

## **SOSGEO4800 – Cultural differences, cultural change and the threat to liberalism**

### **Course content**

The course explores issues related to cultural differences, cultural changes and cross-cultural interactions - both between and within societies - and their relationship to populist and authoritarian trends that threaten liberal values and democracy. The course is based on various theoretical approaches and empirical contributions from sociology and related social sciences.

What is culture, where do cultural differences come from and how is the culture of contemporary societies further evolving alongside changing standards of living and increased cross-cultural interactions? Are large differences in values and identities inevitably leading to culture clashes as some scholars alarm? Can the rise of populism and authoritarianism around the world be explained by changing societal values? The answers to these questions are increasingly important for our understanding of the process and outcomes of intensifying interaction between cultures. Societies differ in their attitudes towards immigrants and adapt diverse integration policies to deal with the increasing cultural diversity brought by international migration. The rise of populism and authoritarianism around the globe is another problem that is related to changing societal values and rising concerns on issues of globalization and immigration.

Competences in cultural awareness and relationships within culturally heterogeneous communities are becoming increasingly relevant in the labor market, both in the public and private sectors.

### **Learning outcome**

#### **Knowledge**

Explain and provide examples of different frameworks and approaches to understanding culture, cultural change as well as their importance for migration and integration from the point of view of both the migrants and the larger society;

Understand both the need for and challenges to interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary approaches to the study of culture, migration and populism;

The course will contribute to a theoretically grounded understanding of cultural differences, acculturation, and key processes that affect various aspects of globalization and migration. The course provides a good foundation for working on a thesis concerning the study of culture, cross-cultural interactions and populism.

#### **Skills**

Critically read and discuss articles and chapters on the topics of culture, migration and integration, recognizing the importance of different discourses and approaches;

Use different theories when discussing a more concrete empirical phenomenon;

Develop skills for oral and written presentation of knowledge and competencies;

#### **Competences**

Ability to explain linkages between diverse phenomena related to culture, migration and integration

Capacity to understand complex issues from multiple perspectives

Improved capacity for self-reflection and self-awareness

Understanding of how to engage with migration issues from a more knowledge-based perspective

### **1. The concept of national culture (Plamen Akaliyski)**

\*Hofstede, G., et al. (2010). *Cultures and Organizations: Software of the Mind*, Third Edition, McGraw-Hill Education. Part 1, pp 3-449 (46 pages)

NY: @ Schwartz, S. (2014). Rethinking the Concept and Measurement of Societal Culture in Light of Empirical Findings, *Journal of Cross Cultural Psychology* 45(1): 5-13 (9 pages)

Recommended readings:

@Minkov, M. and G. Hofstede (2014). "Clustering of 316 European Regions on Measures of Values: Do Europe's Countries Have National Cultures?" *Cross-Cultural Research* 48(2): 144-176. (33 pages)

\*Minkov, M. (2013). *Cross-cultural analysis: The science and art of comparing the world's modern societies and their cultures* Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications Ltd, Ch. 1, pp 9-18 (10 pages)

55 pages

### **2. Frameworks for analyzing culture: dimensions, comparisons and validation (Plamen Akaliyski)**

@Maleki, A. and M. de Jong (2014). "A Proposal for Clustering the Dimensions of National Culture." *Cross-Cultural Research* 48(2): 107-143. (36 pages)

@Schwartz, S. (2006). "A Theory of Cultural Value Orientations: Explication and Applications." *Comparative Sociology* 5(2-3). (47 pages)

Recommended reading:

NY: "@Minkov, M (2018). A revision of Hofstede's model of national culture: old evidence and new data from 56 countries. *Cross Cultural & Strategic Management* 25 (2), 231-256 (25 pages)

83 pages

### **3. Globalization and its cultural consequence (Plamen Akaliyski)**

@Bonikowski, B. (2010). "Cross-national interaction and cultural similarity: A relational analysis." *International Journal of Comparative Sociology* 51(5): 315-348. (34 pages)

@Guillen, M. F. (2001). "Is globalization civilizing, destructive or feeble? A critique of five key debates in the social science literature." *Annual Review of Sociology* 27: 235-260. (25 pages)

@Holton, R. (2000). "Globalization's cultural consequences." *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science* 570: 140-152. (12 pages)

NY: @ Akaliyski, P. (2018). United in diversity? The convergence of cultural values among EU member states and candidates. *European Journal of Political Research*. ISSN 0304-4130. doi: 10.1111/1475-6765.12285 (24 pages)

#### 4. Historical legacies and cultural differences: a clash of civilizations? (Plamen Akaliyski)

@Huntington, S. P. (1993). "The clash of civilizations." *Foreign Affairs* 72(3): 22-49. (27 pages)

@Akaliyski, P. (2017). Sources of Societal Value Similarities across Europe: Evidence from Dyadic Models. *Comparative Sociology*. ISSN 1569-1322. 16(4), s 447- 470. (24 pages)

NY: @Brubaker, R. (2017). *Between nationalism and civilizationism: the European populist movement in comparative perspective*. *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, 40:8, 1191-1226 (35 pages)

@Chiro, D. (2001). "A Clash of Civilizations or of Paradigms? Theorizing Progress and Social Change." *International Sociology* 16(3): 341-360. (20 pages)

Recommended reading:

@Norris, P. and R. Inglehart (2002). "Islamic culture and democracy: Testing the 'clash of civilizations' thesis." *Comparative Sociology* 1(3-4): 235-263. (28 pages)

106 pages

#### 5. Modernization, societal value change and democracy: a universal pathway of human development? (Plamen Akaliyski)

@Inglehart, R., & Baker, W. E. (2000). Modernization, cultural change, and the persistence of traditional values. *American Sociological Review*, 65(1), 19-51. doi: 10.2307/2657288 (34 pages)

@Welzel, C., Inglehart, R., Klingemann, H-D. (2003). "The theory of human development: A cross-cultural analysis." *European Journal of Political Research* 42: 341-379. (39 pages)

NY: @Bomhoff, E. and Gu, M. M. L. (2012) *East Asia Remains Different: A Comment on the Index of "Self-Expression Values,"* by Inglehart and Welzel. *Journal of Cross-Cultural Psychology* 43(3) 373 – 383 (10 pages)

Recommended readings:

NY: @Thompson, M. R. (2001) *Whatever Happened to "Asian Values"?* *Journal of Democracy*, Volume 12, Number 4, pp. 154-165 (11 pages)

NY: @Welzel, C. (2011). *The Asian Values Thesis Revisited: Evidence from the World Values Surveys*. *Japanese Journal of Political Science* 12(1), 1–31 (31 pages)

UT: @Inglehart, R. F. (2008). "Changing Values among Western Publics from 1970 to 2006." *West European Politics* 31(1-2): 130-146. (17 pages)

83 pages

#### NY: 6. Cultural backlash and the rise of authoritarian populism (Plamen Akaliyski)

NY: @Foa, R.S. & Mounk, Y. (2016). *The Danger of Deconsolidation: The Democratic Disconnect*. *Journal of Democracy* 27 (3), 5-17 (12 pages)

@Inglehart, R. F. (2016). "How much should we worry?" *Journal of Democracy* 27(3): 18-23. (7 pages)

NY: \* Inglehart, R. F. (2018). *Cultural evolution: People's motivations are changing and reshaping the world*. Chapter 9: The silent revolution in reverse and Chapter 10: The coming of Artificial intelligence society, pp. 173-217 (44 pages)

63 pages

## **7. When cultures cross: globalization, international migration and acculturation (Plamen Akaliyski)**

@Berry, J. W. (2008). "Globalisation and acculturation." *International Journal of Intercultural Relations* 32(4): 328-336. (9 pages)

@Belot, M. and S. Ederveen (2012). "Cultural barriers in migration between OECD countries." *Journal of Population Economics* 25(3): 1077-1105. (29 pages)

@Leong, C. H. and C. Ward (2006). "Cultural values and attitudes toward immigrants and multiculturalism: The case of the Eurobarometer survey on racism and xenophobia." *International Journal of Intercultural Relations* 30(6): 799-810. (12 pages)

@Gungor, D., et al. (2012). "Religiosity, values, and acculturation: A study of Turkish, Turkish-Belgian, and Belgian adolescents." *International Journal of Behavioral Development* 36(5): 367-373. (7 pages)

@Morris, M. W., et al. (2015). *Polycultural Psychology*. *Annual Review of Psychology*, Vol 66. S. T. Fiske. Palo Alto, Annual Reviews. 66: 631-659. (29 pages)

Recommended reading:

@Schwartz, S. J., et al. (2010). "Rethinking the Concept of Acculturation Implications for Theory and Research." *American Psychologist* 65(4): 237-251. (15 pages)

@Norris, P. and R. F. Inglehart (2012). "Muslim Integration into Western Cultures: Between Origins and Destinations." *Political Studies* 60(2): 228-251. (24 pages)

110 pages

## **8. What is cultural racism? (Laura Führer)**

@Gullestad, M. (2004). Blind slaves of our prejudices: Debating "culture" and "race" in Norway. *Ethnos*, 69(2), 177–203.

@Steve Garner & Saher Selod. (2015). The Racialization of Muslims: Empirical Studies of Islamophobia. *Critical Sociology*, 41(1), 9–19.

\*Ballard, R. (2002). Race, Ethnicity and Culture. In M. Holborn (Ed.), *New Directions in Sociology*. Ormskirk: Causeway. pp. 1-27

@Wren, K. (2001). Cultural racism: something rotten in the state of Denmark? *Social & Cultural Geography*, 2(2), 141–162. (22 pages)

@Svendsen, S. H. B. (2014). Learning racism in the absence of "race." *European Journal of Women's Studies*, 21(1), 9–24. (16 pages)

101 pages

## 9: Term papers workshop

No readings

## 10: Religious identity and practices among Muslims (Inger Furseth)

@Furseth, Inger 2011. The hijab: Boundary work and identity negotiations among immigrant Muslim women in the Los Angeles area. *Review of Religious Research* 54(2): 365-385. (19s)

\*Jacobsen, Christine 2011. The Quest for Authenticity: Islamization Amongst Muslim Youth in Norway. In *European Muslims and the Secular State*, edited by Jocelyne Cesari og Seán McLoughlin, p.155-168. Aldershot: Ashgate. (14s)

@Mahmood, Saba. 2001. Feminist theory, embodiment, and the docile agent: Some reflections on the Egyptian Islamic revival. *Cultural Anthropology* 6(2): 202-236. (34 p)

67 pages

## 11: Immigration and the populist radical right (Anniken Hagelund)

@Rydgren, Jens (2007) "The sociology of the Radical Right" *Annu. Rev. Sociol.* 2007. 33:241–62 (21 pages)

UT: @Mudde, Cas (2013) "Three decades of populist radical right parties in Western Europe: So what?" *European Journal of Political Research* 52: 1–19

\* Hochschild, Arlie Russel (2016) "Chapter 9. The Deep Story", *Strangers in Their Own Land. Anger and Mourning on the American Right. A Journey to the Heart of Our Political Divide.* New York & London: The New Press. P. 135-151. (16 pages)

@ Muis, Jasper & Tim Immerzeel (2017) "Causes and consequences of the rise of populist radical right parties and movements in Europe" *Current Sociology* 1-22 (22 pages)

UT: @Rydgren, Jens (2017), "Radical right-wing parties in Europe. What's populism got to do with it?" *Journal of Language and Politics* 1-12 (12 pages)

INN: @Brubaker, Rogers (2017) *Why Populism?* *Theory & Society* 46(5):357-385 (28 pages)

87 pages

## 12: Concluding lecture

No readings

Total pages: 850

\* = in compendium. Compendium will be available at Kopiutsalget at the bookstore Gnist Akademika at Blindern. Please bring your student card.

@ = articles are available online through Bibsys' subscriptions on e-journal databases for employees and students. To access the articles it is necessary to use a computer in the UiO network. This is because the UiO subscription access is controlled by IP-address.

To download the articles from computers outside the UiO network it is necessary to connect to the UiO network by VPN client. Some ejournal databases do not facilitate a direct link to the PDF-file. In such cases the link leads to the issue-index or the journal from where the correct article can be located and downloaded. Available curriculum articles on the internet are an advantage in the sense that required reading will be available to the students sooner than compendiums and the students may choose to read the text on the screen. Students pay for print-outs if exceeding their print quota, but this is also cheaper than printed compendium per page.