

Title and Code of Course: Introduction to Cognitive Sociologyc ERPB-BSZOC 9109

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Credit Point Value: 6	Number of Lessons per Week: 2	Type of Course: Seminar <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lecture <input type="checkbox"/>	Method of Evaluation: Oral Examination <input type="checkbox"/> In-Class Presentation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/>
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The emergence of Cognitive Sociology opened brand new horizons for studying the sociology of culture. Exploiting the synergies based on the focal position of the categorization processes in these two domains. The valuations of experiences are obviously based on prior categorization: The same thing might be of poor quality as an adventure film but perfect as a parody.

During the last two decades High status sociologists (P. DiMaggio, E. Zerubavel, etc. advocated cognitive sociology, and now rigorous foundations of the field are available: M.T. Hannan et al. : Concepts and Categories: Foundations for Sociological and Cultural Analysis (Columbia University Press, 2019)

In this Course the participants will discuss chapters of this book and develop a critical understanding of the applications of the theory developed in it to numerous cultural domains including (but not limited to) the following cultural domains: Boutique Wine Making, Hand Crafted Bier Brewing, Whisky Distillation, Artisan Cooking, Rep Music, Jazz, Movies, Literature, Peruvian Pottery.

The theoretical aspects covered are: Spaces of Interpretation, Concepts and Probabilities, Domains and Conceptual Spaces, Informativeness and Distinctiveness, Categorization, Perception and Conceptual Inferencing, Ambiguities and Fluency of Interpretation, Valuations, Social Influence and Social Inferencing, Audiences and Taken-for-granted-ness.

Literature:

Hannan, M.T. et al. Concepts and Categories: Foundations for Sociological Analysis Columbia University Press, 2019

E. Zerubavel: Social Mindscapes: an Invitation to Cognitive Sociology Harvard Press 1998 ISBN-13 : 978-0674813915

E. Zerubavel: [Generally Speaking: An Invitation to Concept-Driven Sociology](#)

C.C. Eller: [What Makes a Quality College? Reexamining the Equalizing Potential of Higher Education in the United States](#) American Journal of Sociology 2023