



Syllabus

Term: 2025/26/2 **Subject name:** Introduction to Social Sciences **Subject code:** B19GMA02E

Unit (Unit code) Faculty of Business and Economics (KTK)

Lecturer responsible for the course: Dr. ILOSKICS Zita

Requirement: Exam

Classes per week : 2/2/0/0

Classes per term:

Purpose of education:

Rationale including aims:

The module aims to examine critically the theoretical and empirical background in the social sciences as it facilitates a deeper understanding of people and human actions on the market, in the market economy, and in different organizations. This module offers a brief introduction to the history of social sciences in order to understand the development of social thought. The module gives an overview of the most important issues in close connection with business life and exposes students to the most important social and psychological issues that arise in various business contexts. This module invites students to adopt and apply knowledge in managerial problem-solving. The module will also seek to promote students' ability to think critically.

Learning outcomes:

On completion of this module the successful student will be able to:

1. analyze the development of social thought from the 19th century to the present day.
2. compare the main competing theories of current debate and analyze their applications in practice.
3. examine and illustrate the social context in which business people operate. The different fields of activities and the rules relating there to; with special emphasis on the latest developments in Central Europe.
4. analyze social issues in the globalized and Hungarian business environment.
5. construct and carry out effective small-scale research (library use, literature research, referencing)
6. demonstrate a positive contribution to team working
7. effectively explain ideas verbally
8. contrast views with peers

Contents:

1. Sociology as a social science. The sociological imagination. The development of sociological thinking. Central Sociological Concepts. Modern theoretical approaches.
2. Sociological research. Understanding cause and effect. Sociological research methods. The influence of sociology.
3. Culture and human behavior. Group influence. Characteristics and elements of culture. Cultural diversity. The sociological study of culture.



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4. Socialization process. Theories of socialization. Socialization over the life course. Research on socialization today.
5. Social Interaction in the age of the internet. Theories of social interactions. Contemporary research on social interaction
6. Groups, organizations, and networks. Theories of groups, organizations, and networks. Contemporary research on groups and networks
7. Conformity and deviance. Sociological theories of crime and deviance (functionalist, interactionist, conflict, control theory) Research on crime and deviance.
8. Social stratification and the importance of social background. Theories of Stratification in Modern Societies. Research on social stratification.
9. Social inequalities. Global inequality. Evaluating theories of global inequalities and social change (global inequalities (market-oriented, dependency, world-systems, and global commodity-chains). Research on global inequality. Gender inequality, race, and ethnicity.
10. Understanding the social functions of schooling. Education and social mobility. Inequality and education. Major sociological perspectives on the role of schooling in society. Pierre Bourdieu's capital theory. Cultural and social capital
11. Work and economic life. The social nature of work. Fordism, Post-Fordism. Future of work.
12. Population growth, urbanization, environmental challenges. Demographic processes. Urbanization. Environment and human ecology. Global cities. Urban problems (gentrification, urban renewal, racial segregation)
13. Globalization of society. Factors contributing to globalization. Effect of globalization. Risks, inequality, wealth, social change, global governance.

System of examining and valuation:

Summative assessment scheme

1. Midterm exam (30%) (LOs 1, 2) Unseen, written examination, length of the exam is 75 minutes. If the student fails the first attempt of the midterm exam, there is one retake opportunity in the study period.
2. Final exam (50%) (LOs 3, 4) Unseen, written examination, length of the exam is 2 hours. If the student fails the first attempt of the final exam, there is one retake opportunity in the examination period. Should the student fail the retake exam the student failed the module.
3. Seminar work (20%): homework 15% (quiz, analyzing a case study in group work) (LOs 5,6,7,8) and seminar activity 5% (LOs 6,7,8)

After correcting both of the midterm and final exams students are allowed to take an insight into the exams at certain times.

Bibliography:

Core Learning Materials:



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Bibliography:

Deborah Carr, Anthony Giddens, Mitchell Duneier, Richard P. Appelbaum (2018): Introduction into Sociology, 11th edition. New York London W.W. Norton & Company, INC.

Giddens, Anthony (2017,2018) Sociology (with Philip W. Sutton) 7th and 8th Edition, Polity Press

Optional Learning Material:

Joseph, Martin (1991) Sociology for Business – A Practical Approach. Polity

Articles from different scientific papers

Bibliography: