

DEPARTMENT OF "International Communication and Media Research"  
COURSE SYLLABUS

Course Details					
<b>Code</b>		<b>Academic Year</b>		<b>Semester</b>	
ICMR110		2021-2022		2	
<b>Title</b>		<b>T</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>ECTS</b>
Epistemology of Communication Science		2	0	0	5
<b>Language</b>	English				
<b>Level</b>	<b>Graduate</b>	x	<b>Postgraduate</b>		
<b>Department / Program</b>	International Communication and Media Research				
<b>Forms of Teaching and Learning</b>	Face-to-Face (60%), Distance Learning (40%)				
<b>Course Type</b>	<b>Compulsory</b>		<b>Elective</b>	x	
<b>Objectives</b>	In order to perform scientific practice in a qualified manner, a fundamental understanding of this work is required. Prospective academics need to understand the status of science in a global society, the preconditions it entails and the processes it undergoes.				
<b>Content</b>	In the course of the module, students deal with the epistemological, scientific-theoretical and methodological foundations of scientific work. The module contains the following thematic areas and discusses them against the background of what effects digitalization and internationalization can have on fundamental epistemological, scientific theoretical and methodological foundations: Functions of science and its different heuristics and methodologies; Meaning of the concept of knowledge and conditions and possibilities of gaining knowledge about reality; Requirements for justifications with which claims to validity of knowledge can be justified; Requirements and peculiarities of the quality of scientific knowledge; Scientific paradigms and paradigm shifts as carriers of scientific theory; Critical rationalism and fallibility theory; significance of the concept of truth and processes of evaluating knowledge, especially under conditions of digitization; methodological foundations of the empirical social sciences and the concept of empiricism in communication science; and changes in scientific working methods due to digitization and possible implications for epistemological foundations.				
<b>Prerequisites</b>	–				
<b>Coordinator</b>	–				
<b>Lecturer(s)</b>	Prof. Dr. Ralf Hohlfeld				
<b>Assistant(s)</b>	-				
<b>Work Placement</b>	–				
Recommended or Required Reading					
<b>Books / Lecture Notes</b>	Kuhn, Thomas S. (1962): The Structure of Scientific Revolutions; Berger, P. L./ Luckmann, T. (1996): The social construction of reality. A treatise in the sociology of knowledge, New York; Merton, Robert K (1985): On the Shoulders of Giants: A Shandean Postscript;				

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	Nordenstreng, Kaarle (2014): Ferment in the Field: Notes on the Evolution of Communication Studies and its Disciplinary Nature, Javnost - The Public, 11:3, 5-17		
Other Sources	-		
<b>Additional Course Material</b>			
Documents	-		
Assignments	-		
Exams	-		
<b>Course Composition</b>			
Social Sciences			100%
Natural Sciences			%
Engineering Sciences			%
Expert Knowledge			%
<b>Assessment</b>			
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Count</b>		<b>Percentage (%)</b>
Midterm Exam			
Quiz			
Assignments			
Attendance			
Recitations	1		50
Projects	1		50
Final Exam			
		<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>ECTS Points and Work Load</b>			
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Duration</b>	<b>Work Load (Hours)</b>
Lectures	14	2	28
Self-Study	14	2	28
Assignments			
Presentation / Seminar Preparation			
Midterm Exam			
Recitations	1	56	56
Laboratory			
Projects	1	38	38
Final Exam			
		<b>Total Work Load</b>	<b>150</b>

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ECTS Points (Total Work Load / 30)		5				
<b>Learning Outcomes</b>						
1	Understanding of the epistemological, scientific-theoretical and methodological foundations of scientific work					
2	Comprehension of the impact of digitalization and internationalization on theory and practice in communication science					
3	Die Studierenden verstehen die Bedeutung des Wissensbegriffs und kennen Bedingungen und Möglichkeiten der Gewinnung von Wissen über die Realität					
4	Die Studierenden kennen die Anforderungen an Begründungen, mit denen Geltungsansprüche von Wissen gerechtfertigt werden können.					
5	Die Studierenden sind mit den Anforderungen und Besonderheiten der Qualität wissenschaftlichen Wissens, insbesondere der Wahrheitsfähigkeit und Evidenzbasiertheit vertraut					
6	Die Studierenden kenne die Bedeutung des Wahrheitsbegriffs und die Prozesse der Bewertung von Wissen, insbesondere unter Digitalisierungsbedingungen					
7	Die Studierenden können erkenntnis- und wissenschaftstheoretische Grundlagen kritisch reflektieren					
8	Die Studierenden können Verfahren und Voraussetzungen des eigenen Fachs kritisch reflektieren und diese für eigene Forschungsprojekte nutzbar machen					
<b>Weekly Content</b>						
1	Seminar organization, introduction to the topic of the seminar					
2	Sociology of knowledge					
3	Workshop					
4	Sociology of science - from the classics (Merton, Parsons, Bourdieu) to the modern age					
5	Workshop					
6	On the shoulders of giants: The accumulation of knowledge and insight					
7	Workshop					
8	Scientific paradigms and paradigm shifts (Thomas Kuhn)					
9	Workshop					
10	Critical rationalism and fallibility theory (Karl Raimund Popper)					
11	Workshop					
12	The knowledge society in the postfactual age					
13	Workshop					
14	Final session: summary and feedback					
<b>Contribution of Learning Outcomes to Program Objectives (1-5)</b>						
	<b>P1</b>	<b>P2</b>	<b>P3</b>	<b>P4</b>	<b>P5</b>	<b>P6</b>
1	5	5	5	5	3	5
2	5	3	5	5	5	5

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<b>3</b>	3	5	4	3	5	5
<b>4</b>	5	3	5	4	5	5
<b>5</b>	5	5	5	5	5	5
<b>6</b>	5	5	5	5	5	4
<b>7</b>	5	4	5	4	4	5
<b>8</b>	5	5	5	5	5	5

**Contribution Level** 1: Low 2: Low-intermediate 3: Intermediate 4: High 5: Very High

<https://obs.tau.edu.tr/oibs/bologna/progProfile.aspx?lang=en&curSunit=6028>

**Compiled by:** Prof. Dr. Ralf Hohlfeld

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