

Mizan-Tepi University
College of Social Science and Humanities
Department of Sociology
Course Outline

<u>Background Information</u>			
Module Name	Economy and Society	Module Code	SocM2o81
Course Name	Economic Sociology	Course Code	SOCI2o81
Module ECTS	5 ECTS		
Instructor's Name	Demelash Belay		
Consultation Hours (Local Time)	Monday (7:30-9:30) Wednesday (7:30-9:30) Friday (7:30-9:30)		

I. Module Description

This module encompasses two courses: Economic Sociology and Sociology of Work, Industry and Organization. The module emphasizes the interconnections between economic activity, social relationships, culture (shared understandings), institutional structures, symbols, social networks and inter-actor relationships. It also focuses on major aspects of the economy, namely, work, industry and organization. In doing so, it deals with the nature of work and industry, division of labor; formal organizations, bureaucracy and its structure, organizational goals, approaches to organizational analysis; major theoretical perspectives in industrial and organizational sociology; and industry and industrial relations.

II. Module Objectives

On the first place, the module aims to acquaint students with the basic concepts in the field of economic sociology, demonstrate fallacies of conventional economic theories, and the social constructions of economic institutions, and introduce major debates and conceptual approaches in the sociology of markets. Secondly, the module aims to equip students with understanding of the historical development of modern forms of work and work ethic; prominent thinkers in the sociology of work, understanding of particular occupations, and knowledge of the process of industrialization; understand and critique the various forms of the management of work.

1. Objectives of the Course

This course mainly aims to introduce students to basic concepts in the field of economic sociology. The course also attempts to demonstrate to students the fallacies of conventional economic theories and the social construction of economic institutions. In addition to this, it also discusses major debates and conceptual approaches in the sociology of markets.

2. Learning Outcomes

Up on completion of this course students will:

- Understand basic concepts and various theoretical perspectives in economic sociology;
- Assess economic structures from a sociological point of view; and
- Examine the roles of social and cultural processes in guiding economic exchange.

3. Course Contents

Section One: Introduction: *Basic Concepts, Economic Action, Types of Economic Organization, The Market and Formal and Substantive Rationality of Economic Action*

Section Two: Social Construction of Economic Institutions: *Critique of Neo-Classical Economics, Social Embeddedness of Economic Actions, Culture, Networks and Social Capital/Trust and Efforts and Motivations*

Section Three: Approaches to Economic Sociology: *Political Economy, Organizational Theory and Population Ecology*

Section Four: The Sociology of Markets: *Institutional Theory, Actor-Network Theory and Performativity Theory*

4. Modes of Delivery and Study Hour

The modes of delivery for this course will be interactive teaching and learning, independent learning and collaborative learning. The total study hour allocated for this course is 135 hours. Of this time, 30 hours are allocated for lectures, 19 hours for assignments, 15 hours for presentation, 20 hours for tutorials and problem solving sessions, 16 hours for assessment and 35 hours for independent study.

5. Mode of Assessment

A combination of exams and term paper work will be used in assessing students' performance and achievement. **Tests** will be given to students that account for 20 %. Students will also be oriented to select a topic relating to the Ethiopian context and produce a **term paper** that will be rated out of 20% and **presentation** of the paper will account for 10%. The final exam will be out of 50%.

6. Reading Materials

Fligsten, Neil and Daquter Luke. 2006. *The Sociology of Markets*.

Fligsten, Neil and Dauter Luke. 2006. *Economy and Society*.

Grannoveter Mark. 1985. *Economic Action and Social Structure: The Problem of Embeddedness*, *American Journal of Sociology* 91(13) 482-510.

Hammilton, Garry G. and Nicole W. Biggart. 1988. *Market, Culture, and Authority: A Comparative Analysis of Management and Organization in the Fareast*, *American Journal of Sociology* 94: S52-94.

Mauro F. Guillen, Randal Collins, Paula England, and Marshal Mayer (Ed.). 2002. *The New Economic Sociology: Developments in an Emerging Field*.




Nan Lin, Karen Cook, and Ronald S. Burt (Ed.) 2001. *Social Capital: Theory and Research*.

Roger Friedland and A.F. Robertson (Ed.). *The Old and New Economic Sociology: A History and Agenda in "Beyond the Market Place: Rethinking Economy and Society."*

W.T. Tucker. 1964. *The Social Construction of Economic Behavior*.

White Harrison C. *Where do Markets Come from?* *American Journal of Sociology* 87: 514-547.

7. Course Schedule

Days	Activity	Time (Local)
Day 1	 Course Introduction	3:10– 5:45
Day 2	Lecture: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Section One: Introduction: <i>Basic Concepts</i>	3:10– 5:45
Day 3	Lecture: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Economic Action</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Types of Economic Organization</i>  Group Assignment Topic Distribution	3:10– 5:45
Day 4	Lecture: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>The Market and Formal and Substantive Rationality of Economic Action</i>	3:10– 5:45
Day 5	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Section Two: Social Construction of Economic Institutions: <i>Critique of Neo-Classical Economics</i>	3:10– 5:45
Day 6	Lecture: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Social Embeddedness of Economic Actions,</i>	3:10– 5:45
Day 7	 First Exam – Section One	4:00
Day 8	Lecture: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Culture, Networks and Social Capital/Trust and Efforts and Motivations</i>	3:10– 5:45

Day 9	Lecture: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Section Three: Approaches to Economic Sociology: <i>Political Economy,</i>	3:10– 5:45
Day 10	Lecture: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Organizational Theory</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Population Ecology</i>	3:10– 5:45
Day 11	 Second Exam – Section Two	4:00
Day 12	Lecture: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Section Four: The Sociology of Markets: <i>Institutional Theory</i>	3:10– 5:45
Day 13	Lecture: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Actor-Network Theory</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Performativity Theory</i>	3:10– 5:45
Day 14	 Final Exam – Section Three and Four	4:00
Day 15	Group Assignment Paper Submission	3:00 – 5:45 (Office, Department of Sociology)
Day 16	Group Assignment Presentation	4:00