

TARAS SHEVCHENKO NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF KYIV  
FACULTY OF SOCIOLOGY

Department of Social Structures and Social Relations

Approved by  
Vice-Dean of Faculty of Sociology

«31» 08 2021

SYLLABUS

CURRENT ISSUES OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

for students

science type	05 Social and Behavioral Sciences
Specialty	054 «Sociology»
Education level	Master
Academic program	Gender Studies
Course type	elective

Form of study	full time
Academic year	20__/20__
Semester	3
ECTS credits	4
Language of teaching	English
Final control	Exam

Lecturer: Dr. Svitlana BABENKO

KYIV – 2021

Syllabus for the course was developed by Candidate of Sociological Sciences (PhD in Sociology), Docent (Associate Professor) **Dr. Svitlana BABENKO**

APPROVED

Head of the Social Structures and Social Relations Department

Oleg MAZURYK

Protocol № 12 « 31 » 08 2021

APPROVED

by the Academic (Scientific and Methodic) Council of Faculty of Sociology Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv

Protocol № 1 „31” 08 2021

Head of the Academic Council

Signature

Tetyana CHERVYNSKA

Name

1. The goal of the course is to introduce students into the world discourse of the current social science debate on the core social problems, the recent results of comparative studies; to improve academic discussion and presentation skills, focus on the possibility of comparative analysis of social problems in different societies, and further usage in their own research work and the MA research.

**2. Preliminary requirements for the course:**

1. to know English at the level of B1 (average level), theoretical foundations of sociology, contemporary sociological research projects, sociological approach to the analysis of social phenomena, terminology, conceptual basis and foundations of modern sociological theory and research.

2. to be able to work with sociological data, read professional sociological publications and formulate ideas in English

3. to have basic skills in searching and selecting relevant information in English; to use methodologies and conceptual ideas of sociological analysis; to debate the issues; to present and discuss own position on the selected topic.

**3. Annotation of the course:** The content of the course focuses on students' research interests, on the one hand, and, on the other hand, is open to discussion of the most important current issues of international comparative sociological research. The work focuses on analyzing and discussing recent publications in English-language sociological peer-reviewed journals in order to include undergraduates in the most relevant agenda for academic debate based on recent research findings. The format of work is the colloquium, which combines discussion, lectures, practical tasks, that is adequate for students of the Master's degree. Teaching and learning is in English to enhance the professional language ability of MA students, enriching their professional academic vocabulary in sociological terminology, developing academic skills for writing abstracts, presentation and debate skills.

**4. Tasks (training objectives) are:**

- to study the core issues of social sciences within the framework of international advanced sociological debates (within the framework of the major reports of congresses of the International Sociological Association)
- to improve qualifications in finding and selecting, analyzing and developing sources and ideas for self-study MA, as part of the latest publications in peer-reviewed international sociological journals in English.
- to improve academic discussion and presentation skills in English, comparative analysis of social problems in different societies,

**that are aimed at development of the following competencies:**

- 3K04. Ability to work in an international context.
- 3K07. Ability to present one's own opinion, competent and tolerant discussion with its opponents.
- CK05. Ability to discuss the results of sociological research and projects in Ukrainian and foreign languages.

**5. Expected learning outcomes:**

learning outcomes (1. knowledge; 2. skills; 3. communication; 4. autonomy and responsibility)		Forms, methods of teaching and learning	Methods of evaluation	Per cent in final grade
Code	learning outcomes			
1.1	to know the results of contemporary sociological research on key social issues	Lectures, workshops	Discussions Exam	15
1.2	to know the system of basic sociological indicators for studying the quality of life and social problems of modern societies	Lectures, workshops	Discussions Exam	15
2.1	to be able to work with social information, data from sociological research	Lectures, workshops, individual work	Discussions Analytical review, its presentation Final control work Exam	15
2.2	to be able to identify, analyze and interpret the actual social problems of society development	Lectures, workshops, individual work	Commented bibliography Analytical review, its presentation, Final control work, Exam	15

3.1	to demonstrate skills of reasoned presentation of own opinion, competent and tolerant discussion with opponents.	Lectures, workshops, individual work	Discussions Analytical review, its presentation Final control work Exam	20
4.1	to demonstrate skills of independent research work, mastering of new knowledge	Workshops, individual work	Discussions Commented bibliography Analytical review, its presentation Final control work	20

**6. The correspondence of the results of studying with program learning outcomes**

Program Learning outcomes (IIP)	Learning outcomes PH (code)						
	1.1	1.2	2.1	2.2	3.1	4.1	
IIP05. To search, analyse and evaluate the necessary information in the scientific literature, data banks and other sources				+	+	+	
IIP12. To be able to analyse gender issues in various spheres of public life, the ability to do gender analysis		+	+	+		+	
IIP13. To apply a sociological approach to the analysis of gender issues	+	+	+				

**7. Scheme of evaluation.**

**7.1 Forms of Student Assessment:**

**- Semester assessment:**

Assessed works	Min point	Max points
1. Discussions (PH1.1, PH1.2, PH2.1, PH3.1, PH 4.1)	12	20
2. Commented bibliography (PH2.2, PH 4.1)	6	10
3. Analytical review, its Presentation (Power point) (PH2.1, PH2.2, PH3.1, PH4.1)	9	15
4. Final control work (PH2.1, PH2.2, PH3.1, PH 4.1)	9	15
<b>Semester, total</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>60</b>
<b>Exam (PH1.1, PH1.2, PH2.1, PH2.2, PH3.1)</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>100</b>

**- final evaluation is the EXAM.**

For students who have scored a total of less points than a critical minimum of 36 points due to reasonable documented reasons, to get an admission to final exam, it is obligatory to submit written papers – to work out missed workshops for each topic of discipline and the final written papers (commented bibliography and analytical review presentation).

**7.2 Evaluation organization:**

1. . Participation in discussions – during classes 1-8 topics
2. . Presentation of analytical review – topics 3-8 (by topic, by schedule).
3. . Commented bibliography – topics 3-8 (by topic, by schedule).
4. . Final control work – after topic 8.

**7.3 Table of the course grades correspondence:**

Відмінно / Excellent	90-100
Добре / Good	75-89
Задовільно / Satisfactory	60-74
Незадовільно / Fail	0-59

### 8. Structure of the discipline. Thematic plan of classes (lectures and workshops)

№	Topic	Hours		
		lectures	workshops	Individ. work
<b>1. Theoretical and methodological challenges to social sciences</b>				
1.	Sociology and methodological pluralism	2	2	8
2.	The debate on quantitative, qualitative and mix methodologies of sociology	4	4	8
<b>2. Current issues of society</b>				
3.	Dynamics of inequalities: global and local challenges	4	4	8
4.	Quality of life, ecology of life and social relations	2	2	8
5.	Globalisation and Eurointegration: challenges to Ukrainian Society	2	2	8
6.	Sociodynamics of culture: problems of multiculturalism	2	2	8
7.	Migration, refugees, IDP's	2	2	8
8.	Social risks, social security, terrorism, Covid-pandemic	2	2	8
	<i>Final control work</i>			16
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>80</b>

Total course size 120 hours., including:

Lectures – 20 h.

Workshops – 20 h.

Individual work - 80 h.

#### 9. Recommended Reader:

##### Core:

1. *The ISA Handbook of Diverse Sociological Traditions* (2010), edited by S. Patel. London: SAGE.
2. *Collins C. 99 to 1: How Wealth Inequality Is Wrecking the World and What We Can Do about It.* – BK Publisher. - 2012. – pp.59-124
3. *Eduardo Bericat, Maria Luisa Jimenez-Rodrigo* (Eds) (2019) *The Quality of European Societies A Compilation of Composite Indicators.* Springer. Pp. 27-148, 167-250, 295-334, 251-294.
4. *Advances in Sociological Knowledge* (2002) ed, *Nikolai Genov*

##### Recommended:

1. *Albrow, Martin* (2002). *The Global Shift and Its Consequences for Sociology.* In: Nikolai Genov (Ed.) *Advances in Sociological Knowledge over Half a Century.* Paris-ISSC. Pp. 25-45.
2. *Beck U.* *Risk Society. Towards a New Modernity.* London: SAGE Publications, 1996.
3. *Comparative Research in the Social Sciences.* (Ed.) N. Genov. – Paris-Sofia, 2007. 220 p.
4. *Dahrendorf, R.* (2005) *Doubts about pluralism.* In: E. Ben-Rafael and Y. Sternberg (Eds.) *Comparing Modernities. Pluralism versus Homogeneity.* BRILL Publisher. Pp. 223-229.
5. *Domenico Tosini* *Sociology of Terrorism and Counterterrorism: A Social Science Understanding of Terrorist Threat // Sociology Compass* 1/2 (2007): 664–681,
6. *Gerring J.* *Single-Outcome Studies. A Methodological Primer // International Sociology.* - September 2006, Vol. 21(5): 707-734
7. *Inglehart R.* *Globalization and Postmodern Values // The Washington Quarterly* \_ Winter 2000 23:1. – pp. 215–228.
8. *Inglehart, Ronald and Christian Welzel* (2005) *Modernization, Cultural Change and Democracy: The Human Development Sequence.* Cambridge University Press. Ch. 1, 2, Conclusion. [CD]
9. *InterEthnic Integration in Five European Societies* (Ed. Nikolai Genov). Berlin: Kramer. 2008.
10. *Kittel B.* *A Crazy Methodology? On Limits of macro-Quantitative Social Science Research // International Sociology.* - September 2006, Vol. 21(5): 647-677

11. *Mills M., Bunt G., Bruijn J.* *Comparative Research. Persistent Problems and Promising Solutions // International Sociology.* September 2006, Vol. 21(5): 619-631
12. *Peter L. Berger and Samuel P. Huntington, eds., Many Globalizations* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2002)
13. *Pluralism and the Multiple Forms of Modernity. An Interview with S.N. Eisenstadt // European Journal of Social Theory* 7(3): 391–404 [CD]
14. *Ragin Ch.* *How to Lure Analytic Social Science Out of Doldrums. Some lessons from Comparative Research // International Sociology.* - September 2006, Vol. 21(5): 633-646
15. *Schwartz, S. H.* (1994). *Beyond Individualism/Collectivism: New cultural dimensions of values.* In U. Kim, H.C. Triandis, C. Kagitcibasi, S-C. Choi, & G. Yoon (Eds.), *Individualism and collectivism: Theory, method and applications.* Newbury Park, CA: Sage. Pp. 85-119. [CD]
16. *Sztompka, P.* (2010) "One Sociology or many?" in *The ISA Handbook of Diverse Sociological Traditions*, edited by S. Patel. London: SAGE. Pp.21-28
17. *Sztompka, P.* (2011) "Another Sociological Utopia," *Contemporary Sociology* 40(4): 388-396.
18. *Tilly J.* *Means and Ends in Comparison in Macrosociology // Comparative Social Research. Methodological issues in Comparative Social Science.* Vol. 16, 1997
19. *Ukraine in Transformation. From Soviet Republic to European Society.* \ Veira-Ramos, Alberto, Liubyva, Tetiana, Golovakha, Ievhenii (Eds.) Palgrave. 2020. Pp. 1-34, 261-276,

#### 10. Recommended Sources:

- International Sociological Association congresses <https://www.isa-sociology.org/en/conferences/world-congress>
- Ulrich Beck: 'Europe at Risk: The Cosmopolitan Turn' [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4L\\_ksmXh8po&ab\\_channel=EuropeanUniversityInstitute](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4L_ksmXh8po&ab_channel=EuropeanUniversityInstitute)
- Michael Burawoy Global sociology <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VQ0CZsQcjQ8>
- European Social Survey (the ESS) <http://europeansocialsurvey.org/>
- EuroBarometer [http://ec.europa.eu/public\\_opinion/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/public_opinion/index_en.htm)
- European Values Study (EVS) <http://www.europeanvaluesstudy.eu>
- UN Human development index <http://hdr.undp.org/en/statistics/hdi/>
- Bertellessman transformation index <http://www.bti-project.org/index/>
- Transparency international Corruption Perception Index <http://www.transparency.org/research/cpi/overview>
- World Bank Governance index [http://info.worldbank.org/governance/wgi/sc\\_country.asp](http://info.worldbank.org/governance/wgi/sc_country.asp)
- Democracy index [http://www.democracybarometer.org/links\\_en.html](http://www.democracybarometer.org/links_en.html)
- R.Inglehart Happiness is Different Things to Different People: Subjective Well-being in Global Perspective [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y1acwqIIFtY&list=PLUold1t9EA7B\\_nuU-LHirTtdiF9K4Azl0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y1acwqIIFtY&list=PLUold1t9EA7B_nuU-LHirTtdiF9K4Azl0)