

ȘCOALA NAȚIONALĂ DE STUDII POLITICE ȘI ADMINISTRATIVE  
FACULTATEA DE ADMINISTRAȚIE PUBLICĂ

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

**1. Information about the program**

1.1 Higher Education Institution	SNSPA
1.2 Faculty	Political Sciences
1.3 Department	Sociology
1.4 Field of study	Sociology
1.5 Study level	BA
1.6 Program of study	Sociology
1.7. Study mode	Full Time
1.7 Academic year	2021 – 2022

**2. Information about the discipline**

2.1 Title	<b>Stratification and social mobility</b>						
2.2. Course holder	<b>Conf. Univ. dr. Augustin Stoica</b>						
2.3. Seminar holder	<b>Conf. Univ. dr. Augustin Stoica</b>						
2.4 Year of study	<b>I</b>	2.5. Semester	<b>I</b>	2.6. Type of assessment <sup>1</sup>	<b>E</b>	2.7. Type of module <sup>2</sup>	<b>OB</b>

**3. Total estimated time** (teaching hours per semester)

3.1 No. of hours per week	4	of which for course	2	of which for seminar	2
3.4 Total no. of hours in the curriculum	56	of which for course	28	of which for seminar	28
Time distribution:					Hours
Study by using handbook, reader, bibliography and course notes					30
Additional library/specialized online research, field research					10
Preparation of seminars/laboratories, homework, projects, portfolios and essays					50
Tutoring					4
Examinations					10
Other activities: .....					
<b>3.7 Total no. of hours for individual study</b>	<b>104</b>				
<b>3.8. Total no. of hours per semester</b>	<b>160</b>				
<b>3.9. No. of ECTS credit points</b>	<b>6</b>				

<sup>1</sup> E - exam, V- verification

<sup>2</sup> OB - core module, OP - elective module, F - extracurricular module

#### 4. Prerequisites (where applicable)

4.1	of	
curriculum		
4.2.	of	-
competencies		

#### 5. Conditions (where applicable)

5.1. For the development of the course	<p>- Students must attend at least 50%+1 of the courses; students with lower attendance levels will not be able to take the exam during the regular exam session. The only exceptions to this rule are cases for which there is a medical motivation for absences or cases of students who are in an institutional recognized exchange program (such as Erasmus). If, due to the current health crisis, the course will be held online, same minimal criteria for online attendance apply. In such cases, the course and the seminar meetings will take place via various online platforms such as Zoom or moodle (e.politice.ro)</p> <p>- Mobile phones should be turned off during class meetings; students cannot answer calls during lectures and discussions and they cannot leave the room to take/make calls; in the case of online teaching, the instructor can randomly check if the students who appear to be online are really taking part/follow the lecture and discussions</p> <p>- Lateness (more than 5 minutes after the start of the course, in case of offline meetings) is not allowed as it is disruptive to the entire class</p>
5.2. For the development of the seminar/laboratory	<p>- Students must attend at least 50%+1 of the seminars (be they offline or online); students with lower attendance levels will not be able to take the final exam during the regular exam session. The only exceptions to this rule are cases for which there is a medical ground for absences or those cases of students who are in an institutional recognized exchange program (such as Erasmus).</p> <p>Deadlines for seminar projects and papers are established by the instructor, based on discussions with students. Late papers will not be accepted except for solid reasons (such as medical reasons, which should be documented).</p>

#### 6. Specific Competences

<b>Professional competences</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acquiring a solid theoretical basis for empirical research related to stratification and mobility</li> <li>• Knowledge of social stratification and mobility theories</li> <li>• Being able to identify individual, ascriptive, and structural factors involved in social stratification and mobility processes;</li> <li>• Knowledge of the measures and indicators employed in the study of stratification and social mobility;</li> <li>• The development of skills to conduct research on the topic of this course and related topics.</li> </ul>
<b>Transversal competences</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Becoming familiar with sociological approaches to stratification and mobility as compared to other approaches (economics, political sciences).</li> <li>• The transfer of methods and know-how from one discipline to another, in the field of social sciences</li> <li>• The formation of a solid, historical-based knowledge of social stratification and its economic, political, social, and psychological dimensions and effects;</li> <li>• Learning how to use efficiently the information and communication resources for professional development assisted by Internet, specific software instruments, data sets, online courses.</li> </ul>

## 7. Course objectives (based on list of acquired skills)

7.1 General objective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This course intends to familiarize students with the main sociological theories and empirical studies that attempt to explain social stratification and social mobility phenomena. Such theories include (but are not limited to) those formulated by Karl Marx, F. Engels, Max Weber, Davis &amp; Moore as well as the more recent conceptual refinements belonging to neo-Marxists, neo-Weberians, and neo-functionalists. The course and its seminar will focus on the presentation and critical evaluation of such theories and of empirical studies derived from them.</li> </ul>
7.2. Specific objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understanding the main theories of social stratification and mobility. (e.g. Karl Marx, Max Weber, functionalists, neo-functionalists, neo-Marxists etc.)</li> <li>Understanding the main concepts employed in social stratification and mobility studies (class, status/rank, power, forms of capital, upward/downward individual social mobility, structural mobility, social reproduction, the power elite)</li> <li>Understanding social stratification and mobility from a historical and culturally diverse perspectives</li> <li>The critical analysis of concepts and indicators of social stratification/stratification schemes and social mobility</li> <li>Cultivating the critical spirit of students in regard to social mobility and stratification by attempting to answer questions such as: is social stratification inevitable? How can social inequality be reduced in contemporary societies? How can individual social mobility can be increased? How are social inequalities justified by various political ideologies?</li> <li>Getting students involved in the institutional development and the promotion of social research on social stratification and mobility. Students will be encouraged to draft research projects on social stratification issues and submit them to various agencies that fund social research</li> </ul>

## 8. Contents

8. 1. Course	Teaching methods	Observations
Introduction to social stratification and mobility	Lecture	1 lecture
Classical theories of social stratification and mobility Karl Marx, Max Weber, Davis & Moore, Talcott Parsons	Lecture and debate	2 lectures
Contemporary approaches to social stratification	Lecture and debate	2 lectures
Concepts, measures, and indicators of social mobility	Interactive presentation	2 presentations
Social stratification empirical schemes	Interactive presentation	2 presentations
Poverty – theories and measures	Interactive presentation	2 presentations
Ascriptive factors in social mobility processes (gender, race, and ethnicity)	Lecture	1 lectures and debates
Social and political consequences of stratification	Lecture and debate	2 lectures

**Bibliography:**

(All readings will be provided to the students by the instructor):

Karl Marx "The Communist Manifesto"

Max Weber "Class, Status, Party"

Kinglsey Davis and Wilbert E. Moore "Some Principles of Stratification"

E. O. Wright "A General Framework for the Analysis of Class Structure"

A. Giddens "The Class Structure of the Advanced Societies"

P. Bourdieu. "The Forms of Capital"

P. Blau and O. Duncan "Measuring the Status of Occupations"

D. Treiman "Occupational Prestige in Comparative Perspective"

S.M. Lipset, R. Bendix, H. Zetterberg "Social Mobility in Industrial Society"

R. Turner "Sponsored and Contest Mobility and the School System"

W. Sewell, A. Haller, A. Portes "The Educational and Early Occupational Attainment Process"

"Comparing social stratification schemas" available online at

<http://www.sociology.cam.ac.uk/srg/workingpapers/CS10StratificationSchemata2.pdf>

"Indicators of social mobility" (material by C. Stoica made available to students)

M. Reich. "The Economics of Racism"

E. Bonachich. "A Theory of Ethnic Antagonism"

S. Szelenyi "Women and the Class Structure"

Recommended bibliography:

J.W. Meyer "The Evolution of Modern Stratification Systems"

M. Granovetter "Toward a Sociological Theory of Income Differences"

8. 2 Seminar/laboratory	Teaching methods	Observations
Sociology, inequality, stratification	Presentation and debate	1 seminar
Are stratification and social inequality inevitable?	Debate	1 seminar
Understanding social mobility and stratification measures	Interactive presentation, exercises	2 seminars
What factors impact an individual's life chances in terms of social mobility and economic well-being?	Debate, case studies	2 seminars
Poverty and the intersection of structural and ascriptive factors	Debate, case studies	1 seminar

**Bibliography:**

(All readings will be provided to the students by the instructor):

Karl Marx "The Communist Manifesto"

Max Weber "Class, Status, Party"

Kinglsey Davis and Wilbert E. Moore "Some Principles of Stratification"

P. Bourdieu. "The Forms of Capital"

P. Blau and O. Duncan "Measuring the Status of Occupations"

D. Treiman "Occupational Prestige in Comparative Perspective"

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<http://www.sociology.cam.ac.uk/srg/workingpapers/CS10StratificationSchemata2.pdf>

"Indicators of social mobility" (material by C. Stoica made available to students)

"Measuring poverty" (material by C. Stoica made available to students)

Recommended bibliography:

J. Baron "Reflections on Recent Generations of Mobility Research"

**9. The correspondence between the content of the course and the expectations of the academic community, professional associations and representative employers in the field:**

- In selecting both the topics and the teaching methods for this course, the instructor will consult with practitioners in the field of social research (from the public and private sectors) and with fellow academics from other universities. These consultations will aim at identifying the needs of employers and other stakeholders, in order to adapt the course to the demands of the labor market.

**10. Assessment**


Type of activity	10.1 Assessment criteria	10.2. Assessment methods	10.3 Percentage of the final grade
10.4. Course	Understanding and learning basic concepts and theories covered in class; Attendance; Research project;	Final exam (online)	55%
10.5. Seminar/Laboratory	Participation and presentations	Individual presentations Attendance	10% 35%
<b>10.6. Minimum standard of performance</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To take the exam during the regular exam session, students must attend 50%+1 of courses (offline or online) and 50% +1 of seminars (offline or online).</li> <li>• The final grade at this course is calculated as follows: Final grade= (grade for attendance x 0.35) + (average grade for individual presentations x 0.10) + (final exam grade x 0.55).</li> <li>• For the minimum passing grade (5), a student must obtain grades of 5 for each of the components of the final grade</li> </ul>			

Date

Main instructor's signature

Seminar instructor's signature  
(if different from the main instructor)

15/09/2021



Date of department approval

Head of department's signature

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