# Transnational Social Spaces – Syllabus

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Department of Sociology</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2022/2023</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Course</td>
<td>Transnational Social Spaces</td>
<td>ECTS</td>
<td>5</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Study programme**

- Graduate programme in Sociology

**Level of study programme**

- ☑ Graduate
- ☐ Undergraduate
- ☐ Integrated
- ☐ Postgraduate

**Type of study programme**

- ☑ University
- ☐ Single major
- ☐ Double major
- ☐ Professional
- ☐ Specialized

**Year of study**

- ☒ 4
- ☒ 5

**Semester**

- ☑ Winter
- ☒ Summer

- ☒ I
- ☒ II
- ☒ III
- ☒ IV
- ☒ V
- ☒ VI
- ☒ VII
- ☒ VIII
- ☒ IX
- ☒ X

**Status of the course**

- ☐ Compulsory
- ☒ Elective

**Teaching Competencies**

- ☐ Elective course offered to students from other departments

**Workload**

- 30 L
- 15 S
- E

**Internet sources for e-learning**

- ☑ YES
- ☒ NO

**Location and time of instruction**

- Room 203
- Wednesdays 16:00–18:00

**Language(s) in which the course is taught**

- English

**Course start date**

- 5 October 2022

**Course end date**

- 25 January 2023

**Enrolment requirements**

**Course coordinator**

- Prof. Saša Božić
- E-mail: sbozic@unizd.hr
- Consultation hours: Wednesdays 18:00–19:30 (by appointment) Room 204

**Course instructor**

- E-mail: Consultation hours

**Assistant/Associate**

- E-mail: Consultation hours

**Mode of teaching**

- ☒ Lectures
- ☒ Seminars and workshops
- ☐ Exercises
- ☐ E-learning
- ☐ Field work
- ☐ Individual assignments
- ☐ Multimedia and network
- ☐ Laboratory
- ☐ Mentoring
- ☐ Other
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Learning outcomes</th>
<th>After successful completion of the course the students will be able to:</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- recognise and to become aware of the bias of ‘methodological nationalism’ in contemporary social sciences</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- understand the foundation of new social ties across the boundaries of nation-states</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- identify and apply appropriate theories and concepts of transnational social space on specific empirical cases</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- use the concept of transnational social space as an alternative concept to contemporary sociological theories in personal work and research</td>
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<td>- write an essay in form of a scientific article.</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Learning outcomes at the Programme level</th>
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<tr>
<th>Assessment criteria</th>
<th>☒ Class attendance</th>
<th>☒ Preparation for class</th>
<th>☐ Homework</th>
<th>☒ Continuous evaluation</th>
<th>☒ Research</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>☒ Practical work</td>
<td>☐ Experimental work</td>
<td>☐ Presentation</td>
<td>☒ Project</td>
<td>☐ Seminar</td>
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<tr>
<td>☐ Test(s)</td>
<td>☐ Written exam</td>
<td>☐ Oral exam</td>
<td>☒ Other: essay</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Conditions for permission to take the exam</th>
<th>Regular attendance of lectures and seminars. Students are obliged to prepare an essay in the form of a scientific article based on their research during the semester.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exam periods</td>
<td>☐ Winter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam dates</td>
<td>1 February 2023</td>
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<td></td>
<td>23 September 2023</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course description</th>
<th>Sociologists used to conceptualise society as a limited ‘container’ within which separate social relations and a specific national culture developed. Definition of space as a separate entity, independent of social actors, led towards the concept of national societies as isolated containers and produced a widely accepted framework for sociological analysis of social relations. Due to the processes of transnationalisation, a new perspective of the relations between social, cultural and spatial, between the social space and geographical space is sought. New approaches to the research of social space focus on space as a set of relations between positions of socially significant elements. These positions structure human activities and at the same time, they are structured by human practices. Within new theoretical perspectives, social relations are not limited within space conceived as a container but constitute social space. Without elements such as social practices and symbols there are no socially and sociologically relevant spaces. Further on, culture becomes increasingly detached from standardised cultural frames of national societies and cultural pluralism and transnational syncretism develop together with the new transnational social spaces. The course will consequently deal with widely spread types of transnational social spaces, such as transnational families, transnational entrepreneurial networks, transnational movements, transnational communities, with special reference on cultural changes which enable refocusing of actors from local and national to plurilocal and transnational frameworks, as well as constructing new forms of decentred group identities.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Course content</td>
<td>1. Introductory Lecture Geographical and Social Space – Variation in thinking about space</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2. Social Space – From ‘Container’ Space towards Social Space</td>
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<td></td>
<td>3. Social Space – Terminology and Concepts</td>
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| 4. Methodological Nationalism and Territory in the Social Sciences  
Form 1.3.2. Syllabus |
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<tr>
<td>5. Transnational Processes and New Configurations of Social Spaces</td>
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<td>6. Transnational Social Space and ‘Transnationalism’</td>
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<td>7. Society as Transnational Social Fields; Transnational Social Spaces and Migration</td>
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<tr>
<td>8. Transnational Social Space, Businessmen and the Capitalist Class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Transnational Space and Media</td>
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<tr>
<td>10. Transnational Households and Families</td>
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<td>11. Political ‘Transnationalism’ and Transnational Citizenship</td>
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<td>12. Transnational Social Movements</td>
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<td>13. Geography of Transnational Social Spaces</td>
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<td>14. Researching Transnational Social Space</td>
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<td>15. The Future of Transnational Spaces</td>
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**Required reading**


### Additional reading

Additional literature will be given to all students after the subject of their research is determined following the introductory lecture and the first seminar.

### Internet sources

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment criteria of learning outcomes</th>
<th>Final exam only</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>☐ Final written exam</td>
<td>☐ Final oral exam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☐ Only test/homework</td>
<td>☐ Test/homework and final exam</td>
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### Calculation of final grade

Students are obliged to prepare an essay in the form of a scientific article based on their research during the semester. The following elements are evaluated: consistency of the thesis, content and data; originality of interpretations of the researched phenomenon, integration of contemporary theory into the main arguments of the essay.

Essay must meet the following formal criteria: min. 10 pages of text, and separately: the cover page, list of references, attachments, images, etc., font 12, Times New Roman, 1.5 line spacing

### Course evaluation procedures

- ☒ Student evaluations conducted by the University
- ☐ Student evaluations conducted by the Department
- ☐ Internal evaluation of teaching
- ☒ Department meetings discussing quality of teaching and results of student evaluations
- ☐ Other
In accordance with Art. 6 of the *Code of Ethics* of the Committee for Ethics in Science and Higher Education, “the student is expected to fulfil his/her obligations honestly and ethically, to pursue academic excellence, to be civilized, respectful and free from prejudice.”

According to Art. 14 of the University of Zadar’s *Code of Ethics*, students are expected to “fulfil their responsibilities responsibly and conscientiously. [...] Students are obligated to safeguard the reputation and dignity of all members of the university community and the University of Zadar as a whole, to promote moral and academic values and principles. [...]”

Any act constituting a violation of academic honesty is ethically prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to:

- various forms of fraud such as the use or possession of books, notes, data, electronic gadgets or other aids during examinations, except when permitted;
- various forms of forgery such as the use or possession of unauthorised materials during the exam; impersonation and attendance at exams on behalf of other students; fraudulent study documents; forgery of signatures and grades; falsifying exam results.”

All forms of unethical behaviour will result in a negative grade in the course without the possibility of compensation or repair. In case of serious violations the *Rulebook on Disciplinary Responsibility of Students at the University of Zadar* will be applied.

In electronic communications only messages coming from known addresses with a first and a last name, and which are written in the Croatian standard and appropriate academic style, will be responded to.