

Subject card

Subject name and code	Contemporary Sociological Theories, PG_00176624						
Field of study	Sociology						
Date of commencement of studies	October 2025		Academic year of realisation of subject		2026/2027		
Education level	Bachelor's studies		Subject group		Obligatory subject group in the field of study Subject group related to scientific research in the field of study		
Mode of study	full-time studies		Mode of delivery		at the university		
Year of study	2		Language of instruction		Polish		
Semester of study	3		ECTS credits		2.0		
Learning profile	academic		Assessment form		exam		
Conducting unit	Institute of Sociology -> Faculty of Social Sciences -> Rector						
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor		dr hab. Michał Kaczmarczyk				
	Teachers						
Lesson types	Lesson type	Lecture	Tutorial	Laboratory	Project	Seminar	SUM
	Number of study hours	30.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	30
	E-learning hours included: 0.0						
Learning activity and number of study hours	Learning activity	Participation in didactic classes included in study plan		Participation in consultation hours		Self-study	SUM
	Number of study hours	30		0.0		20.0	50
Subject objectives	The goal of the course "Contemporary Sociological Theories" is to provide students with an in-depth understanding of the major theoretical frameworks that shape contemporary sociological thought. Students will explore and critically evaluate key concepts, theories, and perspectives from a variety of sociological traditions, fostering their ability to apply these theories to current social issues and phenomena.						

Learning outcomes	Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
	[SOCL3_U02] The graduate is able to use theoretical knowledge from different streams of sociology and acquire data to analyse specific social processes and phenomena	1. Analysis and Critical Evaluation of Sociological Theories: a. The student can critically evaluate different sociological theories and their application to the analysis of contemporary social issues. b. The student can compare and contrast different theoretical approaches.	[SU4] test/exam - oral or written
	[SOCL3_W09] The graduate knows and understands various views on social life and selected social structures and institutions expressed in the everyday world, public and scientific discourse, and is familiar with their historical evolution	1. Understanding and Knowledge of Contemporary Sociological Theories: a. The student has extensive knowledge of the main trends and theories in contemporary sociology. b. The student knows and understands the key concepts, assumptions, and arguments presented by leading theorists.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written
	[SOCL3_K06] The graduate is ready to supplement and refine the acquired knowledge and skills	1. Application of Theories to Real Social Problems: a. The student can apply sociological theories to the analysis of specific cases and social phenomena. b. The student can identify the practical implications of theoretical concepts in a social context.	[SK4] test/exam - oral or written
	[SOCL3_U08] The graduate is able to analyse current social phenomena in the context of knowledge about the mechanisms of human activity, the impact of a group on an individual and the processes of change that Polish society, European society and that of the world undergoes	1. Communication and Presentation of Knowledge: a. The student can effectively communicate complex ideas and theoretical arguments in both written and oral forms. b. The student can prepare and deliver presentations on contemporary sociological theories.	[SU4] test/exam - oral or written
	[SOCL3_W05] The graduate has advanced knowledge of man as a subject constituting social structures and the rules of their functioning, as well as acting in these structures and participating in cultural practices in the local, regional environment, the area of national culture and global exchange	1. Critical Thinking and Problem Solving: a. The student can identify, analyze, and solve complex social problems using sociological theories. b. The student develops the ability to think critically and reflect on contemporary social challenges.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written
	[SOCL3_W08] The graduate knows and understands in an advanced way the character and directions of the most significant changes in the scope of social structures and institutions and their elements, he/she has knowledge about the causes, course and consequences of these changes on a micro- and macro-social scale and on a global scale	1. Understanding Intersectionality and Social Diversity: a. The student is aware of the importance of intersectionality and diversity in social analysis. b. The student can analyze social phenomena considering diverse perspectives and social experiences.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written

Subject contents	1. Talcott Parsons' Functionalism 2. Pragmatism and Symbolic Interactionism 3. Erving Goffman's Dramaturgical Theory 4. Social Phenomenology 5. Rational Choice Theory 6. Niklas Luhmann's Functionalism 7. The Theory of Communicative Action 8. Network Theories in Sociology 9. Structuralism and Post-Structuralism 10. Modernization Theories 11. Neodurkheimian Culturalism 12. Feminist Theories		
Prerequisites and co-requisites	Completion of the previous semester of studies		
Assessment methods and criteria	Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
	Test exam	50.0%	100.0%
Recommended reading	Basic literature	Jonathan Turner, Struktura teorii socjologicznej, PWN 2007.	
	Supplementary literature	1. Talcott Parsons, System społeczny, Nomos 2009. 2. Niklas Luhmann, Systemy społeczne, Nomos 2012. 3. Harrison C. White, Tożsamość i kontrola. Jak wyłaniają się formacje społeczne, Nomos 2011. 4. Jeffrey Alexander, Znaczenia społeczne. Studia z socjologii kulturowej, Nomos 2011.	
	eResources addresses		
Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	Differences between Parsons' and Luhmann's Functionalism Main Assumptions of Rational Choice Theory What does the stage mean in Goffman's Dramaturgical Theory?		
Work placement	Not applicable		

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