Программа учебной дисциплины «Sociological Reasoning: Journal Seminar»

Authors	Dr. Lili Di Puppo Assistant Professor of Sociology Email: ldipuppo@hse.ru Dr. Arnab Chowdhury Assistant Professor of Sociology Email: achowdhury@hse.ru
Number of credits	6
Contact hours	48
Self-study hours	180
Курс	2
Educational format	Without use of online course Без использования онлайн курса

I. Aim, Results of Mastering the Discipline and Prerequisites

The objective of the discipline "Sociological Reasoning" is to introduce students to the reading of academic literature through a selection of key sociological works.
As a result, students should:

Know:
- how to efficiently read academic literature by identifying central arguments and theses in academic texts.
- how to position sociology as an academic discipline and understand its historical formation.

Be able to:
- reflect on key sociological concepts and topics based on the reading and discussion of key sociological works related to these topics.
- reflect on their own position as researchers both in relation to a particular body of literature and to objects of study.

Have:
- the skill to follow and critically engage in scholarly debates in the academic literature.
- the skill to identify and critically assess the empirical data used to develop arguments.

Basic knowledge of concepts and theories of social sciences are required for this course.

II. Content of the Course

SESSION ONE: Introduction

The first session will introduce basic guidelines to read academic texts and lay out the course plan and requirements for student participation.

SESSION TWO: Reflexivity and Orientalism

In this session, the emphasis will be put on the positioning of the researcher and the central role of reflexivity in the research process. We will discuss the notion of the Other through the lens of the concept of Orientalism.

SESSION THREE: Sociology and Religion

This session continues the discussion about reflexivity by examining the position of sociology as an academic discipline in relation to the question of religion.

SESSION FOUR: Discussion of observation reports 1 in groups

This session will discuss a first ethnographic observation report conducted by students on the basis of pictures and commentaries on those pictures (on the topic of boundaries) with the help of reading material.

SESSION FIVE: Boundaries and Rituals

This session reflects on the topic of boundaries by using different angles: disciplinary boundaries; the boundary between the self and the Other in the research process; boundaries between the state and society; ethnic boundaries.

SESSION SIX: Presentation of final observation reports and essays in groups

This final session is devoted to the presentation of individual essays and observation reports by groups of students on the literature read in class. The students discuss their final essays and observation reports in groups in order to establish comparisons.

SESSION SEVEN: Approaching a Text

This session is about how to approach, and interpret a text, and how to situate it into its social, economic, historical and political context.

SESSION EIGHT: State-formation in Europe and Asia

This session discusses two different trajectories of state-formation in Europe and Asia. The idea of state (and its institutional and organizational forms) is the cornerstone of European modernity, and behind its ability to bring the rest of the world under colonial control.

SESSION NINE: Nation and Nationalism

Nation and Nationalism is a product of modernity and is constructed to reach certain political and economic ends.

SESSION TEN: Ethnicity (and Race)

While race and ethnicity are both socially constructed, race is more hierarchical, unitary and exclusive in nature than ethnicity.

SESSION ELEVEN: Ethnicity (and Race)

Whereas, ethnicity is much inclusive and is expressed through various cultural markers such as language, religion, customs, geography and heritage, there are increasing number of ethnic conflicts throughout the world, making it an equally divisive category.

SESSION TWELVE: Presentation of final observation reports and essays in groups

This final session is devoted to the presentation of individual essays and observation reports by groups of students on the literature read in class. The students discuss their final essays and observation reports in groups in order to establish comparisons.

III.   Grading

Attendance makes up 10 percent of the final grade.

Participation makes up 10 percent of the final grade.

An observation report (1) on the topic of boundaries makes up 30 percent of the final grade.

A final essay or final observation report makes up 50 percent of the final grade.

If the final grade is non-integer, it is rounded according to algebraic rules. If has a half (.5) at the end, we are rounding upward.

IV.   Grading Tools

Observation report (1): it consists of four pictures taken by the student on the topic of boundaries with commentaries on the pictures based on the course's reading material.

Details about the observation report (1) are given in the first session of the course and students' questions about the observations are answered in details in the second session.

Final essay: it consists of a written essay of 2000-2600 words based on a critical assessment of the literature read in class.

Final observation report: it consists of two parts: observation notes (1000-1300 words) and analysis (1000-1300 words) with 3 literature references (to texts read in class). Observation notes record an ethnographic observation in a particular setting. The analysis refers to sociological concepts and ideas derived from a close analysis of observation data and connected to the literature read in class.

Details about the final observation report and essay are given in the first session of the course and students' questions are answered in details in the following sessions.

V. Sources

5.1 Main Literature

1. Varisco, Daniel Martin, 2011: Reading Orientalism : Said and the Unsaid. URL https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/hselibrary-ebooks/detail.action?docID=3444471&query=varisco ProQuest

2. Mills, C.Wright; Gitlin, Todd, 2000: The Sociological Imagination. URL https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/hselibrary-ebooks/detail.action?docID=497661&query=sociological+imagination+ ProQuest

3. Kearney, Michael, 1991: Borders and Boundaries of State and Self: the End of Empire, Journal of Historical Sociology 4(1): 52-74. URL https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/j.1467-6443.1991.tb00116.x Wiley Online Library

4. Grosfoguel, Ramán, 2004: Race and Ethnicity or Racialized Ethnicities?: Identities within Global Coloniality, Ethnicities 4(3): 315-336. URL https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/1468796804045237 SAGE Journals

5. Kaviraj, Sudipta, 2005: On the Enchantment of the State: Indian thought on the role of the State in the Narrative of Modernity, European Journal of Sociology 46(2): 263-296. URL https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/european-journal-of-sociology-archives-europeennes-de-sociologie/article/on-the-enchantment-of-the-state-indian-thought-on-the-role-of-the-state-in-the-narrative-of-modernity/10B9418A6AA71324C0B3A8E459958D1A Cambridge University Press

6. Herva, Soma, 1988: The Genesis of Max Weber's Verstehende Soziologie, Acta Sociologica 31(2): 143-156. URL https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/000169938803100203 SAGE Journals

7. Pader, Ellen, 2006: Seeing with an ethnographic sensibility: Explorations beneath the surface of public policies, in Yanow, Dvora; Schwartz-Shea, Peregrine (eds), 2006: Interpretation and Method : Empirical Research Methods and the Interpretive Turn, 161-175. URL https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/hselibrary-ebooks/detail.action?docID=302458&query=dvora+yanow ProQuest

Additional Literature

1. Yosso, Tara J., 2005: Whose culture has capital? A critical race theory discussion of community cultural wealth, Race Ethnicity and Education 8(1): 69-91. URL https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/1361332052000341006 Taylor & Francis

2. Lukens-Bull, Ronald, 2007: Lost in a sea of subjectivity: The subject position of the researcher in the anthropology of Islam, Contemporary Islam 1(2): 173-192. URL https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11562-007-0014-y Springer

3. Spickard, James V., 2013: Accepting the post-colonial challenge: Theorizing a Khaldûnian approach to the Marian apparition at Medjugorje, Critical Research on Religion 1(2): 158-176. URL https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/2050303213490039 SAGE Journals

5.1 **Software**

№ п/п	Name	Access conditions
1.	MicrosoftWindows 7 Professional RUS MicrosoftWindows 10 MicrosoftWindows 8.1 Professional RUS	*From the university's internal network (contract)*
2.	Microsoft Office Professional Plus 2010	*From the university's internal network (contract)*
3.	R, R studio, R Markdown	*From the university's internal network (contract)*

1.3. Professional data bases, information systmes, internet resources (online educational resources):

№ п/п	Title	Access
	Professional data bases	
1.	European Social Surveys databases	Open access. URL: https://www.europeansocialsurvey.org/
	Internet resources (online educational resources)	
2.	Coursera	URL: https://www.coursera.org

5.4.Material and technical support

Classrooms for lectures on the discipline provide for the use and demonstration of thematic illustrations corresponding to the program of the discipline, consisting of:
- PC with Internet access (operating system, office software, antivirus software);
- multimedia projector with remote control.

5.2