/she is prepared to undertake interdisciplinary cooperation in the field of social sciences and cooperation with various social institutions	1. Awareness of Global Perspectives: a. Students will develop an awareness of global perspectives and their relevance to contemporary sociological theories. 2.Ethical Considerations in Theorizing: a. Students will understand and apply ethical considerations in the development and application of sociological theories.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written

	Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
	[SOCMU2_K04] The graduate is ready to independently and critically complement and improve the acquired knowledge and skills using various disciplines in the field of social sciences	1. Development of Critical Thinking: a. Students will develop critical thinking skills through the evaluation of theoretical arguments and their implications. 2.Formulation of Research Questions: a. Students will formulate research questions based on theoretical frameworks and current sociological debates.	[SK4] test/exam - oral or written
Subject contents	Social Capital Problems of Rational Choice Theory New Functionalism Actor-Network Theory Various Forms of Constructivism Debate on the New Ecological Paradigm Pragmatism and Symbolic Interactionism in the USA and Europe Durkheimian Legacy New Perspectives on Theories of Social Inequality Controversies around the Concept of Culture Postcolonial Perspective Theories of the Digital Society		
Prerequisites and co-requisites	Admission to a master's degree, promotion to the second semester of studies, knowledge of sociological theories from the first semester of study.		
Assessment methods and criteria	Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
	test exam	50.0%	100.0%
Recommended reading	Basic literature	Piotr Sztompka, Socjologia. Wykłady o społeczeństwie, Znak 2022.	
	Supplementary literature	1. Jürgen Habermas, "The Theory of Communicative Action", Beacon Press, Boston, 1984 2. Pierre Bourdieu, "Distinction: A Social Critique of the Judgement of Taste", Harvard University Press, Cambridge, MA, 1984 3. Mark Granovetter, "Society and Economy: Framework and Principles", Publisher: Harvard University Press, Cambridge, MA, 2017 4. Ulrich Beck, "The Risk Society: Towards a New Modernity", Sage Publications, London, 1992 5. Fredric Jameson, "Postmodernism, or, The Cultural Logic of Late Capitalism", Duke University Press, Durham, NC, 1991 6. Judith Butler, "Gender Trouble: Feminism and the Subversion of Identity", Routledge, New York and London, 1990 7. Erving Goffman, "The Presentation of Self in Everyday Life", Anchor Books, New York, 1959 8. Pierre Bourdieu, "The Logic of Practice", Stanford University Press, Stanford, CA, 1990	
	eResources addresses		
Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	The Theory of Communicative Action and Pragmatism Causes of the Erosion of Social Capital Sources of the New Ecological Paradigm		
Work placement	Not applicable		

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