

Subject card

Subject name and code	Ethical challenges of sociology - auditorium classes, PG_00176574						
Field of study	Sociology						
Date of commencement of studies	October 2026		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	1		Language of instruction		Polish		
Semester of study	2		ECTS credits		2.0		
Learning profile	academic		Assessment form		credit		
Conducting unit	Division of Sociological Theory and Social Research Methodology -> Institute of Sociology -> Faculty of Social Sciences -> Rector						
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor		dr Wojciech Zieliński				
	Teachers						
Lesson types	Lesson type	Lecture	Tutorial	Laboratory	Project	Seminar	SUM
	Number of study hours	0.0	30.0	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	Developing the skills of: (a) understanding the axiological problems of contemporary science and its social functions, (b) recognizing the ethical problems of the profession, (c) understanding the social responsibility of a sociologist-researcher and analyst, (d) recognizing ethical issues resolved based on the axiological consensus of the profession.						

Learning outcomes	Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
	[SOCL3_K05] The graduate is ready to think and act in an entrepreneurial manner	The student is able to think and act in an entrepreneurial way, taking into account the ethical consequences of undertaken research activities.	[SK1] oral statement/conversation/discussion
	[SOCL3_K04] The graduate is ready to supplement and refine the acquired knowledge and skills	The student has the ability to continuously improve his knowledge and skills in the field of social research ethics in order to improve the quality of conducted research.	[SK8] observation of student's independent or team work
	[SOCL3_K02] The graduate is ready to recognise and accurately resolve dilemmas related to his/her profession	The student is ready to accurately recognize and resolve ethical dilemmas in a professional context, including conflicts of interest and data manipulation.	[SK8] observation of student's independent or team work
	[SOCL3_K01] The graduate is ready to appropriately determine priorities in the implementation of a specific task	The student is ready to determine ethical priorities when implementing research projects, taking into account the principles of neutrality and involvement.	[SK8] observation of student's independent or team work
	[SOCL3_U07] The graduate is able to analyse proposed solutions to a specific problem in sociology and decide on appropriate solutions	The student is able to assess the ethical aspects of proposed solutions to research problems, including the impact of research on society and individuals.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/discussion
	[SOCL3_U06] The graduate is able to use the acquired sociological knowledge to resolve dilemmas arising in professional work	The student is prepared to make ethical decisions in the context of various roles of a sociologist, taking into account the principles of scientific responsibility.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/discussion
	[SOCL3_U05] The graduate is able to apply legal, professional and ethical norms and rules when solving a specific task in the field of sociology	The student is able to apply knowledge of ethical, legal and moral standards to solve specific problems in the professional work of a sociologist.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/discussion
	[SOCL3_W07] The graduate has an advanced knowledge about the ethical and moral norms of social life as well as legal and organisational norms regulating social life, is familiar with the processes of their introduction and changes	The graduate has an advanced knowledge about the ethical and moral norms of social life as well as legal and organisational norms regulating social life, is familiar with the processes of their introduction and changes.	[SW1] oral statement/conversation/discussion

Subject contents	The concept and issues of ethics		
	Values in life and learning		
	Science as an unnecessary product		
	Moral subjectivity of the researcher		
	The credo of critical rationalism		
	The multiplicity of roles of a sociologist		
	Postulates of scientific responsibility		
	Ethical aspects of social research		
	Codes of professional ethics		
	Political aspects of social research		
	The temptations of social engineering		
	Neutrality and commitment in sociology		
	Through knowledge towards wisdom of action		
Prerequisites and co-requisites	Promotion to the second semester of studies.		
Assessment methods and criteria	Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
	Conscious and active participation in classes, discussion of the selected reading.	51.0%	100.0%
Recommended reading	Basic literature	Earl R. Babbie, The Practice of Social Research	
		Norbert Elias, Commitment and neutrality	
		Jacek Hołówka, Ethics in Action	
		C. Wright Mills, The Sociological Imagination	
		Stefan Nowak, Methodology of Social Research	
		Maria Ossowska, Moral Norms: An Attempt at Systematization	
		Stanisław Ossowski, On the Peculiarities of the Social Sciences	
		Karl R. Popper, The Poverty of Historicism	
		Florian Znaniecki, The Social Role of the Man of Knowledge	

	Supplementary literature	Earl R. Babbie, The Basics of Social Research Richard B. Brandt, Ethics: Issues in Normative Ethics and Metaethics Aniela Dylus, Ethical Issues of Science According to Representatives of the Lwów-Warsaw School Ryszard Dyoniziak, Polls and Manipulation of Society Ethical Aspects of Social Research, edited by K. Zamiara Professional Ethics of Scientists, edited by J. Goćkowski, K. Pigoń Sławomir Kaprański, Values and Sociological Knowledge Wiesław Wątroba, Sociology and Fallibilism Wojciech Zieliński, The Status of Ethics in Postmodern Culture: An Analysis of Zygmunt Bauman's Propositions
	eResources addresses	
Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	Should you obey authority figures? Are knowledge and morality mutually exclusive? Can morality be shaped by law? Why is it difficult to reach consensus among sociologists on which research problems should be considered priority?	
Work placement	Not applicable	

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