

General Sociology

LEVEL	SEMESTER	ECTS	FORMAT	LANGUAGE
Bachelor - Master	Winter and summer	5 ECTS	Lectures and seminars	English

Course description

This course introduces students to key concepts, perspectives and topics in contemporary sociology. It explores how sociologists understand society, social structures, institutions and processes of social change. Particular attention is given to the relationship between individuals and society, organizations and institutions, social order and conflict, globalization, political systems, national identity and contemporary social transformations.

Main topics

- Introduction to sociology and sociological perspectives
- Individual and society: structure and agency
- Culture, values, norms and social interaction
- Social order, consensus and conflict
- Organizations, bureaucracy and institutions
- Work and professions
- Social change and transformations of contemporary societies
- Industrial society, late capitalism and postmodernity
- Globalization and individualization
- State, democracy and political institutions
- Nation, nationalism and national identity
- Ethnic and national minorities
- Contemporary social challenges and future trends

Learning outcomes

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- understand key sociological concepts and perspectives
- analyse social phenomena from a sociological perspective
- explain major forms of social organization and institutions
- understand key theories of organizations and social change
- analyse contemporary social, political and cultural transformations
- discuss issues related to globalization, democracy, nation and identity
- apply basic sociological concepts to contemporary social issues
- critically compare different sociological perspectives

Teaching methods

Lectures, seminars, discussions, case studies, group work and independent reading.

Assessment

Participation and short assignments during the semester, combined with a final written assignment or essay.