

Academic Year: ( 2022 / 2023 )

Review date: 29-11-2021

Department assigned to the subject: Department of Social Sciences

Coordinating teacher: FERNANDEZ GONZALEZ, JUAN JESUS

Type: Basic Core ECTS Credits : 6.0

Year : 1 Semester : 1

Branch of knowledge: Social Sciences and Law

**REQUIREMENTS (SUBJECTS THAT ARE ASSUMED TO BE KNOWN)**

Due to the fact that Comparative Sociology is an introductory class, no other class is necessary to enroll in it.

**OBJECTIVES**

To acquire knowledge and comprehension to:

- Students will be able to know the main analytical approaches in comparative social science
- Students will be able to know the main objectives of comparative sociology
- Students will be able to know the main dimensions of contemporary societies.
- Students will be able to distinguish between structural, economic, cultural and political approaches.
- Students will be able to identify cross-national differences based on descriptive evidence.
- Students will be able to link theoretical models and socioeconomic and political indicators.

Transferable aims:

- To increase the capacity to deal with abstract concepts.
- To improve the ability to formalize theoretically an economic problem.
- To acquire agility in solving practical problems.
- To foster teamwork ability.
- To be able to perform critical analysis of arguments and theories.
- To improve oral and written communication.

**DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS: PROGRAMME****PART I: CONCEPTUAL INTRODUCTION**

Topic 1 - Week 1: What is Sociology?

Wednesday September 6: Lecture: Introduction

Friday September 8: Seminar: What is Sociology?

Compulsory readings:

Giddens, Anthony. 2006. *Sociology*. Cambridge: Polity, pp. 4-8.

Wright Mills, C. 1959. *The Sociological Imagination*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp. 3-18.

Brym, Robert and John Lie. 2006. *Sociology*. Belmont: Thomson, pp. 2-3, 5-7.

Topic 2 - Week 2: What is Comparative Sociology?

Wednesday September 13: Lecture: What is Comparative Sociology?

Friday September 15: Seminar: Debate on the ¿sociological imagination¿

Compulsory readings:

Teune, Henry. 2014. ¿Comparing Societies around the World¿. Pp. 3-11 in *Concise Encyclopedia of Comparative Sociology*, edited by Masamichi Sasaki, Jack A. Goldstone, Ekkart Zimmermann and Stephen K. Sanderson. Leiden: Brill.

Ragin, Charles. 1982. ¿Comparative Sociology and the Comparative Methods¿. Pp. 102-121 in *Comparative Sociological Research in the 1960s and 1970s*, edited by J. Michael Armer and Robert Mortimer Marsh. Leiden: Brill, pp. 102-107.

Prezeworski, Adam and Henry Teune. 1970. *The Logic of Comparative Social Inquiry*. Malabar: Krieger Publishing Company, pp. 31-39.

Optional readings:

Dogan, Mattei. ¿Strategies in Comparative Sociology¿. Pp. 13-45 in *New Frontiers in Comparative Sociology*, edited by Masamichi Sasaki.

Rezaev, Andrey, Valentin S. Starikov and Natalia D. Tregubova. 2015. ¿Comparative Sociology as an Inquiry and as a Teaching Discipline: An Attempt of Comparative Analysis¿, *Comparative Sociology*, 14, 143-175.

Topic 3 - Week 3: Theoretical Approaches in Sociology and Comparative Sociology  
Wednesday September 20: Lecture: Major Theoretical Approaches in Comparative Sociology  
Friday September 22: Seminar: Debate on the theoretical approaches of sociology

Compulsory readings:

Jones, Pip. 2003. ¿An Introduction to Sociological Theories¿, in *Introducing Social Theory*. London: Polity, pp. 1-22.  
Brym, Robert and John Lie. 2006. *Sociology*. Belmont: Thomson, pp. 13-18.

Optional readings:

Apter, David E. 2005. ¿Comparative Sociology: Some Paradigms and Their Moments¿. Pp. 103-125 in *The SAGE Handbook of Sociology*, edited by Craig Calhoun, Chris Rojek, and Bryan S. Turner. London: SAGE.  
Collins, Randall. 1985. *Three Sociological Traditions*. New York: Oxford University Press.  
Giddens, Anthony. 2006. *Sociology*. Cambridge: Polity Press. Chapter 4.

Topic 4 - Week 4: The Practice of Sociology  
Wednesday September 27: Lecture: Analytical Strategies and Data in Sociology  
Friday September 29: Seminar: Research Design in Sociology

Compulsory readings:

Brym, Robert, John Lie and Steven Rytina. 2010. *Sociology: Your Compass for a New World*. Nelson. Chapter 2.

Optional readings:

Giddens, Anthony. 2006. *Sociology*. Cambridge: Polity, Chapter 2.

## PART II: DEMOGRAPHY AND MIGRATION

Topic 5 - Week 5: Comparative Demography  
Wednesday October 4: Lecture: Comparative Demography  
Friday October 6: Seminar: Data Sources for the Essays

Compulsory readings:

Poston, Dudley and Leon F. Bouvier. 2010. *Population and Society: An Introduction to Demography*. Cambridge University Press, pp. 265-266, 271-281.  
Fahey, Tony. 2011. ¿Population¿. Pp. 418-432 in *Handbook of European Societies: Social Transformations in the 21st Century*, edited by Stefan Imerfall and Göran Therborn. Springer.

Optional readings:

Kudo, Shogo et al. 2015. ¿Population Aging: An Emerging Research Agenda for Sustainable Development¿. *Social Sciences*, 4, 940-966.

Topic 6 - Weeks 6 and 7: International Migration  
Wednesday October 11: Lecture: International Migration  
Wednesday October 13: Holiday  
Wednesday October 18: Mid-term Exam  
Friday October 20: Seminar: Figures and Data Analysis

Compulsory readings:

Poston, Dudley and Leon F. Bouvier. 2010. *Population and Society: An Introduction to Demography*. Cambridge University Press. Pp. 166-177.  
Mau, Steffe and Roland Verwiebe. 2010. *European Societies: Mapping Structure and Change*. Bristol: Policy Press. Pp. 115-131.

Optional readings:

Eich-Kroh. 2013. ¿Twenty-first Century Trends in Highly Skilled Migration¿ in pp. 153-167 in *Routledge International Handbook of Migration Studies*, edited by Steven Gold and Stephanie J. Lawyn. Routledge.  
Lucassen, Jan and Leo Lucassen. 2013. ¿European Migration History¿ in pp. 52-64 in *Routledge International Handbook of Migration Studies*, edited by Steven Gold and Stephanie J. Lawyn. Routledge.

## PART III: CORE SOCIAL DIVIDES

Topic 7 - Week 8: Social Class ¿ Concept and Class Structure

Wednesday October 25: Lecture: Social Class Inequalities  
Friday October 27: Seminar: Debate on social class inequalities

Compulsory readings:

Rose, David and Eric Harrison. 2007. ¿The European Socio-Economic Classification: A New Social Class Schema for Comparative European Research¿, *European Societies*, 9, 459-490.

Topic 8 - Week 9: Race and Ethnicity

Wednesday November 1: Holiday

Friday November 3: Lecture: Race and Ethnicity in US and France

Compulsory readings:

Wacquant, Loic. 2007. *Urban Outcasts: A Comparative Sociology of Advanced Marginality*. London: Policy. Pp. 229-233, 145-162, 169-185.

Topic 9 - Week 10: Gender Inequalities

Wednesday November 8: Lecture: Gender Inequalities

Friday November 10: Seminar: Debate on gender inequalities; Introduction to academic writing.

Compulsory reading:

Esping-Andersen, Gosta. 2009. *The Incomplete Revolution: Adapting to Women¿s New Roles*. Polity Press. Chapters 1 and 2.

Optional readings:

Kimmel, Michael. 2001. *The Gendered Society*. London: Oxford University Press.

#### PART IV: INTEGRATIVE STRUCTURES, CULTURE AND SYMBOLS

Topic 10 - Week 11: Family Structures

Wednesday November 15: Lecture: Comparative Sociology of the Family

Friday November 17: Seminar: Debate on Family Structures

Compulsory readings:

Saraceno, Chiara. 2008. ¿Patterns of Family Living in the Enlarged EU¿. Pp. 47-73 in *Handbook of Quality of Life in the Enlarged European Union*, edited by Jens Alber, Tony Fahey and Chiara Saraceno. Routledge.

Optional readings:

Crouch, Colin. 1999. *Social Change in Western Europe*. Oxford University Press. p. 199-231.

Mau, Steffe and Roland Verwiebe. 2010. *European Societies: Mapping Structure and Change*. Bristol: Policy Press. Pp. 103-114.

Topic 11 - Week 12: Social Value Change

Wednesday November 22: Lecture: Social Values in Comparative Perspective

Friday November 24: Seminar: Debate on Social Values

Compulsory reading:

Inglehart, Ronald and Christian Welzel. 2005. *Modernization, Cultural Change and Democracy: The Human Development Sequence*. Cambridge University Press. Pp. 22-25, 37-38, and 115-134.

Optional readings:

Welzel, Christian. 2013. *Freedom Rising: Human Empowerment and the Quest for Emancipation*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Topic 12 - Week 13: Education

Wednesday November 29: Lecture: Education Expansion in Comparative Perspective Friday December

1: Seminar: Review

Compulsory reading:

Müller, Walter and Irena Kogan. 2010. ¿Education¿. Pp. 246-282 in *Handbook of European Societies*, edited by Stefan Immerfall and Göran Therborn. Springer

Optional readings:

Mau, Steffe and Roland Verwiebe. 2010. *European Societies: Mapping Structure and Change*. Bristol: Policy Press. Pp. 173-193.

## LEARNING ACTIVITIES AND METHODOLOGY

### Lectures:

In the lectures we will discuss the readings and the critical evidence needed to test the main theories.

### Reduced lectures:

Each week we will have presentations, debates based on the readings and discussions of the essays. Students will have to participate actively in class.

## ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

The final exam will represent 40% of the grade. The continuous assessment part will represent 60% of the final grade.

<b>% end-of-term-examination:</b>	40
<b>% of continuous assessment (assignments, laboratory, practicals...):</b>	60

## BASIC BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Alber, Jens, Tony Fahey and Chiara Saraceno. Handbook of Quality of Life in the Enlarged European Union, Routledge, 2008
- Brady, David Poor People in Rich Countries: How Politics Explain Poverty. , Oxford, 2009
- Immerfall, Stefan and Göran Therborn. Handbook of European Societies. , Springer, 2010
- Mau, Steffen and Roland Verwiebe European Societies: Mapping Structure and Change, Policy Press, 2010
- Sümer, Sevil European Gender Regimes and Policies: Comparative Perspective. , Ashgate, 2011