**Sociology Department**

Postgraduate Studies in Sociology (MSc )

**Postgraduate Seminars – Spring Semester 2018-19**

13 weeks of instruction. 11/2/2019 – 24/5/2018

Courses Offered

**Spring** **Semester** 2018-2019

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| Course Code | Course category | Course Title | Instructor | ECTS |
| ΑΕΠ11 | Elective–Specialization A | Social Theory and Historicity | Koumbourlis, Yannis | 10 |
| ΑΕΠ12 | Elective–Specialization A | Social and Political Theory | Romanos, Vassilis | 10 |
| ΒΕΠ12. | Elective–Specialization B | Collective Action and Social Movements | Serntedakis, Nikos | 10 |
| ΒΕΠ13 | Elective–Specialization B | Biopolitical Bodies and Subjects | Tzanakis, Manolis | 10 |
| ΓΕΠ12 | Elective–Specialization C | Political Parties and Civil Society | Alexakis, Emmanuel | 15 |
| ΓΕΠ13 | Elective–Specialization C | Sociology of Agriculture | Petropoulou, Eugenia | 15 |

**Courses**

**Special Issues in Civilization: Political Parties and Civil Society in Greece, BE15K** Lecturer: Manolis Alexakis

Within the contest of this seminar we focus on Greece after the restoration of democracy in 1974 and study political parties and their relationship to the state on the one hand and civil society on the other. Students who follow this seminar, are expected to have a particularly good knowledge of issues examined within the context of political sociology at the undergraduate level (e.g., they must have already followed courses and/or seminars such as “Political Sociology”, “Sociology of Political Parties”, “Special Issues on Political Sociology” etc. Additionally, students are expected to be well acquainted with basic bibliography concerning political parties and civil society in Greece. Students’ final grade is formed by 70% depending on their written essay (5.000 words ± 10%, on a subject of their choice), 10% on their presentation of their work in the class, 10% on their active participation in the presentation of other students’ work and 10% on their overall presence and performance in the seminar.

**Social and Political Philosophy** Lecturer:  **Romanos Vasilis**

The seminar aims at presenting central discussions of the 20th mainly century social and political thought, as these were shaped both by the need of overcoming the inherent antinomies of late modern societies, and by a series of philosophical, epistemological and political problems. Indicatively, the seminar will focus on the following debates: a) The critique and the aesthetic redemption of modernity: The Adorno-Heidegger controversy, b) The Foundation of the 'political' in phenomenology, hermeneutics and post-structuralism: Arendt, Castoriadis, Taylor, Laclau, (c) The end of the Enlightenment project?: the Habermas, Foucault and Derrida debate.

**A009K: Sociology of Collective Action and Social Movements**

**Lecturer: Nikos Serdedakis**

The seminar aims to familiarize students with the theoretical approaches and empirical research in the growing field of the sociology of collective action. After the conclusion of the course, students will be able to identify: a) the key research questions in current theoretical paradigms, b) the methods and research programs that have been established for the study of collective action and of social movements, c) criticisms that tend to deconstruct them, opening new avenues for the theoretical reflection and empirical research, and d) the social, cultural and political context in which the dominant theoretical schemes are formed (insights for a sociology of the sociology of social movements). This year's seminar is proposed to focus on the study of protest in Greece, starting with the juvenile rebellion of 2008, analyzing the peak of protest in the period 2010-2012, and finally exploring the current context of protest events organized against the Left government of SYRIZA. Particular emphasis will be given to the analysis of published papers focusing on protest in Greece, but also in other regions of the world during this period.

**Social Theory and Historicity**

**Koubourlis Ioannis**

The purpose of this seminar is to familiarize students with the works of Greek Marxist thinkers of the early 20th century. Students will have to deal with the main theoretical and methodological issues raised by the works of the most important Greek Marxist thinkers of this period. The seminar will focus on the dichotomy between “endogeny” and “exogeny” within the various socio-historical accounts of Greece’s transition to capitalism, that have been put forward by Greek Marxist thinkers like G. Skliros, G. Kordatos, G. Zevgos, S. Maximos, and P. Pouliopoulos.

Main Topics:

1. Epistemological and methodological issues in the early Greek Marxist thought: economic determinism and economic history, the criticism towards nationalism and ideological uses of the historical past. The transition from the Marxism favored by the Second International to the one praised by the Comintern.
2. Classes and nations: the objective and the subjective prerequisites of the formation of classes and nations.
3. Marxist and national historiographies: continuities and discontinuities.
4. Greek Marxism and Byzantium: “byzantine feudalism” and the different views of the “origins of modern Greeks”.
5. Marxist views of the Uprising of 1821: the debate on the historical role of the Greek bourgeoisie and the different views on the revolutional perspectives of the “present’.

Sources - Original Works by Greek Marxist thinkers:

**Rural Sociology**

**Lecturer: Eugenia Petropoulou**

This course is intended as a comprehensive study of rural communities. It examines rural transformation from a sociological point of view and analyses processes, responses and experiences of rural restructuring with reference to Greek, European and Third World Countries rural societies for comparative purposes where applicable. It focuses on exogenous development, while at the same time highlights the diversity of responses and experiences of rural areas at a regional level or local livelihood strategies at a local level. It examines the significant role played by the Common Agricultural Policy in rural and agricultural development and the multifunctionality of the countryside in the context of sustainable development. The topics discussed relate to the globalization and impact of intensive production model in agriculture and rural society. Topics of analysis: Socio-economic impacts of intensive agricultural production. Environnemental change and environnemental degradation. Agriculture and impacts on rural woman’s health. New strategies of rural development, employment, demographic changes, migrants, gender issues, poverty, social and geographical exclusion in less favourable areas, food vs energy debate and finally, alternative short food supply chains (SFSCs) as a response to the current crisis within an environmental, social and economic sustainable rural framework.

**Biopolitical Bodies and Subjects**

**Tzanakis Emmanouil**

Historicity of the body.

- Death and life formatted as social phenomenon.

- The civilizing process of the body in Western societies.

- The power, the subject and the body.

- The issue of "biopolitics".