

Bachelor in Communication sciences and culture

Course title:	Cultural Studies
Course year:	3.
Semester:	1.
Course code:	17220
Scientific sector:	M-DEA/01
Lecturer:	Frank Heidemann, Frank.Heidemann@lmu.de
Module:	no
Lecturer other module:	-
Credits:	6
Total lecturing hours:	45
Total Hours of availability for students and tutoring:	18
Office hours:	from Monday to Friday on request
Attendance:	according to the regulation
Teaching language:	English
Propaedeutic course:	none
Course description:	<p>The course lies within the category of the “caratterizzante” courses of the Degree Program in the disciplinary area of the “Human and Socio-economic Sciences”.</p> <p>This course will introduce the field of cultural studies for BA students in communication sciences and culture. It aims at using cultural concepts in various context in academic and other professional contexts.</p>
Specific educational objectives:	<p>The main objective is to enable students to conceptualize culture as a structured and structuring entity, which is not homogenous or static, but contested and dynamic. The second objective is to discuss zones of cultural contact, cultural relativism and to practice a view across cultural boundaries. Both objectives will provide a perspective, which is free of ethnocentrism, essentialism and orientalism. Our conceptions of specific societies (including our own), of our bodies and of nature are informed by culturally shaped ideas.</p>
List of topics covered:	<p>Theoretical approaches: power (Foucault), orientalism (Said), representation (Spivak), identity (Hall), body (Butler), emotion (Reddy);</p> <p>Fields of investigation: print media, visual data, daily life, migration, cultural industries, etc.</p>
Teaching format:	Introduction by the lecturer, weekly readings,

	structured discussion, working on specific tasks in small groups, small format research based on observations and on media representations, presentation of group work in classes.
Learning outcomes:	<p><i>Knowledge and understanding</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Understanding of sociocultural theories. - Understanding and applying basic sociological concepts. - Understanding and applying scientific arguments in an appropriate language and narrative. <p><i>Applying knowledge and understanding</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Applying theoretical concepts in practice. - Applying sociological theories while observing social interaction. - Applying sociological concepts while interpreting mass media in order to make judgements. - Ability to transfer methods of visual anthropology in interpreting images and films <p><i>Making judgements</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development of critical thinking regarding dynamics in intercultural interactions. - Development of reflexivity in intercultural settings. - Development of independent judgments based on ethical discourses <p><i>Communication skills</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ability to write of memos, minutes and summaries of discussions of texts. - Ability to write short and focuses essays. - Ability to express arguments verbally in academic language. - Sensitivity to employ political and ethical appropriate language. <p><i>Learning skills</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Capacity to read theoretical works. - Ability to transfer methods and concepts to new context. - Ability to make judgments on academic writing as well as on products of mass media. - Ability to employ appropriate methods to self-organized research in group work or as individuals
Assessment:	<p>Each student presents either the summary of seminar content of the last week or summarises a selected text in addition to the compulsory reading (20%).</p> <p>One written summary and discussion of one of the compulsory texts, 2 pages (20%).</p> <p>Oral examination (60%).</p>

Evaluation criteria and criteria for awarding marks:	Ability to comprehend, to evaluate and to summaries texts. Critical and innovative thinking, self-reflexivity, ability to structure an argument.
Required readings:	Weekly one chapter or one article according to reading list.
Supplementary readings:	