LOPES1330

2015-2016

Sociology : social structures and social change

6.0 credits	30.0 h + 10.0 h	1q

Teacher(s) :	Wynants Bernadette ; Verhoeven Marie ; Nizet Jean ;
Language :	Français
Place of the course	Louvain-la-Neuve
Main themes :	In order to reach these goals, the course will focus on the presentation and discussion of at least two paradigms, which will be used heuristically to analyse some relevant contemporary social issues. The paradigms could for example be mobilised in order to analyse - social classes, social status, assets, social fields and their changing processes; - culture, cultural models and symbolical systems, and their changing processes; - social control, power relationship and social movement; - socialisation processes, individuation process (identity building), contemporary individualisation process; - "la question sociale" (the social issue ?) and its contemporary dynamics of change. This course will provide the basics to others, to which it will therefore be connected : - sociology of organisations" (power and legitimacy issues); -" psychological and social bases of inequalities and discrimination" (individual and collective psychosocial effects of inequality) -" sociology of cultural inequalities" (symbolical and cultural inequality as a specific issue) ; - social actors : mobilisation and demobilisation" (collective agency and social change).
Aims :	At the end of this course, students will be able : to establish a clear distinction between an analytical sociological approach, a normative evaluation and expertise. - to integrate the main components of sociological analysis (theoretical building, epistemological breaking from common sense and official categories, replacing social structures in their historical context, distinguishing between micro, meso and macro-level analysis); - to understand the classical paradigms in sociology (functionalism, structuralism, marxism, rational choice theories) and their analytical and ideological foundations; and to understand the main debates in contemporary sociology (constructivism, interactionism, structuration theories,); - to link the analysis of social structure to the analysis of (individual and collective) social agency ; - to establish a link between theoretical concepts and social processes experienced in current life. *The contribution of this Teaching Unit to the development and command of the skills and learning outcomes of the programme(s) can be accessed at the end of this sheet, in the section entitled “Programmes/courses offering this Teaching Unit”.*
Faculty or entity in charge:	OPES