Syllabus

INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY OF EDUCATION - 34202

Last update 06-10-2015

HU Credits: 3

Degree/Cycle: 1st degree (Bachelor)

Responsible Department: education

Academic year: 0

Semester: 1st Semester

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Edna Lomsky-Feder

Coordinator Email: mednal@mscc.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: By appointment

Teaching Staff:
Prof Edna Lomsky-Feder
Ms.
Course/Module description:
As part of the Social Sciences, Sociology of Education attempts to unmask institutions, organizations, functions, and educational activities with the aim of unveiling the gap between ideology and facts and contribute, in some way to reducing this gap. This singular perspective seeks to overcome the evident and obvious in everyday life in order to attain new insights regarding the conscious and unconscious motivations, interests and factors of educational action and organization. This approach undermines our self-evident understanding regarding education and uncovers motivations, and systemic failures to which we do not pay attention in everyday life. Among others, we will shed light on the dimension of education inequality in Israel and the world resulting from recent educational reforms and policies. In addition, we will deal with the globalization process and the challenges it presupposes to education systems.

Course/Module aims:
To encounter the students with the sociological understanding - one of the main disciplines dealing with the analysis and research of education systems

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:
To discuss the main three paradigms at the basis of the sociological perspective - functionalist, critical and symbolic interaction

Attendance requirements(%):
100

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Frontal classes (by the teachers) and working groups (by teaching assistants) every two weeks

Course/Module Content:
Part I: Education through the lens of sociological paradigms
Session 1 Sociology as a way of thinking
Session 2 The functional structural approach: Division of labor and social solidarity
Session 3 The critical approach: Power relations and social reproduction mechanisms
Session 4 The social action approach: Bargaining processes and social meaning
Part II: The human life cycle as a product of society and culture
Session 5 The invention of childhood
Session 6 Adolescence and the transition to adulthood in late modernity
Part III: Social arenas, actors, and the rules of the game
Session 7 The family: Intergenerational continuity and social capital
Session 8 The state as central actor in shaping the education system: Between the local, national, and the global
Session 9 Knowledge and ideology in education
Session 10 Educators: Transmitters of knowledge, cultural interpreters, agents of change
Sessions 11-12 Education and social power relations: A gender perspective (1)
Session 13 Education and processes of change and resistance
Session 14 Wrap-up

Required Reading:
Reading in English
Rezai-Rashti, Goli M. 2015, The politics of gender segregation and women's access to higher education in the Islamic Republic of Iran: the interplay of repression and resistance,Gender and Education,. 27(5): 469-486.

Additional Reading Material:

Course/Module evaluation:
End of year written/oral examination 70 %
Presentation 0 %
Participation in Tutorials 0 %
Project work 0 %
Assignments 30 %
Reports 0 %
Research project 0 %
Quizzes 0 %
Other 0 %

Additional information: