AYDIN ADNAN MENDERES UNIVERSITY
COURSE INFORMATION FORM

Course Title		Rumor, Gossip and Urban Legend					
Course Code		SOSY649		Couse Level	Third Cycle (Doctorate Degree)		
ECTS Credit	5	Workload	127 *(Hours)*	Theory	3	Practice	0	Laboratory	0

Objectives of the Course	Rumours, gossip and urban legends had become the subject of sociological research with varying intensity since the middle of twentieth century (Neubauer 1999; Burgess 2006). They can be defined as the oldest form of mass communication and regardless of the social environment we live in rumours emerge anywhere. Rumours are capable of spreading of news, bring fame and glory, or to tarnish the reputation and even play an important role in international relations to cause wars and uprisings (Kapferer, J.N 1990). In recent times, there has been a noticeable increase of rumours in our country and the social problems caused by them have been noticeable. The purpose of this course is to develop sociology of rumours, gossip and urban legends and to introduce this subject to the younger academics in this area also to introduce the current and historic literature.
Course Content	In recent times there is a need for some key concepts and new theories in sociology to grasp and explain the recent rumord, gossip and urban legend that have been occurring. We need to apply key new social concepts and new social theories. In this course we aim to discuss the increasing widespread Rumor, Gossip and Urban Legends. To explaing the problem concepts and theories of risk society, world risk society and culture of fear, uncertainties and the problem of erosion of trust.
Work Placement	N/A
Planned Learning Activities and Teaching Methods	Explanation (Presentation), Discussion, Problem Solving
Name of Lecturer(s)	

Assessment Methods and Criteria

Method	Quantity	Percentage (%)
Midterm Examination	1	40
Final Examination	1	60

Recommended or Required Reading

1	DELİBAŞ KAYHAN (2017) Risk Toplumu Belirsizlikler ve Söylentiler Sosyolojisi, Ayrıntı Yayınları, İstanbul.
2	DELI·BAS¸ KAYHAN (2013) Sağlığa İlişkin Korkular: Güven Erozyonu Bağlamında Sağlık Korkularını Anlamlandırmak, İçinde, (Der. Osman Elbek), Kapitalizm Sağlığa Zararlıdır, Hayykitap, İstanbul.
3	Kapferer, Jean Noel (1992), Dedikodu Söylenti, Yayınevi GletiGim Yayınları, İstanbul.
4	Luhmann, N. 1979. Trust and Power. Chichester: Wiley Publications
5	Rasnow R. L., Fine G. A. (1976), Rumor and Gossip: The Social Psychology of Hearsay, New York, Elsevier.
6	Beck, Ulrich, (2014). Risk toplumu: Yeni Bir Moderniteye Doğru, İstanbul: İthaki Yayınevi
7	Bauman, Z. (2017). Akışkan Modernite. İstanbul: Can Sanat Yayınları.
8	Giddens, Anthony (2014). Modernliğin Sonuçları. İstanbul: Ayrıntı Yayınevi.
9	Frank, Furedi (2001) Korku Ku¨ltu¨ru¨, Ayrıntı Yayınları.

Week	Weekly Detailed Course Contents	
1	Theoretical	Rumor, Urban Legend and Conspiracy Theories
2	Theoretical	Rumors: Definition and Discussions I
3	Theoretical	Rumors: Definition and Discussions II
4	Theoretical	Rumors: The Problem of Method in Their Study
5	Theoretical	History of Rumors, Conspiracy Theory Studies I: Early Period
6	Theoretical	History of Rumors, Conspiracy Theory Studies II: 1970-2000
7	Theoretical	History of Rumors, Conspiracy Theory Studies II: Current Situation
8	Intermediate Exam	MIDTERM EXAM
9	Theoretical	Reflections of Rumors in Daily Life I
10	Theoretical	Reflections of Rumors in Daily Life II
11	Theoretical	Natural Disaster Rumors: Earthquake Rumors in Turkey
12	Theoretical	Various Local and Global Conspiracy Theories I
13	Theoretical	Various Local and Global Conspiracy Theories II

14	Theoretical	Various Local and Global Conspiracy Theories II: Covid-19
15	Theoretical	Towards the Sociology of Rumors, Urban Legends, and Conspiracy Theories
16	Final Exam	FINAL EXAM

Workload Calculation

Activity	Quantity	Preparation	Duration	Total Workload
Lecture - Theory	14	0	3	42
Assignment	3	0	3	9
Reading	1	5	2	7
Midterm Examination	1	30	2	32
Final Examination	1	35	2	37
			Total Workload (Hours)	127
			[Total Workload (Hours) / 25*] = **ECTS**	5

*25 hour workload is accepted as 1 ECTS

Learning Outcomes

1	Comprehension of basic conceptual and theoretical discussions on rumors, urban legends and conspiracy theories;
2	To have advanced knowledge and skills about the basic sociological theories of the field by examining them and to be able to analyze current conspiracy theories;
3	Rumors, urban legends, and social, cultural, etc., which cause conspiracy theories to emerge and spread. understanding of the conditions;
4	Acquiring the skills to conduct scientific studies in the field by using the sociological methods of rumors, urban legends and conspiracy theories;
5	Demonstrate a critical and objective approach when approaching rumors, urban legends and conspiracy theories;

Programme Outcomes (Sociology Doctorate)

1	To be able to understand and explain the functioning of social structure, institutions and processes, and social action.
2	Ability to make advanced sociological analyzes based on the current theoretical and conceptual framework.
3	To be able to think critically about the causes and consequences of social inequalities (in the areas of class, ethnicity, religion, and gender).
4	To be able to use sociological research methods and techniques effectively in work life and academic studies.
5	To be able to understand and explain social and intercultural differences from a comparative perspective.
6	Being sensitive to universal values and ecological problems by using a scientific perspective.
7	To be able to look at current social problems and phenomena from an interdisciplinary perspective.
8	To follow current sociological developments, to be open to professional innovations and to be able to predict.
9	Having professional sensitivity and scientific ethical responsibility.
10	To be able to express oneself in an advanced academic sense, both verbally and in writing, and to communicate effectively.
11	To be able to follow basic sociological texts in a foreign language.

Contribution of Learning Outcomes to Programme Outcomes 1:Very Low, 2:Low, 3:Medium, 4:High, 5:Very High

	L1	L2	L3	L4	L5
P1	4	5	5	4	4
P2	4	4	4	4	4
P3	3	3	3	3	4
P4	4	4	4	4	4
P5	4	4	5	5	4
P6	3	3	3	4	3
P7	4	5	4	5	5
P8	5	5	5	5	4
P9	4	4	4	4	4
P10	4	3	4	3	4
P11	4	4	4	3	4