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| STUDY PROGRAMME:  Graduate Study of Sociology | | |
| Level and Year[[1]](#footnote-1): MA (1st & 2nd) | | |
| Course Title: **Epistemology of Social Practice** | | |
| Course Description:  As a part of wider studies in epistemology of social sciences, the course is focused on the examination of social practice as one of the most important issues in sociological epistemology. In a certain sense, the concept of social practice is situated in the middle of two contrasted epistemological and ontological positions: one of methodological individualism and the other of methodological holism mediated through diverse ‘reconciling’ conceptions. In that sense, the concept of social practice attempts to bridge the gap between the mentioned confronted positions. During the course, students will acquire knowledge on different conceptual articulations on social practice present in sociological tradition. They will develop analytical and critical thinking on this particular epistemological issue, as well as enhance their knowledge on epistemology of social sciences in general. | | |
| Semester[[2]](#footnote-2): Winter | | |
| Lecturer(s)/Teacher(s):  Frank Welz, PhD, Full Professor  Krešimir Žažar, PhD, Assistant Professor | | |
| Teaching Language (regular)[[3]](#footnote-3): English | | |
| Teaching Methods (regular):[[4]](#footnote-4)  teaching through lectures and seminars; students’ presentations; classroom discussions; consultations with students (and even individual lessons if necessary); e-Learning (Omega) | | |
| Teaching: | Weekly (hours) | Semester (hours) |
| Lectures: | 2 | 30 |
| Exercises: | - | - |
| Seminars: | 2 | 30 |
| ECTS: 6 | | |
| Teaching language and level[[5]](#footnote-5) for guest (exchange) students:  English B2 | | |
| Teaching Methods[[6]](#footnote-6) for guest (exchange) students:  L1 - All teaching activities will be held in regular teaching language. However, guest (exchange) students will have the opportunity to attend additional consultations with the lecturer in German language to help master the course materials. Additionally, the lecturer will refer guest (exchange) students to the corresponding literature in a foreign language (German). | | |
| Evaluation Methods[[7]](#footnote-7) and Grading[[8]](#footnote-8):  class attendance; seminar paper/oral presentation; writing homework assignments; final written paper that is additionally discussed in the oral exam  Standard – the institutional grading system (5 Excellent; 4 Very good; 3 Good; 2 Sufficient; 1 Fail)  C+ / Completed + ECTS (Student has completed prescribed obligations + ECTS credits awarded) | | |
| Learning Outcomes:   1. Attaining relevant concepts that articulate social practice as an important theoretical category in sociology 2. Comparing diverse theoretical approaches of conceptualizing social action 3. Writing and competently discussing the review paper on a chosen topic in a given knowledge domain 4. Applying and enhancing writing and overall communication skills | | |
| (Basic) literature:  **Archer, M.** (1995).*Realist Social Theory: The Morphogenetic Approach*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. (Analytical Dualism: The Basis of the Morphogenetic Approach (pp. 165-194))  **Asimaki, A., Koustourakis, G.** (2014). Habitus: An attempt at a thorough analysis of a controversial concept in Pierre Bourdieu’s theory of practice. *Social Sciences*, 3(4): 121-131.  **Bourdieu, P.** (1977). *Outline of a Theory of Practice*. Cambridge University Press. (*Structures and the habitus* (pp. 72-95))  **Donati, P.** (2014). Relational Sociology, Critical Realism and Social Morphogenesis. *Sociologia e Politiche Sociali*, Vol. 17(1):9-26.  **Giddens, A.** (2003) *The Constitution of Society: Outline of the Theory of Structuration.* Cambridge: Polity Press; Oxford: Blackwell Publishing Ltd. *(Elements of the Theory of Structuration (pp. 1-40))*  **Habermas, J.** (1984) *The Theory of Communicative Action* Vol. I (*Reason and the Rationalization of Society*). Cambridge: Polity Press.(*Intermediate Reflections: Social Action, Purpose Activity and Communication* (pp. 273-337))  **Latour, B.** (2005). *Reassembling the Social: An Introduction to Actor-Network Theory*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. (*How to Render Associations Traceable Again* (pp. 157-262))  **Sewell, W. H. Jr.** (2005).*Logics of History: Social Theory and Social Transformation.* Series:Chicago Studies in Practices of Meaning, USA. (*A Theory of Structure: Duality, Agency and Transformation* (pp. 124-151)) | | |

1. BA, MA, PhD; 2nd year … [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Winter, Summer, Academic Year [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Teaching language according to the regular programme (e.g. Croatian, French, Slovenian…) [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Direct instructions: teaching through lectures/seminars/exercises and teacher-led demonstrations in the classroom; Presentations; Classroom discussion; E-Learning (Omega, etc.); Fieldwork; Other (specify) [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. According to CEFR (e.g. English B2, German C1…) [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. **Language options for guest (exchange) students):**

   L1 - All teaching activities will be held in regular teaching language. However, guest (exchange) students will have the opportunity to attend additional consultations with the lecturer and teaching assistants in foreign language (indicated as teaching language for guest (exchange) students), to help master the course materials. Additionally, the lecturer will refer guest (exchange) students to the corresponding literature in foreign language, as well as give them the possibility of taking the associated exams in foreign language.

   L2 - All teaching activities will be held in regular teaching language only. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. Class attendance, Essay, Preliminary exam, Seminar paper, Practical work, Written exam, Oral Exam, Other (specify) [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. Standard - the institutional grading system (5 Excellent; 4 Very good; 3 Good; 2 Sufficient; 1 Fail)

   Additional:

   RA - Regular Attendance (No ECTS credits awarded for course attendance only)

   C - Completed (Student has completed prescribed obligations/no ECTS credits awarded)

   C+ – Completed + ECTS (Student has completed prescribed obligations + ECTS credits awarded) [↑](#footnote-ref-8)