



# *The Hebrew University of Jerusalem*

## *Syllabus*

### *sociology of culture - 53323*

*Last update 29-01-2024*

*HU Credits:* 2

*Degree/Cycle:* 1st degree (Bachelor)

*Responsible Department:* Sociology and Anthropology

*Academic year:* 0

*Semester:* 1st Semester

*Teaching Languages:* English

*Campus:* Mt. Scopus

*Course/Module Coordinator:* Dr. Safi Shams

*Coordinator Email:* [safi.shams@mail.huji.ac.il](mailto:safi.shams@mail.huji.ac.il)

*Coordinator Office Hours:* By appointment

*Teaching Staff:*

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Dr. Safi Shams

Course/Module description:

Aesthetic experience has been the subject of much analysis in social science and specifically in the subfield of “cultural sociology”. Can aesthetic judgment be objective on what’s “beautiful” or “vulgar”? Is aesthetic taste independent from morality? Why are certain areas in cultural production more valued than others, and where does value in this case come from – the work of art itself? From the state? This course will introduce students to the various debates on aesthetics in social science, covering processes of valuation of cultural production, connections between aesthetic and moral valuation, and the roles of socioeconomic stratification in aesthetics and culture in general. Aesthetics in this course is treated as pertaining to the qualitative appreciation of objects, and not simply institutionalized art.

Course/Module aims:

Aesthetic experience has been the subject of much analysis in social science and specifically in the subfield of “cultural sociology”. Can aesthetic judgment be objective on what’s “beautiful” or “vulgar”? Is aesthetic taste independent from morality? Why are certain areas in cultural production more valued than others, and where does value in this case come from – the work of art itself? From the state? This course will introduce students to the various debates on aesthetics in social science, covering processes of valuation of cultural production, connections between aesthetic and moral valuation, and the roles of socioeconomic stratification in aesthetics and culture in general. Aesthetics in this course is treated as pertaining to the qualitative appreciation of objects, and not simply institutionalized art.

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:

Analyze the links between cultural production and inequality processes;  
understand the applications of social theory where cultural production is concerned

Attendance requirements(%):

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction:

Course/Module Content:

TBD

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Required Reading:

TBD

Additional Reading Material:

Grading Scheme:

Written / Oral / Practical Exam 40 %

Essay / Project / Final Assignment / Home Exam / Referat 50 %

Active Participation / Team Assignment 10 %

Additional information: