



UNIwersytet
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W POZNANIU

Comparative Studies: Anthropology of Everyday Life

Educational subject description sheet

Basic information

Study programme Central Europe in the International Perspective		Didactic cycle 2023/24	
Speciality -		Subject code 03CEIS.28K.02219.23	
Organizational unit Faculty of Polish and Classical Philology		Lecture languages English	
Study level Second-cycle programme		Course type Obligatory	
Study form Full-time		Block Major subjects	
Education profile General academic			
Subject coordinator	Agata Guzikowska		
Lecturer	Joanna Rękas		
Period Semester 4	Activities and hours • Lecture: 30, Exam		Number of ECTS points 5

Goals

Code	Goal
C1	the course will cover the most important repetitive behaviors of social actors playing their roles in everyday theater. Students will learn about the fundamental Central European and Balkan cultural traditions, connected with everyday life in Central Europe and on the Balkans, and about their historical, geopolitical, national and supranational conditions. During the course students will be participating in a series of online activities that will enable and improve their ability to review and characterize the most important cultural behaviours that build local communities, shape their mentality, identity and affiliation. In this way students will exercise the ability of having relationships that acknowledge, respect and begin to understand each other's diverse lives. Recognizing their own everyday rituals and habits students will learn how to understand a culture (on the examples of the Central European, Slavic and the Balkan cultures) on its own terms and not to make judgments using the standards of one's own culture. Passing through sometimes surprising and shocking social behaviours they will learn that there is no right or wrong ethical system and that any opinion on ethics is subject to the perspective of each person within their particular culture. In this way the most common superstitions connected to the Slavs and the Balkans will be recognized, described and analysed. This component of cross-cultural relationship is crucial for the intercultural dialogue, and encourages mutual respect for other ways of life, beliefs, superstitions etc. The course deals with the concepts of cultural relativism (from Franz Uri Boas to Clifford Geertz) on the Central European, Slavic and Balkan real life examples. The idea that a person's beliefs, values, and practices should be understood based on that person's own culture, and not be judged against the criteria of another will be shown through the most important repetitive behaviours of Central European and Balkan social actors playing their roles in everyday theatre. The specificity of the culture of living, eating, working, resting and showing emotions will be discussed on selected examples. All practical themes are presented through case studies of everyday practices, actions and relations.

Entry requirements

None.

Subject learning outcomes

Code	Outcomes in terms of	Learning outcomes	Examination methods
Knowledge - Student:			
W1	describes the importance of evolutionary development of social groups in the process of understanding the role of both biological and cultural social behaviour's determinants	CEI_K2_W01, CEI_K2_W02	Oral exam
W2	gains the knowledge of the ritual behavior and about the similarities and differences between rituals, customs, habits and performative activities	CEI_K2_W01, CEI_K2_W02	Oral exam
W3	gains the understanding of the specificity of the contemporary daily rituals and habits of Central European and Balkan nations in their relations to the evolutionary (biological) and historical processes	CEI_K2_W01, CEI_K2_W02, CEI_K2_W04, CEI_K2_W08	Oral exam
W4	gains the knowledge of the relationships between anthropology studies and other disciplines (historical and political studies, philosophy, sociology, psychology, cultural studies, literary studies etc.)	CEI_K2_W03, CEI_K2_W04	Oral exam
Skills - Student:			
U1	gains the skills necessary to use properly the anthropological terminology related to everyday life and to draw conclusions on the topic of significant repetitive behavior of Central European and Balkan nations	CEI_K2_U04	Oral exam, Multimedia presentation

Code	Outcomes in terms of	Learning outcomes	Examination methods
Social competences - Student:			
K1	gains the understanding of the role of anthropology scholarship in the humanities and general culture; researches methods specific to the Central European and Balkan anthropology studies; the difference between professional and colloquial approaches to anthropology	CEI_K2_K02, CEI_K2_K03, CEI_K2_K04, CEI_K2_K07	Oral exam

Study content

No.	Course content	Subject learning outcomes	Activities
1.	RITUALS AND HABITS: meeting our basic needs: daily habits and Maslow's hierarchy of needs; the scientific approach to the ritual (anthropological and psychological point of view); types of rituals (contingent rituals, divinatory rituals, rites of passage, calendrical rituals, commemorative rituals, rites of feasting, political rituals, seasonal rituals, life cycle rituals etc.); the theory of habits; the main differences between habits and rituals; the importance of the ritual subject's point of view.	W1	Lecture
2.	BEHAVIOUR: BETWEEN ANTHROPOLOGY, BIOLOGY AND EVOLUTIONARY PSYCHOLOGY, PART 1: evolutionary psychology; the brain as an information processing device, producing outputs (behaviour) from inputs stimuli; two levels on which behaviours are transmitted; "How"? versus "Why"? Nikolaas Tinbergen, Konrad Lorenz; Prisoner's dilemma; altruism, Edward Osborne Wilson, Richard Dawkins; social exchange theory; the brain's adaptive mechanisms as shaped by natural and sexual selection; different neural mechanisms as specialized for solving problems in humanity's evolutionary past; neural mechanisms; neural mechanisms of aggression across species.	W1, W2	Lecture
3.	BEHAVIOUR: BETWEEN ANTHROPOLOGY, BIOLOGY AND EVOLUTIONARY PSYCHOLOGY, PART 2: Attitude, How Your Attitude Shows In Your Behaviour?; intention, subjective norm; Actual Behavioural Control; behavioural beliefs; normative beliefs; control beliefs; Harry Harlow, Monkey Love Experiments; What's the deal with group decision?; social loafing; conformity; asch conformity experiments; Milgram experiment; obedience, Zimbardo's Prison Experiment; groups, culture, identity, social roles.	W1, W2	Lecture
4.	THEATRICALITY OF EVERYDAY LIFE: Erving Goffman's theory of staged authenticity; between ritual and theatre; Schechner's theory of performance; main similarities and differences between behaviour, habits, customs and rituals.	W1, W2	Lecture

No.	Course content	Subject learning outcomes	Activities
5.	CENTRAL EUROPEAN AND BALKAN FOOD CULTURE: contemporary visual examples based on filmed and photographed materials and analysed in the theoretical perspectives of food as a part of cultural behaviour; from the beginning of using fire and cooking to the fast food culture.	W3, W4, U1, K1	Lecture
6.	CENTRAL EUROPEAN AND BALKAN LIVING CULTURE: contemporary visual examples based on filmed and photographed materials and analysed in the theoretical perspective of human shelters as the main components of everyday lives.	W3, W4, U1, K1	Lecture
7.	CENTRAL EUROPEAN AND BALKAN WORK/EARNING CULTURE: contemporary visual examples based on filmed and photographed materials and analysed in the theoretical perspective of the process of working and earning (money) – from the Industrial Revolution till nowadays.	W3, W4, U1, K1	Lecture
8.	CENTRAL EUROPEAN AND BALKAN CULTURE OF LEISURE TIME: contemporary visual examples based on filmed and photographed materials and analysed in the theoretical perspective of the anthropology of tourism; staged authenticity (Dean MacCannell); tourists and vagabonds (Zygmunt Baumann); Tourist Gaze (John Urry); Central European experience between Cannibal Tours (1988, by Dennis O'Rourke) and Tourists (2017, by Mateusz Ramaszkan & Maria Wójtowicz).	W3, W4, U1, K1	Lecture
9.	CENTRAL EUROPEAN AND BALKAN CULTURE OF DRESSING: contemporary visual examples based on filmed and photographed materials and analysed in the theoretical perspective of creating identity via the proves of dressing; different types and different meaning of outfits; Between individualizing and de-individualizing powers of fashion.	W3, W4, U1, K1	Lecture
10.	CENTRAL EUROPEAN AND BALKAN CULTURE OF SHOWING AFFECTION: contemporary visual examples based on filmed and photographed materials and analysed in the theoretical perspective; concepts of taboo, morality, obscenity, sexual ethics, sexual norms, vulgarity and deviance.	W3, W4, U1, K1	Lecture
11.	CENTRAL EUROPEAN AND BALKAN ORAL CULTURE: contemporary visual examples based on filmed and photographed materials and analysed in the theoretical perspective: spoken, sung and voiced words of utterance recognised both by the speaker and the audience; repetitive patterns, sports songs, curses, new linguistic phenomena etc.	W3, W4, U1, K1	Lecture
12.	CENTRAL EUROPEAN AND BALKAN CULTURE OF FESTIVE EVENTS: contemporary visual examples based on filmed and photographed materials and analysed in the theoretical perspective: patterns of expected behaviour within a group, expected way of doing things; seasonal celebrations, life cycle celebrations, community festival and events.	W3, W4, U1, K1	Lecture

Additional information

Activities	Teaching and learning methods and activities
Lecture	Lecture with a multimedia presentation of selected issues, Conversation lecture, Problem-based lecture, Discussion, Work with text, Audio and/or video demonstrations

Activities	Credit conditions
Lecture	<p>very good (bdb; 5,0): preparation of a multimedia presentation and passing the exam in which: the student passively and actively uses extensive vocabulary related to the issues of anthropology of the everyday life, defines the most important concepts in these areas of knowledge in terms of their language skills, is able to prepare a very good presentation, defining the most important difficulties arising from the problems of intercultural dialogue.</p> <p>good plus (+db; 4,5): as above, with slight lapses in the ability to define the above-mentioned terms.</p> <p>good (db; 4,0): preparation of a multimedia presentation and passing the exam in which: the student passively and actively uses the vocabulary related to the issues of anthropology of the everyday life, is able to define selected concepts in these areas of knowledge, is able to prepare a good presentation, defining the most important difficulties arising from the problems of intercultural dialogue.</p> <p>satisfactory plus (+dst; 3,5): preparation of a multimedia presentation and passing the exam in which: the student satisfactorily knows the basic vocabulary in the field of anthropology of the everyday life, understands the concepts of these areas of knowledge, is able to prepare a presentation in the field of intercultural dialogue.</p> <p>satisfactory (dst; 3,0): preparation of a multimedia presentation and passing the exam in which: the student knows basic vocabulary in the field of anthropology of the everyday life, understands the concepts of these areas of knowledge and is able to prepare a simple presentation on intercultural dialogue.</p> <p>unsatisfactory (ndst; 2,0): preparation of a multimedia presentation and not passing the exam: the student has insufficient knowledge of the vocabulary in the field of anthropology of the everyday life, does not understand the concepts of these knowledge and is unable to prepare a presentation on intercultural dialogue.</p>

Literature

Obligatory

1. Bauman, Z. (1996). Tourists and vagabonds: heroes and victims of postmodernity. (Reihe Politikwissenschaft / Institut für Höhere Studien, Abt. Politikwissenschaft, 30). Wien: Institut für Höhere Studien (IHS), Wien.
2. J.L. Beach, D.H. Kincade, S. Schofield-Tomschin, Human Complexity: Development of a Theoretical Framework for the Clothing and Textile Field, „Clothing and Textile Research Journal” 23(1), 2005, s. 28-44.
3. Bordieu, Pierre (1996). „Distinction. A Social Critique of the Judgement of Taste”. Translated by Richard Nice. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.
4. Cohen, Erik (1979). Phenomenology of Tourist Experience, „Sociology” 13:2, pp. 179-201.
5. Crane, Diana, Bovone, Laura (2006), Approaches to material culture: The sociology of fashion and clothing, „Poetics” 34, pp. 319-333.
6. Douglas, Mary (1972). Deciphering a Meal. „Daedalus” Vol. 101, No. 1, Myth, Symbol and Culture, pp. 61-81.
7. Eliade, Mircea (1961). „The Sacred and the Profane: The Nature of Religion”. Translated by Willard R. Trask. New York: Harper Torchbooks.
8. Eriksen, Thomas Hylland (2001). Small Places, Large Issues. An Introduction to Social and Cultural Anthropology. London-Sterling-Virginia: Pluto Press.
9. Geertz, Clifford (2000a). „Local Knowledge: further essays in interpretative anthropology”. New York: Basic Books.
10. Geertz, Clifford (2000b). „The interpretation of cultures: selected essays”. New York: Basic Books.
11. Gennep, Arnold (1919). „The Rites of Passage”. Translated by Monika B. Vizedom and Gabrielle L. Caffee. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press.
12. Goffman, Erving (1956). „The Presentation of Self in Everyday Life”. Edinburgh: University of Edinburgh. Social Science Research Centre.
13. Jezernik, Božidar (2004). „Wild Europe. The Balkans in the Gaze of Western Travellers”. London: Saqi.
14. K.K. Johnson, J. Yoo, M. Kim, S. Lennon, Dress and Human Behavior, „A Review and Critique, Clothing and Textiles Journal” 26:10, 2008, s. 3-22.
15. Lévi-Strauss, Claude (1966). The Culinary Triangle. Translated by Peter Brooks. „The Partisan Review” 33: 586-596.
16. MacCannell, D. (1973), Staged Authenticity: Arrangements of Social Spaces in Tourist Settings. The America Journal of Sociology, 79(3), pp. 589-603.
17. M. Haldrup, J. Larsen, „Tourism, Performance and the Everyday”, London, New York 2010.
18. Rocamora, Agnès. (2002), Fields of fashion. Critical Insights into Bourdieu’s Sociology of Culture, „Journal of Consumer Culture” 2(3), pp. 341-362.
19. Schechner, Richard (2013). „Performance Studies: an Introduction”. London & New York: Routledge.
20. B. Schiermer, Fashion Victims: On the Individualizing and De-individualizing Powers of Fashion, Fashion Theory 14 (1), 2010, s. 83-104.
21. Todorova, Maria (2009). „Imagining the Balkans”. Oxford: University Press.

Optional

1. Turner, Victor (1982). „From Ritual to Theatre. The Human Seriousness of Play”. New York: PAJ Publications.
2. Urry, J. and Larsen, J. (2011). The Tourist Gaze 3.0. [3rd edition.]. Los Angeles, [Calif.] SAGE. Ch. 1: Theories.
3. Zechenter, Elizabeth M. (1997). In the Name of Culture: Cultural Relativism and the Abuse of the Individual, „Journal of Anthropological Research”, Vol. 53, No. 3, Universal Human Rights versus Cultural Relativity, pp. 319-347.

Calculation of ECTS points

Activities	Activity hours*
Lecture	30
Preparation for classes	25
Reading the indicated literature	30
Preparation of a multimedia presentation	20

Preparation for the exam	20
Student workload	Hours 125
Number of ECTS points	ECTS 5

* academic hour = 45 minutes

Efekty uczenia się dla kierunku

Kod	Treść
CEI_K2_K02	The graduate is ready to based on systematized knowledge and in-depth skills in responsible conduct of intercultural dialogue, as well as seeking expert opinions in case of difficulties with independent problem solving
CEI_K2_K03	The graduate is ready to based on reliable knowledge, to initiate and take responsible actions to respect the literary tradition and cultural heritage of Central Europe
CEI_K2_K04	The graduate is ready to recognizing the importance of acquired knowledge and the ability to overcome difficulties arising during interpersonal and professional contacts with representatives of other cultures
CEI_K2_K07	The graduate is ready to determined to initiate actions aimed at solving complex professional problems
CEI_K2_U04	The graduate can recognize and describe, in an interdisciplinary and comparative perspective, various types of cultural products typical of Central Europe and the Balkans, and indicate their canonical examples
CEI_K2_W01	The graduate knows and understands in-depth terminology and the main theories and research methods concerning Central European literature and culture
CEI_K2_W02	The graduate knows and understands at the extended level, the interdisciplinary nature of Central European and Balkan studies, taking into account comparative approaches to literary and cultural studies in their mutual relations and differentiations
CEI_K2_W03	The graduate knows and understands at the in-depth level, theoretical issues in the field of literary studies and cultural studies in relation to Central European and Balkan studies
CEI_K2_W04	The graduate knows and understands methods of analysis, interpretation and problematization of ways of coexistence of various cultural traditions in Central Europe, in an interdisciplinary approach using the assumptions of literary studies and cultural studies
CEI_K2_W08	The graduate knows and understands in-depth the role of globalization and digitization processes in shaping contemporary Central European literatures and cultures