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ФИО: Ястребов Олег Александрович
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**Federal State Autonomous Educational Institution of Higher Education
PEOPLES' FRIENDSHIP UNIVERSITY OF RUSSIA
RUDN University**

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

educational division (faculty/institute/academy) as higher education program developer

COURSE SYLLABUS

Contemporary society in the sociological perspective: key findings and mistakes

course title

Recommended by the Didactic Council for the Education Field of:

39.03.01 Sociology

field of studies / speciality code and title

The course instruction is implemented within the professional education programme of higher education:

Sociology

higher education programme profile/specialisation title

1. COURSE GOAL(s)

The course aims to educate students in mastering the main conceptual and methodological possibilities of sociology in English, which will allow them to more objectively evaluate and interpret social processes, phenomena and problems based on sociological data from both Russian and foreign sources.

Thus, the course guides students to learn how

- expand their categorical apparatus and structure their general sociological knowledge in English;
- understand the possibilities and limitations of different social models based on Russian and foreign sources;
- develop their methodological culture in English;
- expand their professional horizons based on foreign sources;
- support their professional activities in English.

2. REQUIREMENTS FOR LEARNING OUTCOMES

Mastering the discipline expects students to acquire the following competences /(competences in part):

Table 2.1. List of competences that students acquire through the course study

Competence code	Competence descriptor	Competence formation indicators (within this course)
GPC-4	Able to identify socially significant problems and ways to solve them based on theoretical knowledge and the results of sociological research	GPC-4.1. Demonstrates the possibilities of using theoretical knowledge and the results of sociological research for identifying socially significant problems
		GPC-4.2. Identifies socially significant problems when using descriptive, explanatory and predictive models of social phenomena and processes
		GPC-4.3. Formulates research objectives to design solutions to socially significant problems based on theoretical knowledge and the results of specific sociological studies

3. COURSE IN HIGHER EDUCATION PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

The discipline “Contemporary society in the sociological perspective: key findings and mistakes” refers to the part formed by the participants of educational relations, block B1 of the the higher educational programme curriculum.

Within the higher education program students also master other modules that contribute to the achievement of the expected learning outcomes as results of the course study.

Table 3.1. The list of the higher education programme components/disciplines that contribute to the achievement of the expected learning outcomes as the course study results

Competence code	Competence descriptor	Previous courses/modules*	Subsequent courses/modules*
GPC-4	Able to identify socially significant problems and	Professional practice; Methods for collecting	Pre-Graduation Practice

Competence code	Competence descriptor	Previous courses/modules*	Subsequent courses/modules*
	ways to solve them based on theoretical knowledge and the results of sociological research	sociological information: approaches, methods, techniques; Sociology of organizations; Methodology of sociological research: program and measurement; Working with data in sociological research: processing, analysis, presentation, visualization; Workshop on methodology of sociological research; Workshop on methodology of sociological research: basics of project activities	

4. COURSE WORKLOAD AND ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

The total workload of the course is 2 credits (72 academic hours).

Table 4.1. Types of academic activities during the periods of higher education programme mastering (**full-time training**)

Type of academic activities	Total academic hours	Semesters/training modules
		6
<i>Contact academic hours</i>	34	34
Lectures (LC)	34	34
Lab work (LW)		
Seminars (workshops/tutorials) (S)		
<i>Self-studies</i>	20	20
<i>Evaluation and assessment (exam/passing/failing grade)</i>	18	18
Course workload	academic hours_	72
	credits	2

Table 4.2. Types of academic activities during the periods of higher education programme mastering (**part-time training**)

Type of academic activities	Total academic hours	Semesters/training modules
		6
<i>Contact academic hours</i>	17	17
Lectures (LC)	17	17
Lab work (LW)		
Seminars (workshops/tutorials) (S)		
<i>Self-studies</i>	37	37
<i>Evaluation and assessment (exam/passing/failing grade)</i>	18	18
Course workload	academic hours_	72
	credits	2

5. COURSE CONTENTS

Table 5.1. Course contents and academic activities types

Course module title	Course module contents (topics)	Academic activities types
Module 1. Features of the sociological ‘optics’	Topic 1.1. Interdisciplinary status of sociology and its relationship with other sciences	LC
	Topic 1.2. Sociological imagination and sociological ‘language’	LC
	Topic 1.3. Structure of sociological knowledge and types of sociological ‘modeling’	LC
	Topic 1.4. Methodology of sociological analysis	LC
Module 2. Possibilities and limitations of the sociological analysis	Topic 2.1. Types and methods of sociological research	LC
	Topic 2.2. Structure and organization of sociological research	LC
	Topic 2.3. Questions and methods of sociological research in different disciplinary fields	LC

6. CLASSROOM EQUIPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT REQUIREMENTS

Table 6.1. Classroom equipment and technology support requirements

Type of academic activities	Classroom equipment	Specialised educational / laboratory equipment, software, and materials for course study (if necessary)
Lecture	A lecture hall for lecture-type classes, equipped with a set of specialised furniture; board (screen) and technical means of multimedia presentations.	
Self-studies	A classroom for independent work of students (can be used for seminars and consultations), equipped with a set of specialised furniture and computers with access to the electronic information and educational environment.	

7. RESOURCES RECOMMENDED FOR COURSE STUDY

Main readings:

1. Social Problems: Continuity and Change. Saylor Foundation, 2016 // URL: <https://open.umn.edu/opentextbooks/textbooks/social-problems-continuity-and-change>
2. Little W. Introduction to Sociology. OpenStax College, 2016 // URL: <https://opentextbc.ca/introductiontosociology2ndedition>
3. Understanding and Changing the Social World. University of Minnesota Libraries Publishing, 2016 // URL: <https://open.lib.umn.edu/sociology>
4. Blackstone A. Principles of Sociological Inquiry – Qualitative and Quantitative

- Methods. Saylor Foundation, 2012 // URL: <https://resources.saylor.org/wwwresources/archived/site/textbooks/Principles%20of%20Sociological%20Inquiry.pdf>
5. Giddens A. Essentials of Sociology. W.W. Norton. 2021 // URL: <https://sociologiac.net/2023/11/26/essentials-of-sociology-anthony-giddens>
 6. Giddens A. Sociology. Polity Press, 2006 // URL: <https://www.shortcutstv.com/text/giddens5th.pdf>
 7. Berger P.L., Luckmann T. The Social Construction of Reality. A Treatise in the Sociology of Knowledge. Penguin Books, 1966 // URL: <https://amstudugm.wordpress.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/04/social-construction-of-reality.pdf>
 8. Miils Ch.R. The Sociological Imagination. Oxford University Press, 2000 // URL: <https://ratical.org/ratville/AoS/TheSociologicalImagination.pdf>

Additional readings:

1. Durkheim E. A Study in Sociology. London-New York, 2002
2. Narbut N.P., Trotsuk I.V. Comparative analysis as a basic research orientation: Key methodological problems // RUDN Journal of Sociology. 2015. Vol.15. No.4
3. Weber R.P. Basic Content Analysis. Newbury Park, 1990
4. Narbut N.P., Trotsuk I.V. Neighboring countries' images: Persistent stereotypes of the Russian student youth // RUDN Journal of Sociology. 2017. Vol.17. No.3
5. Suvakovic U.V., Narbut N.P., Trotsuk I.V. The youth of Russia and Serbia: Social trust and key generational problems // RUDN Journal of Sociology. 2016. No.4
6. Trotsuk I. "To trust or not to trust" is not the question; "How to study trust" is much more challenging task // Russian Sociological Review. 2016. Vol.15. No.4
7. Trotsuk I., Suvakovic U. The value of patriotism for students in Russia and Serbia // Serbian Political Thought. 2013. Vol.7. No.1
8. Trotsuk I.V. All power to the experts? Contradictions of the information society as both depending on and devaluating expertise // Russian Sociological Review. 2021. Vol.20. No.1
9. Trotsuk I.V. Excessive faith in certainty and its public proponents in the non-linear uncertain world: Reasons and . . . more reasons // Russian Sociological Review. 2021. Vol.20. No.4
10. Trotsuk I.V. Some 'indicators' to 'measure' patriotism in the contemporary world // Serbian Sociological review. 2017. Vol.LI. No.3
11. Trotsuk I.V. Textual analysis within sociological research: Terminological rather than methodological difficulties? // RUDN Journal of Sociology. 2011. No.2
12. Trotsuk I.V., Ivlev E.A. Few words on the high level of social distrust among the Russian youth: Civil servants' social image // RUDN Journal of Sociology. 2016. No.2
13. van Tubergen F. Introduction to Sociology. Routledge, 2020
14. Stolley K.S. The Basics of Sociology. Greenwood Press, 2005
15. Park R.E., Burgess E.W. Introduction to the Science of Sociology. University of Chicago Press, 1921
16. Beck U, Risk Society. Towards a New Modernity. Sage Publications, 1992
17. Nikulin A., Trotsuk I. Pitirim Sorokin 's contribution to rural sociology: Russian, European and American milestones of a scientific career // Journal of Peasant Studies. 2018. Vol.45. No.7
18. Trotsuk I.V. Three approaches to the sociological study of the social well-being //

- Serbian Sociological Review. 2019. Vol.LIII. No.1
19. Trotsuk I.V., Subbotina M.V. Three questions to start the sociological study of heroism // RUDN Journal of Sociology. 2021. Vol.21. No.1
20. Trotsuk I.V. Complex concepts with varying connotations: In search for conceptual definitions // RUDN Journal of Sociology. 2021. Vol.21. No.2
21. Trotsuk I.V., Subbotina M.V. Russians' ideas of heroes and heroism: Stable and changing components (based on the public opinion polls) // RUDN Journal of Sociology. 2023. Vol.23. No.3
22. Trotsuk I. Too many Webers for small sociology; or, how critically sociologists should consider their canon // Russian Sociological Review. 2019. Vol.18. No.2

Internet sources

1. Electronic libraries (EL) of RUDN University and other institutions, to which university students have access on the basis of concluded agreements:

- RUDN Electronic Library System (RUDN ELS) <http://lib.rudn.ru/MegaPro/Web>
- EL "University Library Online" <http://www.biblioclub.ru>
- EL "Yurayt" <http://www.biblio-online.ru>
- EL "Student Consultant" www.studentlibrary.ru
- EL "Lan" <http://e.lanbook.com/>
- EL "Trinity Bridge"

2. Databases and search engines:

- electronic foundation of legal and normative-technical documentation <http://docs.cntd.ru/>
- Yandex search engine <https://www.yandex.ru/>
- Google search engine <https://www.google.ru/>
- Scopus abstract database <http://www.elsevier.com/locate/scopus/>

DEVELOPERS:

Professor of the Sociology Department

Trotsuk Irina

position, department

name and surname

HEAD OF EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT:

Sociology Department

Narbut Nikolai

name of department

name and surname

HEAD

OF HIGHER EDUCATION PROGRAMME:

Sociology Department

Narbut Nikolai

position, department

name and surname