

3LMGOX69 - Current issues in Social sciences: Social norms and inequalities

Professor: Murielle BÈGUE

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Department: LSO

Semester: X

Course level: Undergraduate (L3)

Domain: Social Sciences

Teaching language: English

Number of in-class hours: 36

Number of course sessions: 12 + Exam

ECTS: 6

Course description and objectives

Social norms are the formal and informal rules that govern the behaviors of individuals in a specific society. Respecting them leads to integration whereas violating them involves sanctions.

The purpose of this course is to examine social norms from a sociological perspective: How are they elaborated? Implemented? What are the consequences on the social structure and cohesion of society?

The connection between social norms, inequalities and power is also established and discussed during this course, allowing a discussion of some major French thinkers such as Michel Foucault, and Pierre Bourdieu.

This course ambitions to be an open-minded discussion place where French and international students can meet and exchange ideas on current issues in an academic frame.

Objectives:

- Acquiring conceptual tools to analyze and understand social transformations.
- Connecting concepts and concrete situations.
- Reading ambitious texts.
- Getting a sociological culture.
- Improving writing skills and removing inhibitions when it comes to speaking English.

Prerequisites

English (read, written, spoken) good enough to study a social science discipline.

No sociological prerequisite. A general introduction to sociology is provided at the beginning of the semester.

Assignments and grading

Continuous assessment:

1) "French" dissertation

i.e. argumentative written essay of 2 hours (organized in class, expectations explained precisely to the international students, the Dauphine students being already familiar with the exercise) (50%)

2) Reading assignment

Almost every week, students are expected to read an article (provided) and write a 2-pages essay about it (about 8 during the whole semester). Two of these essays are randomly collected and graded (2 x 15% = 30%)

3) Oral presentation

Doing some research on a specific type of stigma (free choice) and presenting it in class with the support of a Powerpoint. This is a group presentation (2 to 4 people by group) organized in order to facilitate exchanges between international students and Dauphine students. (15%)

4) Participation

Presence and participation to class discussion (5%)

Mid-term exam
 “French” dissertation

An overall average grade is calculated on the basis of continuous assessment and mid-term exam.

The numerical grade distribution will dictate the final grade. The passing grade for a course is 10/20.

Class participation: Active class participation – this is what makes classes lively and instructive. Come on time and prepared. Class participation is based on quality of comments, not quantity.

Exam policy: In the exam, students will not be allowed to bring any document (except if allowed by the lecturer). Unexcused absences from exams or failure to submit cases will result in zero grades in the calculation of numerical averages. Exams are collected at the end of examination periods.

Course structure

Session	Topic
1	General introduction to Sociology
2	General introduction to Sociology: concepts and methods
3	An outlook into the issue of Poverty
4	The Labelling Theory: Deviance and Stigmatization
5	The Labelling Theory: Deviance and Stigmatization
6	The Labelling Theory: oral presentations
7	Power and Discipline
8	Power and Discipline
9	Inequalities : Social reproduction and Distinction
10	Inequalities : Gender issues
11	From Critical sociology to a Pragmatic Sociology of Critique
12	An outlook on the issue of Power in a Global World
13	Final Exam

Bibliography

- BOURDIEU Pierre (2001), “A Magnified Image”, *Masculine Domination*, Polity press.
- BOURGOIS Philippe (2003), *In Search of Respect. Selling Crack in El Barrio*, Cambridge University Press.
- CASTELLS Manuel (2011), “Power in the Network Society”, *Communication power*, Oxford University Press.
- FOUCAULT Michel (1977), “‘Panopticism’ from Discipline and Punish: The Birth of the Prison”, *Race/Ethnicity: Multidisciplinary Global Contexts*, Vol.2, n°1, Autumn 2008.
- GIDDENS Anthony, *Sociology*, Polity press, 2006
- GOFFMAN Erving (1963), “The Self and the Other”, *Stigma. Notes on the Management of Spoiled Identity*, A Touchstone Book, 1986.
- HOCHSCHILD Arlie Russel (2003), *The Managed Heart. Commercialization of Human Feeling*, University of California Press.
- LAREAU Annette (2015), “Cultural Knowledge and Social Inequality”, *American Sociological Review*, 2015, vol. 80(1), pp. 1-27
- MAYER HACKER Helen (1951), “Women as a minority group”, *Social Forces*, 30, 1951, pp.60-69

- MILLS Charles Wright (1974), "The Sociology of Stratification", *Power, Politics and People*, Oxford University Press.
- SIMMEL Georg (1907), *The Poor, Social Problems*, vol.13, n°2, pp. 118-140, Autumn 1965, University of California Press.
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MyCourse

This course is on MyCourse: **Yes**

Academic integrity

Be aware of the rules in Université Paris Dauphine about plagiarism and cheating during exams. All work turned in for this course must be your own work, or that of your own group. Working as part of a group implies that you are an active participant and fully contributed to the output produced by that group.

Academic calendar

Dates (Monday/Sunday)		L3 Gestion
02/09/19	09/08/19	
09/09/19	15/09/19	1
16/09/19	22/09/19	2
23/09/19	29/09/19	3
30/09/19	06/10/19	4
07/10/19	13/10/19	5
14/10/19	20/10/19	6
21/10/19	27/10/19	7
28/10/19	03/11/19	8
04/11/19	10/11/19	9
11/11/19	17/11/19	10
18/11/19	24/11/19	11
25/11/19	01/12/19	12
02/12/19	08/12/19	Review w.
09/12/19	15/12/19	Exams
16/12/19	22/12/19	
23/12/19	29/12/19	Holidays