

**GAZIANTEP UNIVERSITY
FACULTY OF ART
AND SCIENCES**

SOC 420 SOCIOLOGY OF SCIENCE AND KNOWLEDGE

COURSE SYLLABUS

Session 2022-2023 Spring/ Prof. Senem KURTAR / E-mail: senemkurtar@gmail.com

Friday, 13.00-14.00 (Online)

Course Schedule: Introduction and the Themes

The sociology of knowledge and science is a subject that touches on the close relationship between all the dynamics of society (institutions, politics, social and cultural values, etc.) and the production and transmission or dissemination of scientific knowledge, as well as with traditional and critical approaches to scientific knowledge. Based on this comprehensive area of the course, care has been taken to select reading texts and basic topics in order to examine and discuss the interaction between the triad of science, knowledge and society from as many different perspectives as possible. Thus, the main achievement of the course is to make students question the close relationship between science, scientific knowledge, and social dynamics. For this reason, the course requires participation in preparing for the basic reading texts and maintaining the main topics and discussions in the relevant texts in a dialogue and reciprocity basis.

Course 1:

Giving Information about course as defining the course shedule to the system (Gauzem). Course syllabuses will be uploaded to the system and students will also be informed through the student information system (obs). Weekly lesson plan will be defined to Gauzem and reading texts will be added as pdf.

Course 2:

An overview of the sociological approach to knowledge and science: Classic and standard view of the science and scientific knowledge. Knowledge claims and their sociological implications.

Students are expected to attend the course after examining the reading text. Reading text of the week: Michael Mulkay, *Science and the Sociology of the Knowledge* Part I, pp.1-27.

Course 3:

An overview of the sociological approach to knowledge and science: Classic and standard view of the science and scientific knowledge. Knowledge claims and their sociological implications.

Students are expected to attend the course after examining the reading text. Reading text of the week: Michael Mulkay, *Science and the Sociology of the Knowledge* Part II, pp.27-63.

Course 4:

Science, Culture and Discourse: Science Culture, cultural interpretation in science, social discourse and rhetoric of science, inner and external cultural resources and production of knowledge, science and its implications to the politics.

Students are expected to attend the course after examining the reading text. Reading text of the week: Michael Mulkay, *Science and the Sociology of the Knowledge* Part III, pp.63-96.

Course 5:

Science, Culture and Discourse: Science Culture, cultural interpretation in science, social discourse and rhetoric of science, inner and external cultural resources and production of knowledge, science and its implications to the politics.

Students are expected to attend the course after examining the reading text. Reading text of the week: Michael Mulkay, *Science and the Sociology of the Knowledge* Part IV, pp.96-123.

Course 6:

The institutions and the hidden societal dynamics of the science and scientific knowledge. Normative structure of the scientific community, limits and the validity of the norms.

Students are expected to attend the course after examining the reading text. Reading text of the week: Dominique Vinck, *The Sociology of the Scientific Work*, Part II, pp.30-57

Course 7:

Societies Society's influence on knowledge content: The macrosociological science trend, Is there continuity or discontinuity between forms of knowledge? The dynamics of specialities and scientific projects, The principles of relativist sociology. Criticism, extension and changes in direction of the relativist programme.

Students are expected to attend the course after examining the reading text. Reading text of the week: Dominique Vinck, *The Sociology of the Scientific Work*, Part VI, pp.145-194.

Course 8: Midterm Exam -Writing an essay about the topics of the course.

Course 9:

Science and Technology: Physics, natural science or technology. Questioning the relationship between natural science and technological developments under the view of the societal dynamics and the change.

Students are expected to attend the course after examining the reading text. Reading text of the week: Peter Janich, "Physics, Natural Science or Technology", in *The Dynamics of Science and Technology*, W. Khron, E. Layton & P. Weingart (eds).pp.3-29.

Course 10:

Science and Technology: Physics, natural science or technology. Questioning the relationship between natural science and technological developments under the view of the societal dynamics and the change.

Students are expected to attend the course after examining the reading text. Reading text of the week: Dominique Vinck, *The Sociology of the Scientific Work*, Part VIII, pp.232-255.

Course 11:

A radical critical view of the science, scientific knowledge and the technological society: Sceptism and the sociology of the scientific knowledge (SSK), external-world problem, phenomenology

Students are expected to attend the course after examining the reading text. Reading text of the week: Jeff Kochan, *Science as Social Existence Heidegger and the Sociology of Scientific Knowledge*, Chapter I, pp.17-53.

Course 12:

A radical critical view of the science, scientific knowledge and the technological society: Sceptism and the sociology of the scientific knowledge (SSK), external-world problem, phenomenology and the social existence.

Students are expected to attend the course after examining the reading text. Reading text of the week: Jeff Kochan, *Science as Social Existence Heidegger and the Sociology of Scientific Knowledge*, Chapter II, pp.53-111.

Course 13:

A radical critical view of the science, scientific knowledge and the technological society: Sceptism and the sociology of the scientific knowledge (SSK), external-world problem, phenomenology and the social existence.

Students are expected to attend the course after examining the reading text. Reading text of the week: Jeff Kochan, *Science as Social Existence Heidegger and the Sociology of Scientific Knowledge*, Chapter IV, pp.151-225.

Course 14:

A radical critical view of the science, scientific knowledge and the technological society: Sceptism and the sociology of the scientific knowledge (SSK), external-world problem, phenomenology and the social existence.

Students are expected to attend the course after examining the reading text. Reading text of the week: Jeff Kochan, *Science as Social Existence Heidegger and the Sociology of Scientific Knowledge*, Chapter IV, pp.151-225.

Course Materials:

1. Michael Mulkay, *Science and the Sociology of the Knowledge*, NY: Routledge, 2015.
2. Dominique Vinck, *The Sociology of the Scientific Work*,
3. Peter Janich, "Physics, Natural Science or Technology", in *The Dynamics of Science and Technology*, W. Khron, E. Layton & P. Weingart (eds), Dordrecht, Holland: D. Reidel Publishing Company, pp.3-29.
4. Jeff Kochan, *Science as Social Existence Heidegger and the Sociology of Scientific Knowledge*, Open Book Publisers, 2017.
5. Course notes, recordings and the other secondary materials.

Office time: Tuesday 11.00-12.00, Thursday 11.00-12.00

Note: Before the interview, be sure to inform via e-mail.