

ANKARA YILDIRIM BEYAZIT UNIVERSITY – DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION COURSE SYLLABUS					
Course Code	Course Title	Course Type	ECTS Credits	Prerequisite Information	Date of Preparation
PSPA 107	Sociology	Compulsory	4	-	September 2026
Instructor of the Course & E-Mail Address	Assist. Prof. Başak Akar Özer (bakar@aybu.edu.tr)				
Office Hours & Office Room	Wednesday, 13.30-16.30, Office No: 3rd Floor Office				
Course Content and Objectives	The main objective of this course is to examine basic sociological concepts and develop critical thinking and interpretation skills. In addition to gaining basic knowledge from basic sociological perspectives and prominent figures in these fields, this course also provides skills to develop sociological imagination.				
Textbook(s)	Giddens A, Duneier M, Appelbaum R, Carr D (2018), Introduction to Sociology, Seagull 11th edition, W. W. Norton & Company.				
Teaching Methods and Techniques	The course content consists of examining fundamental sociological concepts; using these concepts both orally and in writing to develop students' critical thinking and interpretive skills; evaluating major sociological theories and the explanations proposed by prominent classical sociologists; and developing sociological thinking in a way that is applicable to the field of public finance. To achieve these objectives, students are expected to engage in reading, participate actively and interactively in class, contribute to discussions, and provide examples based on cultural materials and observation. Students are required to read the weekly course materials before attending class.				
Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)	1	Information	The student evaluates social and political events objectively and critically.		
	2	Skill	The student develops communication skills, grounded in appropriate concepts, for engaging with individuals and institutions working in the fields of politics, law, civil society, urban affairs, and the environment.		
	3	Skill	The student discusses economic and fiscal policies by broadening one's knowledge and familiarity with different disciplines within the social sciences and drawing on the fundamental concepts of political science and sociology.		
	4	Skill	The student discusses the professional and scientific ethical responsibility.		
	5	Information	The student connects ideas with social phenomenon, and discusses solutions to problems, interprets through quantitative and qualitative data.		
	6	Information	The student compares individual and social approaches regarding the social development.		
	7	Skill	The student speaks and writes about recent academic literature by using basic concepts in sociology in English at B1 level (European Language Portfolio Global Scale, Level B1).		

Program Outcomes Contributed by the Course	Program Outcomes (PO)									
	P01	Attaining a comprehensive mastery of both theoretical and applied aspects of public finance by grasping its foundational concepts through a holistic perspective.								
	P02	Mastering quantitative and qualitative research methodologies to synthesize theory and practice in addressing contemporary fiscal and economic challenges.								
	P03	Possessing the competence to integrate field-specific foundational concepts and knowledge with other disciplines, and demonstrating interdisciplinary analytical thinking skills.								
	P04	Possessing a comprehensive proficiency in public finance, law, economics, business administration, and accounting to meet the diverse demands of both the public and private sectors.								
	P05	Translating theoretical knowledge and practical applications of public finance into concrete activities and projects through effective, synergistic teamwork, and to effectively communicate the outcomes with relevant stakeholders.								
	P06	Demonstrating the initiative and accountability required to independently plan, manage, and effectively execute both theoretical and practical endeavors in public finance.								
	P07	Acting with a profound awareness of social, scientific, and professional ethical values, while embracing change and innovation throughout personal and professional development processes.								
	P08	Conducting all academic and professional endeavors in the field of public finance grounded in free thought, a sense of social responsibility, and universal and ecological ethical values.								
Contribution of the Course to Field Instruction	This course holds a central place in the curriculum, joining the conceptual foundations of political science, sociology and public finance. The course equips the students to analyze the actors, institutions, and power relations that shape societies.									
	Contribution: 1: Very Slight 2:Slight 3:Moderate 4:Significant 5:Very Significant									
		P01	P02	P03	P04	P05	P06	P07	P08	
	All	3	4	5	2	1	3	5	5	
	C01	3	4	5	2	1	3	5	5	
	C02	3	4	5	2	1	3	5	5	
	C03	3	4	5	2	1	3	5	5	
	C04	3	4	5	2	1	3	5	5	
	C05	3	4	5	2	1	3	5	5	
	C06	3	4	5	2	1	3	5	5	
C07	5	5	5	3	2	3	5	5		

Topics Covered in the Course			
	Weeks	Topics	Reading Materials
	1. Week	Introduction to the CourseThe content and the syllabus	Syllabus
	2. Week	What is Sociology? Sociological imagination, scope, and relations with other disciplines	Giddens et al., pp.3-24.
	3. Week	What is Sociology? Historical Background	Giddens et al., pp.3-24
	4. Week	Asking Sociological Questions – Research methods, qualitative/quantitative, ethics	Giddens et al., pp. 25-44
	5. Week	Culture and Society – Relativism vs. ethnocentrism, globalization, identity	Giddens et al., pp. 47-72.
	6. Week	Socialization and the Life Course – Agents, theories (Mead, Cooley, Piaget, Freud, Chodorow)	Giddens, et al., pp.73-95
	7. Week	Stratification, Class, Inequality – mobility, poverty, Karl Marx.	Giddens et al., pp.175-204.
	8. Week	Midterm Exam	-
	9. Week	Stratification, class, status and inequality- mobility, Max Weber.	Giddens et al., pp.175-204.
	10. Week	Gender Inequality, intersectionality	Giddens et. Al., pp.229-264
	11. Week	Race, racism, multiculturalism	Giddens et al., pp.265-292
	12. Week	Government, Political Power, Social Movements – Authority, legitimacy	Giddens et al., pp.317-350
	13. Week	Work and Economic Life – Industrial/post-industrial, globalization, inequality	Giddens et al., pp. 353-384
	14. Week	Religion – Perspectives (Durkheim, Weber, Marx), secularization, pluralism	Giddens et al., pp. 445-472
	15. Week	Sociology and Public Finance: How to build the connection? Course Evaluation	
Course Evaluation Criteria	In-Term Studies	Quantity	Percentage %
	Mid-terms	1	%40
	Quizzes		%
	Assignments		%
	Attendance		%
	Practice		%
	Project		%
	Final examination	1	%60
	Total		100%
Disability Policy	If you have a documented disability (e.g., visual, hearing, or physical impairment, etc.) that may influence your performance in this course, it is recommended to meet with the Engelsiz AYBU (https://aybu.edu.tr/engelsiz/content_list-327-yildirim-beyazit-universitesi-engelsiz-universite-birimi-yonergesi.html) to arrange for reasonable conditions (such as accommodation, etc.) to ensure an equitable opportunity to meet all the requirements of this course. You may also contact the relevant authority of the Faculty of Political Sciences. You should communicate your needs to the course instructor as soon as possible to ensure that any course needs concerning exams, lecture materials, etc. are met.		
Artificial Intelligence (AI) Tools Usage Policy	Assessment in this course is based solely on a midterm and a final exam; therefore, no assignments, projects, or papers are required. Students are welcome to use generative artificial intelligence (AI) tools (e.g., ChatGPT, Claude) as supplementary "study assistants" to help understand course materials, review complex topics, and prepare for exams. However, since all examinations will be conducted in-class (proctored), the use of AI tools or any smart devices during exams is strictly prohibited and will be treated as a direct violation of academic integrity (cheating).		