

Department of Humanities and Social Sciences

Course Profile

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| Course Number : HSS 325 | Course Title : Formations of Modernity |
| Required / Elective : Elective | Pre / Co-requisites : - |
| <p>Catalog Description: Europe: a source of innovation and stability, conquest, and freedom, war and peacemaking, capitalism and socialism, the rule of law and terror, and of modernity and its critics since the Reformation, the French, and the Industrial revolutions. Differences between East and West. The production of Modern Europe: the three core concepts (capital, coercion and contention). ‘Traveling Modernism’. The human dislocation and alienation in the modern world.</p> | <p>Textbook / Required Material : Formations of Modernity”, Edited by Stuart Hall and Bram Gieben, The Open university, 1992</p> |
| Course Structure / Schedule : (3+0+0) 3 / 6 ECTS | |
| <p>Extended Description :</p> <p>This course is concerned with the process of formation which led to the emergence of modern societies. When, how, and why did modern societies emerge? What were the key processes which shaped their development? What are the defining features of modern societies? The emergence of modern societies is not only related to industrialization in the 19th century, but it is a global phenomenon of social and economic development which followed the decline of feudalism in Western Europe. This process is marked by major historical transitions such as the Reformation, the Enlightenment, the formation of the modern state. Besides the intellectual emancipation and the changing economic and sovereignty structures, the ‘birth of the social’ as and object of knowledge made possible for the first time the systemic analysis and the practices of the ‘social sciences’.</p> | |
| <u>Course Outline:</u> | |
| Week | Topics |
| 1 | Introduction |
| 2 | What is modernity ? |
| 3 | The Enlightenment |
| 4 | The Enlightenment philosophers |
| 5 | Encyclopedie |
| 6 | Tradition and modernity |

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| 7 | Social orders and social structure |
| 8 | Absolutist states – modern-state – nation-state |
| 9 | Sovereignty |
| 10 | Development of modern state ; Hobbes |
| 11 | Economic formation of modernity ; free-market, division of labor, consumerism |
| 12 | Changing social structures ; social classes |
| 13 | Industrial society and feminism |
| 14 | Changing moral values ; disenchantment of the world |
| 15 | Conclusion |

Design content : none

Computer usage: No particular computer usage required

Course Outcomes:

| | Program Outcomes | *Level of Contribution | | | | |
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| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1 | Apply analytical and critical thinking skills to contemporary global issues. | | | | | X |
| 2 | Describe the interrelationships between science, technology, and society. | | | | X | |
| 3 | Describe the interrelationships between art, culture, and society. | | | | | X |
| 4 | Explain the historical, political and economic conditions in which science and technology emerge. | | | | X | |
| 5 | Explain the historical, political and material conditions in which art and cultural expression emerge. | | | | | X |
| 6 | Analyze how modes of thought are shaped by socio-cultural, historical, political and economic variables. | | | | | X |
| 7 | Apply discipline-relevant methods to HSS research assignments. | | | | | |
| 8 | Summarize and assess current developments in their subject area. | | | | | X |

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| 9 | Recognize ethical issues and social responsibilities in the contemporary world. | | | | X | |
| 10 | Synthesize complex ideas in clear and concise ways. | | | | X | |
| 11 | Generate creative solutions to local and/or global problems. | | | X | | |
| 12 | Recognize relevance of coursework to personal experiences, lifelong learning, and job security. | | | | | |
| 13 | Demonstrate an ability to function on teams. | | X | | | |
| 14 | Demonstrate an ability to communicate effectively with written, oral and visual means. | | | | X | |

Recommended reading :

Antony Giddens, "The Consequences of Modernity", Polity Press, 1990

Zygmund Baumann, "Liquid Modernity", Blackwell Publishing, 1998

Teaching methods :Class participation: Pre-class readings, lecture and class discussions, individual readings and team work for presentation.

Assessment methods : Mid-term, term presentation, final

Student workload:

Pre-reading35hrs

Preparatory reading and studying60 hrs

Lectures, workshops and team work55 hrs

TOTAL 150 hrs ... to match 25 x 6 ECTS

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