

COURSE OUTLINE

(1) GENERAL

SCHOOL	Social Sciences		
ACADEMIC UNIT	Department of Sociology		
LEVEL OF STUDIES	Undergraduate		
COURSE CODE	ΠΟΣΚ 200	SEMESTER	5th
COURSE TITLE	Introduction to Cultural Studies		
INDEPENDENT TEACHING ACTIVITIES <i>if credits are awarded for separate components of the course, e.g. lectures, laboratory exercises, etc. If the credits are awarded for the whole of the course, give the weekly teaching hours and the total credits</i>	WEEKLY TEACHING HOURS	CREDITS	
Lecture	3	5	
<i>Add rows if necessary. The organisation of teaching and the teaching methods used are described in detail at (d).</i>			
COURSE TYPE <i>general background, special background, specialised general knowledge, skills development</i>	Specialised background in specific scientific area		
PREREQUISITE COURSES:	It is advised to have completed the module ΠΟΣΚ 200: Introduction to Cultural Studies		
LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION and EXAMINATIONS:	Greek (English if offered as Erasmus course)		
IS THE COURSE OFFERED TO ERASMUS STUDENTS	Yes		
COURSE WEBSITE (URL)	Please check out the module in the course catalogue of the division (https://elearn.uoc.gr/course/view.php?id=5244)		

(2) LEARNING OUTCOMES

<p>Learning outcomes</p> <p><i>The course learning outcomes, specific knowledge, skills and competences of an appropriate level, which the students will acquire with the successful completion of the course are described.</i></p> <p><i>Consult Appendix A</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Description of the level of learning outcomes for each qualifications cycle, according to the Qualifications Framework of the European Higher Education Area</i> • <i>Descriptors for Levels 6, 7 & 8 of the European Qualifications Framework for Lifelong Learning and Appendix B</i> • <i>Guidelines for writing Learning Outcomes</i> <p>A.1. Knowledge and theoretical understanding</p>
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After the completion of the module students are expected to:

- A.1.1.** To know the basic concepts and approaches that govern the field of cultural studies.
- A.1.2.** To understand how culture is connected to ideology and power.
- A.1.3.** To comprehend that our perception of gender, race, social class, age, taste, etc. is socially determined, and therefore an aspect of culture.

A.2. Cognitive competencies

After the completion of the module students are expected to:

- A.2.1.** To critically approach the concept of culture.
- A.2.2.** Understand how culture is mediated by language.
- A.2.3.** To acknowledge that both culture and identity are fluid, changeable and socially determined.

General Competences

Taking into consideration the general competences that the degree-holder must acquire (as these appear in the Diploma Supplement and appear below), at which of the following does the course aim?

Search for, analysis and synthesis of data and information, with the use of the necessary technology
Adapting to new situations
Decision-making
Working independently
Team work
Working in an international environment
Working in an interdisciplinary environment
Production of new research ideas

Project planning and management
Respect for difference and multiculturalism
Respect for the natural environment
Showing social, professional and ethical responsibility and sensitivity to gender issues
Criticism and self-criticism
Production of free, creative and inductive thinking
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Others...
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B.1. Practical and professional competencies

After the completion of the module students are expected to:

- B.1.1.** To work autonomously with the aim of understanding and learning the course material and/or to write an academic paper.
- B.1.2.** To work as a team to achieve learning objectives.
- B.1.3.** To critically use both domestic and international literature to generate new ideas in an interdisciplinary context.

B.2. Transferable skills

After the completion of the module students are expected to:

- B.1.1.** Be able to recognize causal relationships and articulate structured arguments.
- B.1.2.** Have developed critical and self-critical thinking.
- B.1.3.** Demonstrate social, professional and ethical commitment and sensitivity to gender and diversity issues.

(3) INDICATIVE CONTENT

Cultural studies is a field that experienced rapid growth from the mid-20th century onward. Its establishment as an academic discipline is closely linked to the Centre for Contemporary Cultural Studies (CCCS) at the University of Birmingham, from which many other approaches subsequently emerged. By examining culture outside the narrow framework of the traditionally "noble activities" of high art, cultural studies explore systems of meanings and values, ways of life, and the processes of the dissemination of meanings and values. The course "Introduction to Cultural Studies" will focus on key theories, concepts, and thinkers, as well as on the ways in which subjects and identities are constructed and maintained through everyday practices and engagement with material culture. In this context, we will address a variety of topics such as popular cultures, race, gender, taste, style, resistance, and power.

The course is organized around five units that cover a range of themes. The selection is necessarily limited and partial, a fact related to the breadth of issues examined by cultural studies, as well as because defining the boundaries of the field as a coherent, unified academic discipline with clear essential themes, concepts, and methods that distinguish it from other fields remains a difficult task. From the outset, cultural studies have been an interdisciplinary or metadisciplinary field of research, which blurs the boundaries between itself and other "academic subjects." What unifies this academic field (and ties together the themes examined here) is that cultural studies constitute a body of theory developed by thinkers who regard the production of theoretical knowledge as a political practice. In this sense, the course aims more to raise questions rather than provide definitive answers, thereby contributing to the cultivation of critical thinking (**Please find the detailed syllabus in the course webpage**).

(4) TEACHING AND LEARNING METHODS - EVALUATION

<p>DELIVERY <i>Face-to-face, Distance learning, etc.</i></p>	Face-to-face		
<p>USE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY <i>Use of ICT in teaching, laboratory education, communication with students</i></p>	<p><i>To successfully participate in the course, students are expected to possess adequate competencies in the use of media technologies in order to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Communicate with the instructor - Systematically interact with the course webpage - Produce academic work in various electronic formats (text formatting according to specific guidelines, multi-media presentations etc.) 		
<p>TEACHING METHODS <i>The manner and methods of teaching are described in detail. Lectures, seminars, laboratory practice, fieldwork, study and analysis of bibliography, tutorials, placements, clinical practice, art workshop, interactive teaching, educational visits, project, essay writing, artistic creativity, etc.</i></p> <p><i>The student's study hours for each learning activity are given as well as the hours of non-directed study according to the principles of the ECTS</i></p>	Activity	Semester workload	
	Lectures	30	
	Applications and group work	9	39
	Homework besides final assessments (readings, applications)	12	
	Final Paper (offered depending on class size / composition)	40	
	Preparation for final exam	40	
	Course total	98 (138)	
<p>STUDENT PERFORMANCE EVALUATION <i>Description of the evaluation procedure</i></p> <p><i>Language of evaluation, methods of evaluation, summative or conclusive, multiple choice questionnaires, short-answer questions, open-ended questions, problem solving, written work, essay/report, oral examination, public presentation, laboratory work, clinical examination of patient, art interpretation, other</i></p> <p><i>Specifically-defined evaluation criteria are given, and if and where they are accessible to students.</i></p>	<p><i>Students will be evaluated on the basis of:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Class participation - Preparation for class (assigned readings and applications) - Final exam - Final paper (content, structure, bibliography, form, and proper academic register). 		

(5) ATTACHED BIBLIOGRAPHY

<p>Course books</p>
<p>Barker, C. & Jane, E. A. (2016). <i>Cultural Studies: Theory and Practice</i>. 5th edition. Los Angeles: SAGE.</p>
<p>Smith, P. (2001). <i>Cultural Theory: An Introduction</i>. Malden, Mass.: Blackwell.</p>
<p>Further readings</p>
<p>Storey, J. (2012). <i>Cultural Theory and Popular Culture: An Introduction</i> (6th ed). Harlow: Pearson.</p>
<p>Walton, D. (2008). <i>Introducing Cultural Studies: Learning through Practice</i>. London: SAGE.</p>
<p>Ziauddin, S. and Van Loon, B. (2010). <i>Introducing Cultural Studies</i>. London: Icon.</p>
<p>Releted academic journals</p>

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- *Cultural Studies*
 - *Discourse*
 - *Media, Culture & Society*
 - *Social Media & Society*
 - *Social Semiotics*