

COURSE OUTLINE

Course Code / Title : HS4091 Honours Seminar "Sociology of the Arts"

Pre-requisites : HS1001 Person and Society
HS2001 Classical Social Theory,
HS2002 Doing Social Research,
HS3001 Contemporary Social Theory,
HS3002 Understanding Social Statistics

No. of AUs. : 4 AUs

Contact Hours : 52

Course Aims

This course focuses on sociological perspectives on “the arts”, with special attention paid to the visual arts (although we will also discuss the literary and performing arts). We examine basic questions, e.g.: “What is art?”, “What is a work of art?” and “What is involved in art-making?”. We analyze processes of artistic creation and the roles of key persons and institutions in the making of “art worlds” and “arts ecosystems”, including artists, audiences, consumers, curators, critics, collectors, dealers, arts administrators and entrepreneurs, museums, galleries, government agencies, and commercial parties (e.g., auction houses). In so doing, we attempt to understand the interrelations between “art” (or “the arts”) and politics (esp. the state), commerce (esp. the art market and the cultural or creative industries) and social divisions (esp. class and gender).

Intended Learning Outcomes (ILO)

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

1. Apply key concepts and sociological theories developed within classical and contemporary sociology in general.
2. Analyse relevant social phenomena using course concepts.

More detailed information will be provided by the teaching professor.

Course Content

To be advised and will be submitted by the teaching professor.

Course Assessment

CA1	Class participation	: 15%
CA2	Group Presentation	: 20%
CA3	Review Assignment	: 30%
CA4	Term Paper	: 35%
Total		-----
		100%