



COURSE UNIT INFORMATION SHEET (SYLLABUS)

2020/2021

Name Main Theories of Social Sciences
Teaching staff (Also indicate the Professor in charge) Ana Isabel Rodrigues Saraiva
ECTS 6
Functioning The CU functioning consists of one general lecture class to be attended by all students and of two practical classes in one of which the students must inscribe themselves.
Learning goals To provide the students with the theoretical skills necessary to critically understand the diversity of schools and streams of social and cultural thought To provide the students with the methodological and epistemological tools and techniques needed to critically understand the social environment
Skills to be developed Students must acquire: The knowledge and understanding of the philosophical issues underlying the social sciences modern theories



The capacity to analyse different theoretical proposals (propostas teóricas?)

The ability to understand contemporary social phenomena

The capacity to understand the role of psychological science in the framework of social sciences

Prerequisites (precedences) *

There are no prerequisites

Contents

1. Epistemological introduction
 - a) Knowledge construction in Human Sciences: main theoretical and methodological issues
 - b) The epistemological break with the common sense
2. Individual and Society: social dynamics
 - a) E. Durkheim and the nature of social facts
 - b) Social interaction: the I/me and the Other according to G. H. Mead
 - c) The I and the mask according to E. Goffman
 - d) The comprehensive sociology of Max Weber: Religion, Economy and Power

Bibliography

Aron, R. (1991) As Etapas do Pensamento Sociológico, Lisboa, Círculo de Leitores

Durkheim E., (1991) Les Formes Élémentaires de la Vie Religieuse. Paris, Le Livre de Poche

Goffman, E., (1993) A Apresentação do Eu na Vida de Todos os Dias, Lisboa, Relógio D'Água

Mead, G. H., Mind, Self and Society, The University of Chicago Press, Chicago, 1934

Weber, M., (2001) A Ética Protestante e o Espírito do Capitalismo, Lisboa, Editorial Presença

Teaching methods

The Course Unit consists of lecture classes and practical classes



Lecture classes: in order to convey the diversity of streams of social knowledge, the main theories of social knowledge are dynamically examined and exemplified aiming to reach the higher possible level of interaction between the teacher and the students. Participant discussion is therefore highly encouraged as a way for the students to internalize the main theoretical points.

Practical classes: the students are grouped into units of 3-5 and required to collaborate on a research on a given theme. The methodological and theoretical problems arising from the research are discussed.

The research proposed also allows the students to actually the role of social scientist and permits a hands-on understanding of the main theoretical and methodological issues in field research

Evaluation Regimes (General and/or Alternative)

Evaluation consists of two elements in both regimes: a final exam with multiple answer and a group oral presentation during the practical classes.

Evaluation Elements

(Dates due, weights, minimum required grades)

The final exam with multiple answers is realized at FPUL according to the faculty's exam calendar

Group presentation – the different groups of students will present the results of the research project and submit it to discussion in the classroom according to a calendar established at the beginning of the semester.

The exam is scored from 0 to 17

The group presentation is scored from 0 to 3.

The final grade is the sum of the two components

Alternative Evaluation Plan to be adopted in the event of a new State of Emergency

Final written and individual multiple answer exam

The exam focuses on all program topics covered in theoretical classes



The exam is scored from 0 to 20

Rules for grade improvement

Only the final exam can be improved

Rules for students having previously failed the course unit *

Students who have failed the UC in the last two academic years may, if they wish, preserve the grade concerning the group presentation and only apply for the final exam

Requirements on attendance and punctuality

There is no imposition of attendance

Rules for special students

(workers, elite athletes, student body leaders, military, fathers/mothers, with special needs) *

Language of instruction

Portuguese

Disciplinary violations and penalties

According to the Evaluation of Learning Regulation of the Faculty of Psychology of the University of Lisbon, the following behaviors are considered as disciplinary offenses subject to disciplinary action:

- a) To use or attempt to use materials, information, notes, study resources or other objects and equipment not authorized in academic exercises;
- b) To help or try to help a colleague in committing a disciplinary offense;
- c) To submit the same written work for evaluation in different course units without permission from the instructors, even if with minor changes;



- d) To present someone else's work as one's own;
- e) To forge, or change without permission from the author, any information or citation in an academic work;
- f) To interfere, change or attempt to change grades;
- g) To try to prevent or interfere with the proper functioning of classes, research or other academic activities;
- h) To make false accusations regarding instructors, governance bodies, other students or non-teaching staff of the FPUL;
- i) To falsify signatures in attendance sheets, documents relating to evaluation elements or in any official document relating to an academic process or status.

Disciplinary offenses committed in any assessment element can lead to its annulment, and must be reported to the Pedagogical Council or, considering their gravity and repetition, may lead to other penalties, to be determined by the Rector of the University of Lisbon.

* If applicable