

Course coordinator	dr hab. Dariusz Brzeziński, prof. IFISPAN
Course title	Contemporary Social Thought
ECTS allocation - total 6 ECTS	contact hours - 30 h 1,5 ECTS ;preparation for classes 20 h -1 ECTS;reading 30 h 1,5 ECTS;preparation for final evaluation/exam 20 h - 1 ECTS ;midterm preparation 20 h 1 ECTS;
Course goals (e. g. The aim of the course is to make its participants aware of the importance of....; the aim of the course is to teach the students how correctly to interpret ...; The course goal...	The aim of the course is to equip students with the knowledge of the most important ideas and discourses in contemporary social thought. The notions of modernity, nationalism, multiculturalism, (de)globalization, as well as memory, utopia and nostalgia will be explored. Although the analysis of the theoretical discussions in contemporary social thought will be the core of the course, they will be illustrated with examples of various processes of transformation in the area of culture and society in the 21st century. As part of the course, students will be acquainted with visual aids, like film, documentary and nonfiction.
Skills - Student can (e.g. "The student will be prepared to critically review and discuss academic texts", "use appropriate vocabulary to analyse ... ". "The student will be able to write essays ...	The student will be prepared to critically review and discuss academic texts on contemporary social theory, as well as to use appropriate ideas and concepts to analyse present-day social and cultural phenomena.
Knowledge - student knows (e.g. The student will understand the main concepts in contemporary thought ..., from the perspective of social sciences and cultural studies; student knows circumstances...	The student will obtain knowledge on the genesis and evolution of contemporary social theories, and will be able to critically discuss them. The student will also know how to use the existing concepts and ideas as the theoretical frameworks for the analysis of the contemporary condition.
Social competences - student is ready to ... (e.g. presenting views on the course topic, to work both individually and in a group, in an international environment...)	The student will be ready to present their view on the contemporary social thought. The student will be able to work both individually and in a group to discuss the present-day phenomena in the contexts of the social theories.
Course content (e. g. titles of meetings with short description)	1. Introduction to Contemporary Social Thought. 2. Memory, Non-Memory, Postmemory. 3. Contemporary Dimensions of Nostalgia. 4. Contemporary Utopian and Dystopian Thought. 5. Midterm Colloquium. 6. Between Consumerism and Deconsumption 7. Technology, Culture and Society 8. The Climate Crisis: Contemporary Debates 9. Globalisation and Deglobalisation 10. Research Design on Contemporary Social Thought: Group Work.

Teaching methods	lecture;text analysis;case study;discussion;screening;conversation lecture;lecture with multimedia presentation;
Literature/ readings	- Marianne Hirsch (2008), "The Generation of Postmemory", "Poetics Today", 29:1, 103-128. - Norris, Pippa, and Ronald Inglehart. (2019). "Cultural Backlash: Trump, Brexit and Authoritarian Populism". Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. - Zygmunt Bauman (2007), "Consuming Life", Cambridge: Polity Press, - Russel Jacoby (2005), "Picture Imperfect. Utopian Thought for an Anti-Utopian Age", New York: Columbia University Press. - Ewa Bińczyk, (2019) "The most unique discussion of the 21st century? The debate on the Anthropocene pictured in seven points", "The Anthropocene Review", 6(1-2): 3-18. - Anthony Elliott (2022). "Making Sense of AI: Our Algorithmic World", Cambridge: Polity Press. - Arlie Russel Hochschild (2016), "Stranger in their Own Land", New York, New Press. - Earl Babie (2011), "Basics of Social Research", Belmont CA: Wadsworth Cengage Learning 2011.
Assessment, learning outcomes verification (e. g. essay, mid-term test, participation in classes; active participation, presentation, individual-group project, etc.)	1. Oral exam at the end of the term - 50% of the final grade. 2. Mid-term colloquium – 20% of the final grade; students will be writing short essays on three topics. 3. In-class presentation - 15% of the final grade; an analysis of a selected cultural text (film, TV series, musical work, work of art, theatrical performance, etc.) or social phenomenon in the context of the text discussed in class; the topic of the presentation should be agreed in advance with the teacher; the presentation should be sent to the teacher at least 24 hours before the class 4. Active participation in class discussions – 15% of the final grade