

SYLLABUS

Transition and Everyday life

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

In Armenia transition is generally presented in the frame of reforms of political and economic institutions. The processes, which pass in everyday life has not been spoken about for years. This has affected one-dimensional perception of transition.

The course “Transition and Everyday life” refers to the aspects of transition, which concern everyday life and human relations. The post-Soviet transformations manifested in the viewpoints, approaches, cultural habitus, dispositions, interactions, forms of organization, use of time and space, etc. will receive special consideration. The discourses reflecting transitional processes on the one hand and everyday life on the other hand will be discussed as well. The linkage between postcolonial discourse in everyday life and the influence of transition processes will receive special importance.

During the presented course the discussion of transition will be done in the enlarged context. The question of both economical and human development, particularly of human opportunities’ and freedoms’ enlargement will be discussed. Transformation of cultural and social capitals, formation of new social groups and subcultures and their influence on the transition processes will be explored.

The course consists of two parts:

1. Transition and the peculiarities of the post-Soviet period
2. Everyday life in transition and transitions in everyday life

The course is based partly on the literature and partly on the field research.

CONTENT:

Week 1. Introduction. Transition and everyday life as a field of inquiry.

Part 1. Transition and peculiarities of the post-Soviet period

Week 2. *Conceptual approaches of transition: transition as a multi-dimensional process*

Bonnell V. 1996. (ed.) *Identities in Transition: Eastern Europe and Russia after the collapse of communism.* University of California: Berkeley, pp. 1-29,

Burawoy M., and Verdery K. eds. 1999. *Uncertain Transition: Ethnographies of Change in the Postsocialist World.* Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield, pp. 1-19

Hann C.M. 2002. *Postsocialism: Ideals, Ideologies, and Practicies in Eurasia*, London: Routladge, pp. 277-335

Week 3. *Transition and development: economic development and human development concepts*

Sen A. 1999. *Development as Freedom*, New York: Anchor books. pp. 3-54

Escobar A. 1995. *Encountering Development: The Making and Unmaking of the Third World*. Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press. pp.3-55

Verdery K. 1996. *What Was Socialism, and Wath Comes Next*, New Jersey: Prinseton University Press, pp. 131-229

Week 4. *Discussion on the theme: Transition, values and developments in post Soviet Armenia*

Poghosyan G. 2003. *Armenian Society in Transition*. Yerevan, (in Russian). pp. 54-105

Week 5. *Socio-cultural characteristics and main trends of transition in Post-Socialist space: Formation of new forms of cultural and social capitals in post Soviet space.*

Hann C.M. 2002. *Postsocialism: Ideals, Ideologies, and Practicies in Eurasia*, London: Routladge, pp. 1-93

Verdery K. 1996. *What Was Socialism, and Wath Comes Next*, New Jersey: Prinseton niversity Press, pp. 59-130

Mandel R. E., and Humphrey C. 2002. *Markets and Moralities: Ethnographies of postsocialism*. Oxford: Berg. pp. 1-19

Week 6. *Transition and modernization: modernization and postmodernization discourses in the post-Soviet space*

Outhwaite W. and Ray L. 2005. *Social Theory and Postcommunism*. Oxford: Blackwell, pp. 88-197.

Horschelmann K., 2002. *History After the End: Post Socialist Difference in a Postmodern World*. In: *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers, New Series, Vol. 27, No 1*, pp 52-66

Week 7. *Discussion on the theme: the specifics of socio-cultural aspects of transitional period of Armenia*

Poghosyan G. 2003. *Armenian Society in Transition*, Yerevan, (in Russian). pp. 196-282.

Part 2. Everyday life in transition and transitions in everyday life

Week 8. *Everyday life: framework, subjects and field of inquiry*

Goffman E. *The Presentation of Self in Everyday Life* (entire)

Berger P., and Luckmann T. 1966. *The Social Construction of Reality. A Treatise on Sociology of Knowledge.* Anchor Books, pp. 19-47.

Garfinkel H. 2011. *Studies in Ethnomethodology.* Polity Press, pp. 35-76.

Week 9. Everyday life and the habitus

Norbert Elias, *The Civilizing Process: Sociogenetic and Psychogenetic Investigations* Vol.1, pp. 47-182

Bourdieu P. 2000. *Distinction: A Social Critique of Judgement of Taste.* Harvard University Press, Part I, pp. 169-244

Bourdieu P. 2002. *Outline of The Theory of Practice.* Cambridge University Press. pp. 72-96, 159-183

Bourdieu P. 1986. The forms of capital. In J. Richardson (Ed.) *Handbook of Theory and Research for the Sociology of Education.* New York: Greenwood Press. pp. pp. 47-56

Week 10. Everyday life and cultural capital

Bourdieu P. 2002. *Outline of The Theory of Practice.* Cambridge University Press. pp. 159-183

Bourdieu P. 1986. The forms of capital. In J. Richardson (Ed.) *Handbook of Theory and Research for the Sociology of Education.* New York: Greenwood Press. pp. pp. 47-56

Week 11. Tastes and life styles in everyday life

Simmel G. Fashion, Adornment, and Style, in: *Simmel on Culture: Selected Writings.* Frisby, David Patrick and Mike Featherstone (eds.) 1998. London: Sage Publications. Part V, pp. 187-218

Bourdieu P. 2000. *Distinction: A Social Critique of Judgment of Taste.* Harvard University Press, Part I, pp. 257-386

Week 12. Discussion on the theme: Traditional, conservative and modern views in everyday life: problems and trends

Abrahamian L., Tadevosyan A., Hayrapetyan T., eds. 2010. *Tradition and Modernity in Armenian Culture,* Gityutyun, Yerevan (in Armenian)

Kurkchiyan M. 2005. Society in Transition, in: *Herzig, Edmund and Marina Kurkchiyan* (eds.). *The Armenians Past and Present in the Making of National Identity.* London and New York: Routledge, pp. 211-228

Week 13. Strategies and tactics of everyday life

Michel De Certeau. 1984. *The Practice of Everyday Life.* Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California Press. (General introduction)

Week 14. Everyday life and time

Norbert Elias, Time and Timing, in: *The Civilizing Process: Sociogenetic and Psychogenetic Investigations* Vol.1, pp. 47-182

Biernaki. R. Time Cents: The Monetization of Workday in Comparative Perspective, in: *Nowhere: Space, Time, and Modernity*. Friedland R., and Boden D. (eds.). pp. 61-94

Zarubavel E. Hidden Rhythms: Schedules and calendars in Social Life (Introduction)

Week 15. *Everyday life and space*

Simmel G. Spatial and Urban Culture, in: *Simmel on Culture: Selected Writings*. Frisby, David Patrick and Mike Featherstone (eds.) 1998. London: Sage Publications. Part IV, pp. 137-186

Michel de Certeau. 1984. *The Practice of Everyday Life*. Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California Press. pp. 91-131

Harvey D. 2008. The Right to the City. *New Left Review*, 53: pp. 23-40.

Week 16. *Discussion on the theme: Post soviet Transformations. New social groups and transformations of life style: Case study of youth social movement in Yerevan “We are the owners of the city*