**Course descriptor**

**for 2nd year students**

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| Title of the course | **Sociological Theory (offered in English)** | | |
| Title of the Academic Programme | BA Sociology and Social Informatics | | |
| Type of the course | Core | | |
| Prerequisites | Argumentation Theory and Academic Writing | | |
| ECTS workload | 2 | | |
| Total indicative study hours | Directed Study | Self-directed study | Total |
| 32 | 44 | 76 |
| Course Overview | The course introduces students to two main aspects of sociological theory: theory as a special way of thinking, and social theory as a tool for solving certain sociological problems. Classes focus on two fundamental issues:   * How is the society possible (what is the nature of social)? * How is the knowledge about the social possible?   The logic of the course and its structure are defined by the variety of answers for the questions about the conditions of formation, maintaining and reconfiguration/ destruction of the samples of social organization, and about the possible ways to analyze these processes suggested by sociology. | | |
| Intended Learning Outcomes (ILO) | Be able to define and apply basic sociological concepts  Differentiate social actions and social behaviour  Explain social actions through social mechanisms  Understand the link between micro-actions and macro-outcomes  Generate simple middle-range theories | | |
| Indicative Course Content | Nature of social explanation. Theories of the middle range; Role of emotions in (rational) choice; Nature and role of beliefs; Preferences (desires); Opportunity structure; Social norms; Process of instantiation. Concepts and nomological networks; Thought experiments in social science. the nature of relationships; Causal relations. Defining causality; Developing causal diagrams from scratch | | |
| Teaching and Learning Methods | The course consists of lectures (8 hours) and tutorials (24 hours). The tutorials involve group work in small groups, problems solving and case analysis. | | |
| Indicative Assessment Methods and Strategy | Students’ progress will be measured by students’ activities in class (20% of the cumulative grade), hometasks (30% of the cumulative grade), tests (50% of the cumulative grade) and a final exam (40% of the final grade). Cumulative grade weights 60% of the final grade.  The final exam will take the form of a 2-hour written essay that amounts to 40% of the final grade. | | |
| Readings / Indicative Learning Resources | Mandatory  Hedström P., Bearman P. (ed.). The Oxford handbook of analytical sociology. – Oxford University Press, 2009.  Optional  Merton R. K. On sociological theories of the middle range [1949]. – na, 1949.  Elster J. Explaining social behavior: More nuts and bolts for the social sciences. – Cambridge University Press, 2015.  Manzo G. (ed.). Analytical sociology: actions and networks. – John Wiley & Sons, 2014.  Jaccard J., Jacoby J. Theory construction and model-building skills: A practical guide for social scientists. – Guilford Press, 2010. | | |
| Course Instructor | Ksenia Tenisheva, Daniel Alexandrov | | |

**Санкт-Петербургский филиал федерального государственного   
автономного образовательного учреждения высшего образования**

**"Национальный исследовательский университет**

**"Высшая школа экономики"**

Факультет Санкт-Петербургская школа социальных и гуманитарных наук Национального исследовательского университета «Высшая школа экономики»

Департамент социологии

**Рабочая программа дисциплины**

***Социологическая теория (преподается на английском языке)***

для образовательной программы «Социология и социальная информатика»

направления подготовки 39.03.01 «Социология»

уровень бакалавриат

2 курс

Разработчики программы:

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Согласована методистом ОСУП

«26» октября 2017 г.

Т.Г. Ефимова \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Утверждена Академическим советом образовательной программы

«26» октября 2017 г., № протокола\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_2\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Академический руководитель образовательной программы

Д.А. Александров \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Санкт-Петербург, 2017

*Настоящая программа не может быть использована другими подразделениями университета и другими вузами без разрешения кафедры-разработчика программы*