



COURSE SYLLABUS

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I. Course description

Sociology of Culture

Kultúraszociológia

Neptun code	Academic year	C/E	Assessment	Contact hours (th/pr)	Credit	Language	Semester
BMEGT431143	2017/18	E	intra-term grading	2/0	2	English	Fall

Lecturer



[Róza Emília Barna](#), Assistant Professor
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Depart. of Sociology and Communication

Required knowledge

-

Compulsory/recommended preliminary courses

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Course description

The course introduces basic theories of the Sociology of Culture and Cultural Studies relating to identity, subcultures, taste, gender and ethnicity, as well as presenting and discussing their practical relevance.

Throughout the term, we will critically examine the concepts of high, mass and subculture, as well as those of nation, tradition, and community. The aim of this critical inquiry is not the relativisation of the mentioned concepts, but the introduction of those processes of social construction that lead to the emergence, consolidation and at times (re)negotiation of these categories and the related values and emotions. Through such inquiry, we are aiming towards a more nuanced understanding of the social-cultural conflicts of today's globalised society by the end of the term. Beyond presenting relevant theories and literature, the goal is to discuss the practical relevance and applicability of the observations through examples taken from across the globe.

Course topics

Wednesday
16:15-17:45

Weekly Topics

Introduction: Culture and Society

2017.09.06

Ajánlott irodalom

- [Williams, Raymond. 1983 \[1976\]. Culture. In Keywords: A Vocabulary of Culture and Society. Oxford University Press](#)

Taste and Social Stratification

2017.09.13

Ajánlott irodalom

- Bourdieu, Pierre, 1979/2002. "Introduction" + "The Aristocracy of Culture" Distinction. A Social Critique of the Judgement of Taste. London: Routledge, 1-18.

2017.09.20

[School Holiday](#)

SPORTS DAY – NO CLASS

Popular Culture and High Culture

2017.09.27

Ajánlott irodalom

- Gans, Herbert. 1974. The Critique of Mass Culture. In: Popular Culture and High Culture. An Analysis and Evaluation of Taste. New York: Basic Books, 19-64.

Researching Subcultures: from Deviance to Neo-tribes

2017.10.04

Ajánlott irodalom

- Bennett, Andy. 1999. Subcultures or Neo-Tribes? Rethinking the relationship between youth, style and musical taste, *Sociology* Vol.33(3): 599-617.

Popular music, Youth and Subcultural Authenticity

2017.10.11

Ajánlott irodalom

- Hodkinson, Paul. 2002. Insiders and Outsiders. In: *Goth: Identity, Style and Subculture*. Oxford and New York: Berg, 65-84.

2017.10.18

The Faces of Poverty. Research and Representation

Ajánlott irodalom

- Udvarhelyi, Tessa Éva. 2010. Man on the street: Anthropology, citizenship, and the fight for housing rights in Hungary, *Practicing Anthropology* Vol.32(2): 17-20.

2017.10.25 Test 1 (mid-term)

2017.11.01 NATIONAL HOLIDAY – NO CLASS

[School Holiday](#)

Identity and the Nation as Imagined Community

2017.11.08

Ajánlott irodalom

- Hall, Stuart. 1995. The question of cultural identity. In: Stuart Hall et al. eds. *Modernity: An Introduction to Modern Societies*. Blackwell, 596-633.

Ethnicity and Popular Culture

2017.11.15

Ajánlott irodalom

- Imre, Anikó. 2006. Global Entertainment and the European 'Roma Problem', *Third Text* Vol.20(6): 659-670.

Community rituals. Memory and identity. Nostalgia

2017.11.22

Ajánlott irodalom

- Boym, Svetlana. 2001. Reflective nostalgia: Virtual reality and collective memory. In: *The Future of Nostalgia*. New York: Basic Books, 49-55.

Technology and Society

2017.11.29

Ajánlott irodalom

- Baym, Nancy K. 1996. Personal Connections in the Digital Age. *Polity*, Chapters 1 + 2.

2017.12.06 Test 2 (end-of- term)

Readings

- Baym, Nancy K. 1996. Personal Connections in the Digital Age. *Polity*, Chapters 1 + 2.
- Bennett, Andy. 1999. Subcultures or Neo-Tribes? Rethinking the relationship between youth, style and musical taste, *Sociology* Vol.33(3): 599-617.
- Bourdieu, Pierre, 1979/2002. "Introduction" + "The Aristocracy of Culture" *Distinction. A Social Critique of the Judgement of Taste*. London: Routledge, 1-18.
- Boym, Svetlana. 2001. Reflective nostalgia: Virtual reality and collective memory. In: *The Future of Nostalgia*. New York: Basic Books, 49-55.
- Gans, Herbert. 1974. The Critique of Mass Culture. In: *Popular Culture and High Culture. An Analysis and Evaluation of Taste*. New York: Basic Books, 19-64.
- Hall, Stuart. 1995. The question of cultural identity. In: Stuart Hall et al. eds. *Modernity: An Introduction to Modern Societies*. Blackwell, 596-633.
- Hodkinson, Paul. 2002. Insiders and Outsiders. In: *Goth: Identity, Style and Subculture*. Oxford and New York: Berg, 65-84.

- Imre, Anikó. 2006. Global Entertainment and the European 'Roma Problem', *Third Text* Vol.20(6): 659-670.
- Udvarhelyi, Tessza Éva. 2010. Man on the street: Anthropology, citizenship, and the fight for housing rights in Hungary, *Practicing Anthropology* Vol.32(2): 17-20.
- [Williams, Raymond. 1983 \[1976\]. Culture. In *Keywords: A Vocabulary of Culture and Society*. Oxford University Press](#)

Teaching method

theory

Course Requirements

Re-sit possibilities

According to the Study and Exam Regulation

Consultation

E.713 Monday 14:00-16:00

Course requirements

- reading of compulsory literature for classes in advance before every lecture;
- regular and active participation during classes;
- successful completion of two tests (mid-term and end-of- term).

In order to successfully complete the course, you need to regularly attend classes and prepare for them by reading the appointed reading material (provided by the course instructor) in advance. It is requested that you bring the texts with you to the class. Failing to attend classes not only results in diminishing results in the assessment of your class activity, but even more importantly, it will also make it difficult to come to terms with key concepts, relevance and application of course reading material. These issues are extensively discussed in class meetings, so it is in everyone's best interest to attend.

Evaluation criteria

The tests will each consist of 5 short essay questions. It is possible to (re)write one missed or failed test during the week commencing 11 December 2017, or both tests if justified and certified (e.g. in the case of illness or a study trip).

Components of the grade:

- Class work: 20%
- Two tests: 80%

Evaluation

95-100%	Excellent [A]
90-94%	Very Good [B]
77-89%	Good [C]
64-76%	Satisfactory [D]
50-63%	Pass [E]
0-49%	Fail [F]

Student work required for the completion of the course

Contact hour	40%
Preparation for classes	10%
Preparation for test	40%
Learning written material	10%
Sum	100%

Course leader

név	beosztás	tanszék
Barna Róza Emília	egyetemi adjunktus	BME Szociológia és Kommunikáció Tanszék