

COURSE CONTENT

Course Code / Title : HS3001 Contemporary Social Theory

Pre-requisites : HS1001 Person and Society
HS2001 Classical Social Theory
HS2002 Doing Social Research

No. of AUs. : 3

Contact Hours : 39

Course Aims

This course is designed to provide an overview of noteworthy recent – several decades of – theoretical perspectives derived from sociology, anthropology, science and technology studies and political theory. The course goal is to help students interrogate social and cultural phenomena in contemporary societies. After taking this course, students should be able to reflect on—and ask better questions about—the workings of culture, society, and individual and collective identities in the broader world and in their own lives.

By bringing the theories of previous decades to bear on contemporary concerns, students will gain an understanding of the contemporary relevance and practical utility of engaging with long-standing conversations in social theory.

Intended Learning Outcomes (ILO)

By the end of this course, you should be able to:

1. Recognize and understand the relevance of a range of contemporary sociological theories to current transformations in society.
2. Apply contemporary social theory to reflect on societal transformations and their consequences.

Course Content

Week 1: Introduction to the topic and syllabus

Week 2: Symbolic Action

Week 3: Culture

Week 4: Institutions

Week 5: Cultural Production

Week 6: Value/ Exchange

Week 7: Performance

Week 8: Team Essay assigned in class. Teams work during class with support of instructor to design and plan their essay.

Week 9: Modernity

Week 10: Power/Knowledge

Week 11: Rationality and Reason

Week 12: Science and Society

Week 13: Crisis and Change

Course Assessment

CA1	Blog Post	: 10%
CA2	Participation	: 10%
CA3	Team Essay	: 30%
	Final Examination	: 50%

Total		100%