

## Discipline status

### 1. Programme information

1.1	University	UNIVERSITY OF BUCHAREST
1.2	Faculty/Department	FACULTY OF SOCIOLOGY AND SOCIAL WORK
1.3	Department	DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY
1.4	Study domain	SOCIOLOGY
1.5	Study degree	MASTER
1.6	Study Programme	SOCIOLOGY – Research in Sociology

### 2. Discipline information

2.1	Discipline name		Cognition and epistemology					
2.2	Persons in charge of the course		Prof.Stoenescu Constantin					
2.3	Person in charge of the laboratory		Prof.Stoenescu Constantin					
2.4	Grade	II	2.5 Semester	II	2.6 Evaluation type	E	2.7 Status of the discipline	Compulsory

### 3. Timpul total estimat (ore pe semestru al activităților didactice)

3.1	Număr de ore pe săptămână	2	din care: 3.2 curs	1	3.3 seminar/laborator	1
3.4	Total ore din planul de învățământ	28	din care: 3.5 curs	14	3.6 seminar/laborator	14
Distribuția fondului de timp						
Studiul după manual, suport de curs, bibliografie și notițe						40
Documentare suplimentară în bibliotecă, pe platformele electronice de specialitate și pe teren						40
Pregătire seminarii/laboratoare, teme, referate, portofolii și eseuri						40
Tutoriat						
Examinări						2
Alte activități						
3.7	Total ore studiu individual					122
3.9	Total ore pe semestru					150
3.10	Numărul de credite					6

### 4. Prerequisites (where relevant)

4.1	curriculum-related	-
4.2	competency-related	-

### 5. Pre-requirements

5.1. Regarding the course attendance	Previous lecture of required bibliography
5.2. Regarding the laboratory attendance	50% attendance and active participation in discussions

### 7. Educational objectives

7.1	General objective	The class provides an introduction to the philosophical foundations of the human sciences.
7.2	Operational objectives	The core idea is that the social sciences have an essential philosophical component part, whether or not the social scientists are willing to acknowledge this fact and this value commitment. The philosophical problems of the social sciences are linked to the more general problems of philosophy, indeed they are applications of those foundational philosophical issues such as metaphysical or epistemological or ethical problems. Chief amongst those issues that we shall address in the class are: the methodological divide - naturalism vs. interpretation; the explanation of human action; actions, intentionality, and the mind-body problem; behaviorism in the behavioral

	sciences; holism and antireductionism in sociology and psychology; functionalism as a research program a.s.o.
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## 8. Contents

8. 1 Course topics	Teaching methods	Notes
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Introduction</li> <li>2. Naturalism vs. Interpretation</li> <li>3. The explanation of human action</li> <li>4. Actions, Intentionality, and the Mind-Body Problem</li> <li>5. Behaviorism in the Behavioral Sciences</li> <li>6. Problems of Rational Choice Theory</li> <li>7. Social Psychology and the Construction of Society</li> <li>8. Holism and Antireductionism in Sociology and Psychology</li> <li>9. Functionalism as a Research Program</li> <li>10. Facts and Values in the Human Sciences</li> </ol>	Lecture	
<p>The main textbook for the class is Alexander Rosenberg, <i>Philosophy of Social Science, Fifth Edition</i>, Routledge, 2016.</p> <p>We shall also use two edited volumes which consist in essays on the topics that we address in the class:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Lee McIntyre and Alexander Rosenberg (eds.) <i>The Routledge Companion to Philosophy of Social Science</i>, Routledge, 2017</li> <li>2. Harold Kincaid (ed.), <i>The Oxford Handbook of Philosophy of Social Science</i>, Oxford, 2012.</li> </ol>		
8. 2 Laboratory drills	Teaching methods	Notes
The contents of the laboratory similar to those of the course.	Presentations, debates, applications.	

## 9. Discipline content correlation with/validation by the expectations of epistemic communities as well as of those belonging to professional associations and employers, all related to the cognitive field of the discipline

Fundamental and applied research depends on a profound mastery of methodological options. Employers in research institutes, as well as employers in institutions that rely on social analysis, require methodological accuracy and conceptual adequation from graduates, abilities strengthened through this course.

## 10. Evaluation

Type of activity	10.1 Criteria of evaluation	10.2 Methods of evaluation	10.3 Weight in the final mark
10.4 Course	Each student is supposed to work on a research paper which will eventually turn into an essay. Students will make presentations in the seminars. The final grade consists in the final essay (70%), the presentation in the seminar (20%), and the physical attendance at at least half of the seminars (10%).	Essay evaluation	<b>70%</b>
10.5 Laboratory	Active participation in seminar discussions  Presentation in seminar	Attendance lists  Public presentation assessment	<b>10%</b>  <b>20%</b>
10.6 Minimal standard			
The essay proves understanding of the main course topics. Public presentation proves ability to present scientific and philosophical arguments, and to enter a productive dialogue with the audience. Attendance is required for half of the seminars.			

Datei

Professor in charge of course

Professor in charge of laboratory

**ANNEX**

**b. Evaluation – mark increase**

Type of activity	10.1 Criteria of evaluation	10.2 Methods of evaluation	10.3 Weight in the final mark
10.4 Course	Each student is supposed to work on a research paper which will eventually turn into an essay. Students will make presentations in the seminars. The final grade consists in the final essay (70%), the presentation in the seminar (20%), and the physical attendance at at least half of the seminars (10%).	Essay evaluation	<b>70%</b>
10.5 Laboratory	Active participation in seminar discussions  Presentation in seminar	Attendance lists  Public presentation assessment	<b>10%</b>  <b>20%</b>
<b>10.6 Minimal standard</b>			
The essay proves understanding of the main course topics. Public presentation proves ability to present scientific and philosophical arguments, and to enter a productive dialogue with the audience. Attendance is required for half of the seminars.			

**c. Evaluation – re-examination**

Type of activity	10.1 Criteria of evaluation	10.2 Methods of evaluation	10.3 Weight in the final mark
10.4 Course	Each student is supposed to work on a research paper which will eventually turn into an essay. Students will make presentations in the seminars. The final grade consists in the final essay (70%), the presentation in the seminar (20%), and the physical attendance at at least half of the seminars (10%).	Essay evaluation	<b>70%</b>
10.5 Laboratory	Active participation in seminar discussions  Presentation in seminar	Attendance lists  Public presentation assessment	<b>10%</b>  <b>20%</b>
<b>10.6 Minimal standard</b>			
The essay proves understanding of the main course topics. Public presentation proves ability to present scientific and philosophical arguments, and to enter a productive dialogue with the audience. Attendance is required for half of the seminars.			