**Course descriptor**

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| Title of the course | **Social research (offered in English)** |
| Title of the Academic Programme  | Sociology and Social Informatics |
| Type of the course | Core |
| Prerequisites | Sociological Theory |
| ECTS workload | 4 |
| Total indicative study hours | Directed Study | Self-directed study  | Total |
| 32 | 120 | 152 |
| Course Overview | As part of the social studies course, students will become familiar with authoritative modern approaches and theoretical paradigms associated with a pragmatic and institutional turn in social theory. The course also aims to:* develop necessary knowledge of modern social theory in praxeological and institutional perspectives, as well as necessary knowledge in related disciplines;
* promote skills necessary to conduct their own sociological and interdisciplinary research in the relevant theoretical perspective;
* promote skills of interpretation of sociological data, as well as skills of working with sources of various genres, which introduce into scientific use appropriate approaches in modern social theory.
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| Intended Learning Outcomes (ILO) | As a result of mastering the discipline, students should acquire:To know:• basic concepts of theoretical approaches in modern sociology related to praxeological and institutional perspectives;• key stages in the development of social theory in the 20-21 centuries;• methodological and epistemological foundations of the main paradigms of modern social theory;• basic research methods and techniques developed by modern social theory for the analysis of societies with different institutional structures.Be able to:• use the knowledge gained to understand and solve social problems;• apply sociological theories to build a program of their own sociological research, including general issues of choosing a methodology and conceptual apparatus of research;• apply this knowledge to formulate your own research question;• analyze the specifics of cultural forms in societies with different institutional structures and the influence of these specifics on social and political processes.• apply the sociological imagination for explication and theoretical analysis of latent social mechanisms of interaction between communities and non-coinciding institutional structures;• use the knowledge and skills acquired for interdisciplinary research;Have skills to:• obtain research information from various types of sources, including the Internet and foreign literature;• work analytically with scientific literature on sociology and related social sciences, including in foreign languages;• write analytical texts (abstracts, essays, reaction paper) using the dictionary and explanatory resources of modern sociological theories;• recognize and evaluate paradigms and methods of sociological theorizing;• apply of a wide range of studied methodological approaches in empirical studies at micro and macro levels;• work with sources of various genres and styles of thinking that introduce into scientific use appropriate approaches in modern social theory. |
| Indicative Course Content | 1. Towards a New Epistemology of Social Knowledge: Praxeological and Institutional Approaches in Modern Social Theory.
2. Sociology of knowledge in the era of multiple rationality. “Thinking style” and “thinking team” as objects of social research.
3. Three axes of research of social forms: systems of knowledge, power relations, forms of subjectivity. “Moral problematization” and the type of “moral subject” as objects of research.
4. Social policy theory for post-classical societies. “Realistic” and “Republican traditions in modern political theory.
5. Colloquium.
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| Teaching and Learning Methods | Educational work is carried out in a seminar format. Power point presentations, video materials are used. Seminars are held mainly in an interactive form in the form of a discussion of topics assigned for homework. It also uses group work, oral presentations, writing reaction papers (short written reviews containing both elements of the analysis and elements of the student’s personal attitude to this topic. |
| Indicative Assessment Methods and Strategy | The following forms of control are in the course: Classroom activity (activity and participation in discussions at seminars), Colloquium (oral presentation), Exam (oral examination). |
| Readings / Indicative Learning Resources | Mandatory Seidman S. Contested Knowledge: Social Theory Today (6 ed.), Wiley-Blackwell, 2016. <https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/hselibrary-ebooks/detail.action?docID=4690008> Optional Elliott A. &Turner, B. Profiles in Contemporary Social Theory, SAGE Publications, 2001. <https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/hselibrary-ebooks/detail.action?docID=334502> Smelser N. & Baltes P. (eds.). International Encyclopedia of the Social & Behavioral Sciences, Amsterdam, Elsevier, 2001. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/referencework/9780080430768/international-encyclopedia-of-the-social-and-behavioral-sciences> |
| Course Instructor | To be appointed |