

COURSE CONTENT

Course Code / Title : HS3016 Societies in Comparative Perspective

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 teaches students to understand societies through the comparative method, focusing particularly on the categories of race, ethnicity, gender, nationality, demography, post-colonial history, scientific development and globalization. Source material will draw heavily on Singapore, Israel, and Qatar, three multi-racial post-British protectorates with advanced development in science and technology and each with a unique history of national identity formation.

Each week will focus on a particular theme of comparison, asking how we can understand each society through each specific lens of comparison. Through the course of the lectures students will understand the varied ways societies can be compared, yielding a rich analytic toolkit for deploying the comparative method.

Intended Learning Outcomes (ILO)

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

1. Identity the different ways sociologists and anthropologists can understand societies comparatively.
2. Describe the key theories that can be used to understand societies comparatively.
3. Extend the lessons learned in class to compare other societies around the world.

Course Content

Week 1	Introduction to the course
Week 2	National Identity
Week 3	Ethnicity
Week 4	Race
Week 5	Demography

Week 6	Science and Technology
Week 7	Globalization
Week 8	Mid-term exam/quiz
Week 9	Constitutions of peoplehood
Week 10	Settler Colonialism/Post Colonialism
Week 11	Indigeneity
Week 12	Religion
Week 12	Layered Comparisons
Week 13	Review of course, class Q&A

Course Assessment

CA1	Mid-Term Test	: 20%
CA2	Class Participation	: 20%
CA3	Presentation	: 10%
	Final Examination	: 50%
Total		----- 100%