



Sociology of War: Ideological Discourses, Mobilisation Practices

Curriculum (Syllabus)

Course details

Level of higher education	Second (Master's)
Field of knowledge	C - social sciences, journalism, information and international relations
Specialisation	C5 Sociology
Educational programme	Social Data Analytics
Status of discipline	Elective
Form of study	Full-time (day)
Year of study, semester	1st year, second semester
Scope of the discipline	5 credits (150 hours): 30 hours of lectures, 30 hours of seminars, 90 hours of independent work
Semester assessment/assessment measures	Exam, Modular control work
Class schedule	https://schedule.kpi.ua/
Language of instruction	Ukrainian
Information about course director / lecturers	Lecturer and practical training: Candidate of Social Sciences, Associate Professor Maksym Naimovich Yenin
Course location	https://do.ipk.kpi.ua/course/view.php?id=4916

Curriculum

1. Description of the course, its purpose, subject matter and learning outcomes

The course aims to develop the skills and abilities to analyse the causes, consequences and ways of resolving military conflicts, and to apply special methods for their study. The course introduces master's students to the basic concepts, problems and theories that exist in the subject field of the sociology of war, the study of political and scientific discourses, as well as the mobilisation practices of the phenomenon of war and empirical research methods in this field of knowledge.

The main objectives of the course are:

- to define the tasks of the sociology of war in the structure of contemporary sociological knowledge;
- to find out how sociology explains the essence and causes of war;
- to compare the common and distinctive features of traditional and modern wars;
- to consider the evolution of mobilisation practices from traditional to modern wars;
- to identify the features of the concept of hybrid warfare;
- to examine the discourses of hybrid warfare in the West, Ukraine and the Russian Federation;
- identify how elites and the masses are involved in the discourse of hybrid warfare in Ukraine;

- identify the main ideological forms of patriotism as a mobilisation practice, as well as its value modifications in the consciousness of Ukrainian youth;
- identify factors that motivate/demotivate young people to participate in military mobilisation (based on sociological research in Ukraine).

While studying the discipline, students will also be able to:

- master theoretical concepts of war research;
- identify the common and distinctive features of traditional and modern wars;
- apply methods of sociological analysis of military conflicts and take into account their possibilities and limitations in wartime;
- analyse ideological and mobilisation practices characteristic of different wars;
- distinguish between ideological forms of patriotism;
- assess the characteristics of military conflict resolution;
- compare the main sociological theories of war;
- work with statistical data to study wars and conflicts;
- develop possible management approaches to resolving military conflicts;
- integrate the acquired knowledge and skills into professional activity.

Mastering this discipline contributes to **the strengthening of** the following competencies and program learning outcomes:

- LC 01 Ability to think abstractly, analyse and synthesise.
- FC 01 Ability to analyse social phenomena and processes.
- FC 02 Ability to identify, diagnose and interpret social problems of Ukrainian society and the global community.
- PRN 01 Analyse social phenomena and processes using empirical data and modern concepts and theories of sociology.
- PRN 02 Diagnose and interpret social problems of Ukrainian society and the global community, their causes and consequences.

Communication with the lecturer is possible and encouraged during classes, as well as during two hours of consultations with the lecturer, which are held according to a schedule available on the website of the Department of Sociology.

2. Prerequisites and post-requisites of the discipline (place in the structural-logical scheme of training under the relevant educational programme)

Prerequisites: basic knowledge acquired at the bachelor's level, in particular in sociology, political science, conflict studies and social research methodology.

Post-requisites: the study of the discipline deepens the understanding of master's students of the main theoretical and empirical directions of the study of military conflicts, their essence, causes, driving forces and consequences, and can be used in the mastery of professional disciplines, research work and the preparation of a master's thesis.

3. Content of the academic discipline

Section 1. Theoretical and methodological aspects of the study of war

Topic 1. War as an object of sociological study

Topic 2. Theories of war in sociological discourse. The civilisational approach and its criticism

Topic 3. Theories of war in sociological discourse. Economocentric, sociobiological and organisational approaches

Topic 4. Contemporary sociological theories of war: characteristics of modern warfare. Low-intensity conflicts and network wars

Topic 5. Contemporary sociological theories of war: theories of controlled chaos, cognitive warfare, and proxy warfare

Topic 6. Hybrid warfare: essence, technologies, discourses

Topic 7. Institutional landscape of martial law. Employment and war: changes in the labour market

Topic 8. The Russian-Ukrainian war and the phenomenon of mass migration

Topic 9. Donbas as a region of Ukraine and as a theatre of war

Topic 10. State ideologies of armed forces recruitment in the (Eastern) European region

Topic 11. Sociology in conditions of crisis and war: the problem of methodological capacity

Section 2. War and mass consciousness

Topic 12. Social mimicry of the civilian population in wartime

Topic 13. Mass consciousness, public opinion and war

Topic 14. Trust and adaptation in conditions of war

Topic 15. War: deviant behaviour, morality and law

Topic 16. Patriotism: ideological forms and value modifications

Topic 17. Soft power as a tool of modern politics

Topic 18. National resilience as a strategy for the preservation and development of a country

4. Teaching materials and resources

To successfully study the discipline, it is sufficient to work through the educational material presented in lectures and familiarise yourself with the literature.

Main literature

1. National Resilience of Ukraine: Strategy for Responding to Challenges and Anticipating Hybrid Threats: National Report / Ed. by S. I. Pirozhkov, O. M. Maiboroda, N. V. Khamitov, Ye. I. Golovakha, S. S. Dembitsky, V. A. Smoliy, O. V. Skrypnyuk, S. V. Stoetsky / I. F. Kuras Institute of Political and Ethno-National Studies of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine. Kyiv, 2022. 552 p.

2. Ukrainian society in wartime. Collective monograph / S. Dembitsky, O. Zlobina, N. Kostenko et al.; edited by member–corresponding member of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, Doctor of Philosophy Ye. Golovakha, Doctor of Social Sciences S. Makeev. Kyiv: Institute of Sociology of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, 2022. 410 p.

3. Ukrainian society in wartime. The year 2023: Collective monograph / S. Dembitsky, O. Zlobina, N. Kostenko et al.; edited by corresponding member of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, Doctor of Philosophy Ye. Golovakha, Doctor of Social Sciences S. Makeev. Kyiv: Institute of Sociology of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, 2023. 343 p.

4. Ukrainian Society in Wartime. The Year 2024: Collective Monograph / S. Dembitsky, O. Zlobina, N. Kostenko et al.; edited by Corresponding Member of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, Doctor of Philosophy Ye. Golovakha, Corresponding Member of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, Doctor of Social Sciences S. Dembitsky. Kyiv: Institute of Sociology of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, 2024. 450 p.

Supplementary

1. Babka V. Russian-Ukrainian conflict: civilizational and memorial aspects // Scientific notes of the I. F. Kuras Institute of Political and Ethno-National Studies of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine. 2015. Issue 1. P. 104–114.

2. Baginskyi A. Mobilisation of civil society in the conflict in eastern Ukraine: ideological constraints and resources for peacebuilding // Ideology and Politics. 2018. No. 2. Pp. 94–126.

3. Burlachuk, V. Armed conflict and cultural difference. Methodology, theory and practice of sociological analysis of modern society. 2014. pp. 11–15.

4. War in Donbas: realities and prospects for settlement. Razumkov Centre. Kyiv. 2019. 144 pp.
5. Hybrid War in Eastern Ukraine in an Interdisciplinary Dimension: Origins, Realities, Prospects for Reintegration: Collection of Scientific Works / Edited by V. S. Kurylo, S. V. Savchenko, O. L. Karaman. Starobilsk: Taras Shevchenko National University of Luhansk, 2017. 383 p.
6. Yenin M. Ideological forms and value modifications of patriotism among Ukrainian youth (based on an analysis of moderated group discussions) // Ideology and Politics. 2018. No. 2. P. 61–93.
7. Yenin M., Vasylets O. Patriotic education of Ukrainian youth: mechanisms of rationalisation // Youth in Central and Eastern Europe. Sociological Studies. 2017. No. 2. P. 87–100.
8. Yenin M., Stefanovich A. The media image of the Armed Forces of Ukraine as a component of the popularisation of military service among youth // Bulletin of the National Technical University of Ukraine "Kyiv Polytechnic Institute". Political Science. Sociology. Law: collection of scientific works. Kyiv; Odesa: Publishing House "Helvetica", 2021. No. 4 (52). Pp. 6–16.
9. Yenin M., Melnichenko A., Melnik L. Hybrid warfare as a type of socio-political conflict: essence, technologies, dominant discourses // Current problems of philosophy and sociology. 2019. No. 25. Pp. 102–112.
10. Yenin M. N. Patriotism // Great Ukrainian Encyclopedia. URL: <https://vue.gov.ua/Патріотизм> (accessed: 22.06.2024).
11. Zaliznyak L. Ukraine and Russia: War of Civilisations. URL: <https://universum.lviv.ua/magazines/universum/2017/2/vij-cyv.html>
12. Zlobina O. Groups generated by crisis as an object of sociological research: possibilities and limitations of research methods // Bulletin of Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv 5 (302), May 2016. Pp. 151–162.
13. Kataiev S. L., Zoska Ya. V. Hybrid traditionalism in the context of war // Social technologies: current issues in theory and practice. 2023. Issue 97. Pp. 56–63.
14. Knyazeva O. Specifics of a sociologist's work in conditions of military conflict: opportunities and limitations (Ukrainian experience) // Bulletin of Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv 5 (302), May 2016. Pp. 231–239.
15. Kononov I. F. The Luhansk syndrome as a mass anomic reaction to the unfolding of hybrid warfare. URL: <http://www.historians.in.ua/index.php/en/doshdzhennya/1778-inya-kononov-luhanskyi-syndrom-yak-masova-anomichna-reaktsiya-na-rozhortannya-hibrydnoyi-viyny>
16. Kononov, I. Sociology in times of crisis and war: the problem of methodological capacity // Bulletin of Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv 5 (302), May 2016. Pp. 5–54.
17. Kononov, I. The concept of civilisation in scientific, ideological and everyday discursive practices during wartime in Ukraine // Series "Sociological studies of modern society: methodology, theory, methods". 2018. Issue 40. Pp. 14–28.
18. Kotelenets K., Alekseeva A. Features of the organisation of the field stage of sociological research in the conditions of hybrid war in Ukraine // Bulletin of Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv 5 (302), May 2016. Pp. 231–239.
19. Lobanova A. Social mimicry in conditions of crisis and hybrid warfare: the search for empirical indicators // Bulletin of Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv 5 (302), May 2016. Pp. 55–70.
20. Otreshko N. Theoretical concepts of the sociology of war: from classics to modernity. Ukrainian society in conditions of war. The Year 2024: Collective Monograph / S. Dembitsky, O. Zlobina, N. Kostenko et al.; edited by Corresponding Member of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, Doctor of Philosophy Ye. Golovakha, Corresponding Member of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, Doctor of Social Sciences S. Dembitsky. Kyiv: Institute of Sociology of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, 2024. pp. 54–74.
21. Choliy S. State Ideologies of Armed Forces Recruitment in the (Eastern) European Region // Ideology and Politics. 2018. No. 2. Pp. 25–60.
22. Malesevic Sinisa. The Sociology of War and Violence. CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS. 2010. 363 p.
23. Yenin M., Choliy S., Akimova O., Perga Iu., Ishchenko A., Golovko O. Periodica Polytechnica Social and Management Sciences. 2024. No. 1 (32). P. 79–89. URL: <https://pp.bme.hu/so/article/view/20547/9524>.

5. Methods of mastering the academic discipline (educational component)

Lectures

Lecture 1. War as an object of study in sociology

Key questions: The subject of military sociology and the sociology of war. Research by S. Stauffer. Karl von Clausewitz's definition of war.

IW: New and old wars: organised violence in the global era (based on the work of M. Kaldor).

Literature: Hobta, 2016. Mass consciousness in the zone of military conflict in Donbas, 2018.

Lecture 2. Theories of war in sociological discourse. The civilisational approach and its criticism

Key questions: The civilisational (cultural) approach to the study of war. Civilisations as cultural and historical units. The clash of civilisations.

IW: Criticism of the civilisational approach.

Literature: Hobta, 2016. Mass consciousness in the zone of military conflict in Donbas, 2018; Huntington, 2011; Rushchenko, 2017, 2020; Babka, 2015; Smola, electronic resource.

Lecture 3. Theories of war in sociological discourse. Economocentric, sociobiological and organisational approaches

Key questions: The economocentric approach. Comparison of the civilisational and economocentric approaches. The sociobiological approach and its criticism. The organisational approach to war.

IW: Review of Y. Magda's book *Survive and Win*.

Literature: Hobta, 2016; Trebin, 2015, 2016; Rushchenko, 2015, 2017; Kononov, 2017; Yoshio, 2002; Magda, 2015.

Lecture 4. Contemporary sociological theories of war: characteristics of modern warfare. Low-intensity conflicts and network wars.

Key questions: William S. Lind's concept of 4GW. Martin van Creveld's concepts of the transformation from trinitarian warfare to "low-intensity" warfare. Features of modern warfare.

IW: Network warfare in Senchenko's work.

Literature: Hobta, 2016; Senchenko, 2017; Malesevic Sinisa, 2010.

Lecture 5. Contemporary sociological theories of war: theories of controlled chaos, cognitive and proxy warfare

Key questions: The concept of chaos in science. Technologies of war in the theory of controlled chaos. Features of modern warfare in the theory of cognitive warfare. The concept and features of proxy wars.

IW: New and Old Wars (M. Kaldor).

Literature: Ruschko, 2017; Mumford, 2013; Malesevic Sinisa, 2010.

Lecture 6. Hybrid warfare: essence, technologies, discourses

Key questions: Features of the concept of hybrid warfare. Technologies of hybrid warfare. Dominant discourses of hybrid warfare.

IW: The war in Ukraine in the Russian media. War in Hoffman's theory.

Literature: Yenin, 2017; Panait, 2015; Yenin, 2019; Hoffman, electronic resource; National Resilience of Ukraine: Strategy for Responding to Challenges and Anticipating Hybrid Threats: National Report, 2022.

Lecture 7. The institutional landscape of martial law. Employment and war: changes in the labour market

Key questions: Institutional changes in wartime. Development of artificial intelligence: challenges for the labour market. Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the labour market. Impact of war on the labour market in Ukraine.

IW: Non-standard employment in wartime.

Literature: Chepurko, 2022; Ukrainian society in wartime, 2022.

Lecture 8. The Russian-Ukrainian war and the phenomenon of mass migration

Key questions: Features of the Russian-Ukrainian war. Mass migration as a response to the current Russian-Ukrainian war.

IW: Ukrainian refugees: empirical research cases.

Literature: Sydorov, 2022; Yashkina, 2021; Ukrainian Society in Wartime, 2022.

Lecture 9. Donbas as a region of Ukraine and as a theatre of war

Key questions: Why is the historical and contemporary experience of Donbas interesting to Ukraine and the world? History, ethnic structure and identity. Regional auto- and heterostereotypes and their use in the practices of political power in Ukraine. The geopolitical component of the Ukrainian political crisis of 2013–2014. Geopolitical aspects of the war in Donbas.

IW: The war in Donbas as discourse. A multi-component society in conditions of crisis and hybrid war: the problem of empirical study.

Literature: Mass consciousness in the zone of military conflict in Donbas, 2018; Kononov, 2019; Romanyuk, 2015; Parkhomenko, 2015; Plyasov, 2016; Razumkov Centre, 2019.

Lecture 10. State ideologies of armed forces recruitment in the (Eastern) European region

Key questions: Historical experience of recruiting for the armed forces. The state and the ideology of army recruitment. Post-Soviet post-conscription.

IW: Hybrid traditionalism in the context of war (based on an article by S. Kataiev). Mobilisation of civil society in the conflict in eastern Ukraine: ideological constraints and resources for peacebuilding (based on an article by A. Baginsky).

Literature: Choli, 2018; Baginsky, 2018; Kataev, 2023.

Lecture 11. Sociology in times of crisis and war: the problem of methodological capacity

Key questions: The challenge of crisis and war and the methodological capabilities of sociology. Problems and opportunities for conducting sociological research in conditions of war. The specifics of a sociologist's work in conditions of military conflict: opportunities and limitations (Ukrainian experience). Features of conducting the field stage of sociological research in conditions of military conflict. The main risks of conducting research in conditions of war.

IW: Groups generated by crisis as an object of sociological research: possibilities and limitations of research methods (using the example of IDPs).

Literature: Kononov, 2016; Knyazeva, 2016; Mass consciousness in the zone of military conflict in Donbas, 2018; Zlobina, 2016; Kotelenets, 2016; Skokova, 2017.

Lecture 12. Social mimicry of the civilian population in wartime

Key questions: The problem of social mimicry. Empirical recording of social mimicry reactions. Survival strategies of the civilian population in wartime.

IW: The region's space in wartime: new borders and population displacement (article by S. Hobta).

Literature: Lobanova, 2016; Mass Consciousness in the Zone of Military Conflict in Donbas, 2018.

Lecture 13. Mass consciousness, public opinion and war

Key questions: Changes in mass consciousness. Memplexes of occupied reality. The functioning of social information in conditions of hybrid warfare. War and propaganda. The theory of mass consciousness. Public opinion: a phenomenon and a means of controlling the masses.

IW: Political Internet memes and mass consciousness during the armed conflict in Donbas. Internet memes, spreadable media, and digital cultural participation.

Literature: Ukrainian society in wartime, 2022. Mass consciousness in the zone of military conflict in Donbas, 2018; Petrenko, 2016; Polulyakh, 2016; Chanturia, 2016; Skokova, 2016.

Lecture 14. Trust and adaptation in wartime

Key questions: War as a factor in changing the structure and level of trust. Adaptation options in emergency conditions. Loss of comfort and changes in the lives of the civilian population. Ukrainian families in wartime.

IW: Economic behaviour of the population in the frontline zone of Donbas in conditions of armed conflict.

Literature: Ukrainian society in wartime, 2022; Mass consciousness in the zone of military conflict in Donbas, 2018; Slyusar, 2023.

Lecture 15. War: deviant behaviour, morality and law

Key questions: War as a catalyst for deviance. Violence in wartime. Military deviants: main categories, danger, research technologies. The formation of the idea of regulating war in European public opinion. International conventions and treaties on the conduct of war and the prohibition of aggression.

IW: Collaborationism as deviance.

Literature: Ukrainian society in wartime, 2022; Ruschko, 2016; Kononov, electronic resources. Mass consciousness in the zone of military conflict in Donbas, 2018; Iesue, Lozovska, Timmer, Jawaide, 2022.

Seminar (practical) classes

The main objectives of the seminar (practical) classes cycle:

to develop in master's students:

- the ability to work with scientific literature;
- actively participate in discussions;
- formulate and defend their position; develop and deliver presentations on key topics.

Seminar 1. War as a subject of sociological study

Key questions: The subject of military sociology and the sociology of war. Research by S. Stauffer. Karl von Clausewitz's definition of war.

IW: New and old wars: organised violence in the global era (based on the work of M. Kaldor).

Literature: Hobta, 2016. Mass consciousness in the zone of military conflict in Donbas, 2018.

Seminar 2. Theories of war in sociological discourse. The civilisational approach and its criticism

Key questions: The civilisational (cultural) approach to the study of war. Civilisations as cultural and historical units. The clash of civilisations.

IW: Criticism of the civilisational approach.

Literature: Hobta, 2016. Mass consciousness in the zone of military conflict in Donbas, 2018; Huntington, 2011; Rushchenko, 2017, 2020; Babka, 2015; Smola, electronic resource.

Seminar 3. Theories of war in sociological discourse. Economocentric, sociobiological and organisational approaches

Key questions: The economocentric approach. Comparison of the civilisational and economocentric approaches. The sociobiological approach and its criticism. The organisational approach to war.

IW: Review of the main ideas of E. Magda's book *Survive and Win*.

Literature: Hobta, 2016; Trebin, 2015, 2016; Rushchenko, 2015, 2017; Kononov, 2017; Yoshio, 2002; Magda, 2015.

Seminar 4. Contemporary sociological theories of war: characteristics of modern warfare, theories of controlled chaos, cognitive and proxy warfare. Low-intensity conflicts and network warfare.

Key questions: W. Lind's concept of 4GW. The concept of chaos in science. War technologies in the theory of controlled chaos. Features of modern warfare in the theory of cognitive warfare. The concept and features of proxy wars. Martin van Creveld's concepts of the transformation from trinitarian warfare to "low-intensity" warfare. Features of modern warfare.

IW: Network warfare (based on Senchenko's work). New and old wars (M. Kaldor).

Literature: Hobta, 2016; Senchenko, 2017; Malesevic Sinisa, 2010, Rushchenko, 2017; Mumford, 2013; Malesevic Sinisa, 2010.

Seminar 5. Hybrid warfare: essence, technologies, discourses

Key questions: Features of the concept of hybrid warfare. Technologies of hybrid warfare. Dominant discourses of hybrid warfare.

IW: The war in Ukraine in the Russian media. The war in Hoffman's theory.

Literature: Yenin, 2017; Panait, 2015; Yenin, 2019; Hoffman, electronic resource; Pasitselska, 2017; National Resilience of Ukraine: Strategy for Responding to Challenges and Anticipating Hybrid Threats: National Report, 2022.

Seminar 6. The institutional landscape of martial law. Employment and war: changes in the labour market

Key questions: Institutional changes in wartime. Development of artificial intelligence: challenges for the labour market. Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the labour market. Impact of the war on the labour market in Ukraine.

IW: Non-standard employment in wartime.

Literature: Chepurko, 2022; Ukrainian Society in Wartime, 2022.

Seminar 7. The Russian-Ukrainian War and the Phenomenon of Mass Refugee Movement. Donbas as a Region of Ukraine and a Theatre of War

Key questions: Features of the Russian-Ukrainian war. Mass migration as a response to the current Russian-Ukrainian war. Why the historical and contemporary experience of Donbas is interesting to Ukraine and the world. History, ethnic structure and identity. Regional auto- and heterostereotypes and their use in the practices of political power in Ukraine. The geopolitical component of the Ukrainian political crisis of 2013–2014. Geopolitical aspects of the war in Donbas.

IW: Ukrainian refugees: empirical research cases. The war in Donbas as discourse. A multi-component society in conditions of crisis and hybrid war: the problem of empirical study.

Literature: Sydorov, 2022; Yashkina, 2021; Ukrainian society in conditions of war, 2022, Mass consciousness in the zone of military conflict in Donbas, 2018; Kononov, 2014, 2019; Romanyuk, 2015; Parkhomenko, 2015; Plyasov, 2016; Razumkov Centre, 2019.

Seminar 8. State ideologies of armed forces recruitment in the (Eastern) European region

Key questions: Historical experience of recruiting for the armed forces. The state and the ideology of army recruitment. Post-Soviet post-conscription.

IW: Hybrid traditionalism in the context of war (based on an article by S. Kataiev). Mobilisation of civil society in the conflict in eastern Ukraine: ideological constraints and resources for peacebuilding (based on an article by A. Baginsky).

Literature: Choli, 2018; Baginsky, 2018; Kataev, 2023.

Seminar 9. Sociology in times of crisis and war: the problem of methodological capacity

Key questions: The challenge of crisis and war and the methodological capabilities of sociology. Problems and opportunities for conducting sociological research in conditions of war. The specifics of a sociologist's work in conditions of military conflict: opportunities and limitations (Ukrainian experience). Features of conducting the field stage of sociological research in conditions of military conflict. The main risks of conducting research in conditions of war.

IW: Groups generated by crisis as an object of sociological research: possibilities and limitations of research methods (using the example of IDPs).

Literature: Kononov, 2016; Knyazeva, 2016; Mass consciousness in the zone of military conflict in Donbas, 2018; Zlobina, 2016; Kotelenets, 2016; Skokova, 2017.

Seminar 10. Social mimicry of the civilian population in wartime

Key questions: The problem of social mimicry. Empirical recording of social mimicry reactions. Survival strategies of the civilian population in wartime.

IW: The region's space in wartime: new borders and population displacement (article by S. Hobta).

Literature: Lobanova, 2016; Mass consciousness in the zone of military conflict in Donbas, 2018.

Seminar 11. Mass consciousness, public opinion and war

Key questions: Changes in mass consciousness. Memplexes of occupied reality. The functioning of social information in conditions of hybrid warfare. War and propaganda. The theory of mass consciousness. Public opinion: a phenomenon and a means of controlling the masses.

IW: Political internet memes and mass consciousness during the armed conflict in Donbas. Internet memes, spreadable media and digital cultural participation.

Literature: Ukrainian society in wartime, 2022. Mass consciousness in the zone of military conflict in Donbas, 2018; Petrenko, 2016; Polulyakh, 2016; Chanturia, 2016; Skokova, 2016.

Seminar 12. Trust and adaptation in wartime. War: deviant behaviour, morality and law

Key questions: War as a factor in changing the structure and level of trust. Adaptation options in extreme conditions. Loss of comfort and changes in the lives of civilians. Ukrainian families in wartime. War as a catalyst for deviance. Violence in wartime. Military deviants: main categories, danger, research technologies. The formation of the idea of regulating war in European public opinion. International conventions and treaties on the conduct of war and the prohibition of aggression.

IW: Economic behaviour of the population in the frontline zone of Donbas in conditions of armed conflict. Collaborationism as deviance.

Literature: Ukrainian society in wartime, 2022; Mass consciousness in the zone of military conflict in Donbas, 2018; Slyusar, 2023, Rushchenko, 2016; Kononov, electronic resources. Mass consciousness in the zone of military conflict in Donbas, 2018; Iesue, Lozovska, Timmer, Jawaid, 2022.

Seminar 13. Patriotism: ideological forms and value modifications (in the context of the war in Donbas). Soft power as a tool of modern politics

Key questions: The essence of patriotism. Ideological forms of patriotism. The formation of patriotism in the cultural and educational sphere. Patriotism as the value basis of national identity. The concept of soft power. Soft power as a tool for promoting political interests. Components and instruments of soft power. Factors that motivate states to use soft power.

IW: Armed conflict and cultural differences (based on an article by Burlachuk). Ukraine's opportunities for the practical implementation of a "soft power" strategy.

Literature: Vasylets, Yenin, 2017; Yenin, 2018; Materials from conferences on patriotism; Burlachuk, 2014, Manuilov, 2015; Kudyrko, 2020; Svyatkovska, 2017.

Seminar 14. National resilience as a strategy for the preservation and development of the country

Key questions: The concept, structure and content of national resilience. External and internal dimensions of the national resilience strategy. National resilience strategy: the problem of identity and consolidation of society. Stages and priorities for implementing the national resilience strategy. Political and institutional determinants of national resilience.

IW: National resilience of Ukraine from the point of view of public opinion and the state of society.

Literature: National Resilience of Ukraine: Strategy for Responding to Challenges and Anticipating Hybrid Threats: National Report, 2022.

Seminar 15. Modular control work

6. Independent work of the master's student

Independent work by students involves preparing questions for seminars and analysing individual primary sources. The lecturer also suggests contemporary scientific articles and journalistic materials related to the latest trends in the electoral process for study.

Independent work by students includes:

preparation for classroom sessions – 56 hours;

preparation for modular control work – 4 hours;

preparation for the exam – 30 hours.

Total – 90 hours.

7. Policy of the academic discipline (educational component)

While studying the course material, master's students complete assignments for seminars, write a Modular control work and take an oral exam (see syllabus appendices). These types of work help master's students consolidate and deepen their theoretical knowledge of specific topics in the module, develop skills for independent work with primary sources, and contribute to the formation of theoretical sociological thinking and imagination.

Attendance and completion of assignments

It will be difficult for a master's student to properly prepare for practical classes and exams if they miss lectures. For master's students who wish to demonstrate excellent learning outcomes, active participation in lectures is essential. However, it is not necessary to make up for missed lectures.

Active participation of master's students in practical classes is mandatory. The rating of a master's student will largely be based on the results of their work in practical (seminar) classes. Each missed practical class (regardless of the reasons for the absence) lowers the final rating of the master's student in the discipline.

Master's students who have missed practical classes can prevent their final rating from being lowered by studying the relevant topics in a timely manner (during the semester) and completing the assignments for the missed classes. There is no need to wait for the exam session to approach to communicate with the lecturer. This should be done as soon as the master's student is ready to demonstrate their knowledge and skills on the missed topics.

The topics and assignments for practical classes are provided in the syllabus, available from the master's personal account in the Campus or Moodle system.

During lectures and practical classes, the use of laptops, smartphones, and written notes is permitted, but only for purposes related to the topic of the class and the corresponding thematic task. It is not advisable to answer the teacher's questions by reading from the screen of a smartphone, laptop, textbook or notes. This does not reflect well on the level of preparation of the master's student. The master's student's answers may be based on the materials at hand, but should not be read from the text.

Forms of work

Lectures and seminars are conducted in accordance with the requirements of regulatory and methodological documents and the rating system for assessing master's students' knowledge. Lectures use computer presentations highlighting the main points of the topics, taking into account the subject matter of the classes: from textbooks, teaching aids and dictionaries on sociology.

In seminars, master's students discuss lecture materials, texts of articles, sociological studies, primary sources and professional comments on their content. Seminars provide an opportunity to assess, on the one hand, the level of preparation for them (presentations, participation in discussions, expressing one's own opinion) and, on the other hand, to master the tasks of modular control. The results of the master's student's work are assessed by the teacher according to the current scoring system and indicate the effectiveness of the master's student's work control. The criteria for assessing the performance of seminar tasks are: logical sequence of answers; completeness of each question; analytical reasoning in the answer; IW to sources; validity of personal conclusions.

University policy

Academic integrity

The policy and principles of academic integrity are defined in Section 3 of the Code of Honour of the National Technical University of Ukraine "Igor Sikorsky Kyiv Polytechnic Institute". For more details, see: <https://kpi.ua/code>. (other necessary information regarding academic integrity)

Standards of ethical conduct

The standards of ethical conduct for master's students and employees are defined in Section 2 of the Code of Honour of the National Technical University of Ukraine "Igor Sikorsky Kyiv Polytechnic Institute". For more information: <https://kpi.ua/code>.

Artificial intelligence policy

The policy on the use of artificial intelligence and its principles are regulated by the order "Policy on the use of artificial intelligence for academic activities at Igor Sikorsky Kyiv Polytechnic Institute". For more information, please visit: <https://osvita.kpi.ua/node/1225>.

8. Types of control and rating system for assessing learning outcomes (RSO)

Ongoing assessment: [quizzes on the topic of the lesson, completion of assignments](#)

Calendar control: [conducted twice per semester as monitoring of the current status of syllabus requirements](#).

Semester control: exam

Assessment and control measures

The rating of a full-time master's student consists of points that he or she receives for:

- 1) Work in seminars
- 2) Modular control work
- 3) Exam

Calculation of weighted points

The RS for an academic discipline consists of the sum of the master's student's points for all completed control measures during the semester.

1. Answers in seminars.

Weighting score – 3 points for answering most questions. The maximum number of points for all practical classes is equal to $r_{\text{sem}} = 3 \text{ points} \times 14 = 42 \text{ points}$.

"Excellent" 3 points – the master's student receives when answering most of the questions in the seminar. An answer is considered complete if the master's student demonstrates a deep knowledge of the material, presents it logically and consistently, gives reasoned conclusions, freely uses specific data, provides mostly complete and reasoned answers, expresses their own position on controversial issues, and demonstrates signs of theoretical thinking and sociological imagination.

"Good" 2 points – the master's student participates in the discussion of individual issues of the seminar plan, demonstrates a good level of knowledge of the material.

"Satisfactory" 1 point – the master's student participates in the discussion of one issue on the seminar plan or demonstrates rather superficial knowledge, does not express their own position on the issues under discussion.

2. Modular control work. Weighted score – 8 points.

The Modular control work involves oral or written answers to 3 questions, the list of which is given in Appendix 1. With the consent of the lecturer, the master's student may write a creative essay (list of topics in Appendix 1).

Answers to questions are assessed according to the following criteria:

"excellent" – 7-8 points – the master's student formulates accurate definitions, provides theoretically sound arguments on the issue, demonstrates their own reasoned position;

"good" – 6 points – the essence of the question is reflected, but there are inaccuracies in the answer;

"satisfactory" – 5 points – the answer is incomplete, there are significant errors;

"Unsatisfactory" – less than 0-4 points – no answer or incorrect answer.

3. Exam – 50 points.

The exam consists of oral or written answers to 3 questions, the list of which is given in Appendix 2. The interview lasts from 3 to 5 minutes. The teacher may ask any questions from the list. Preparation for the exam after receiving the questions – at least 30 hours.

Assessment criteria.

40-50 points – the master's student answers almost all exam questions, demonstrates a deep knowledge of the material, presents it logically and consistently, gives reasoned conclusions, freely operates with specific data, expresses their own position on controversial issues, demonstrates signs of theoretical thinking and sociological imagination.

20-39 points – the master's student answers most of the exam questions, demonstrates a good level of knowledge of the material.

10-19 points – the master's student answers about half of the exam questions and demonstrates rather superficial knowledge.

0-9 points – the master's student answers only some of the exam questions, does not have their own position, and makes significant inaccuracies.

Another option for passing the exam is to prepare a research assignment on the topic: "Armed conflict and its consequences." The format is a written report (up to 12,000 characters) and a presentation.

Bonus points

Writing abstracts for a conference – 5 points.

Writing and publishing an article on a topic studied as part of the academic discipline in a professional journal of at least category B – 5-10 points.

Participation in the second round of the All-Ukrainian Olympiad – 10 points.

Conditions for a positive interim assessment:

To receive a "pass" on the first interim assessment, a student must have at least 12 points; to receive a "pass" on the second interim assessment, a student must have at least 24 points.

Conditions for admission to the exam:

The condition for admission of a master's student to the exam is to receive a preliminary rating of at least 24 points.

Procedure for appealing the results of assessment measures

A master's student may appeal a teacher's assessment by submitting a complaint to the teacher no later than the day after the master's student has been informed of the assessment given by the teacher. The complaint will be considered in accordance with the procedures established by the university.

Table of correspondence between rating points and grades on the university scale:

Rating Applicant (points)	University scale of grades for the level of acquired competencies (learning outcomes)
100-95	Excellent
94	Very good
84	Good
74-65	Satisfactory
64-60	Sufficient
Less than 60	Unsatisfactory

Possible marks in the semester control report:

Not admitted	Failure to meet the conditions for admission to semester control
Removed	Violation of the principles of academic integrity or moral and ethical standards of conduct
Did not appear	The applicant was admitted but did not appear for the exam

Review of the rating system of assessment during the semester

The RSO may be reviewed upon a reasoned request from the applicant studying the OK, the student self-government body or the student trade union committee, submitted to the head of the supporting department. The review procedure is defined in Section 7 of the Regulations on the System of Assessment of Learning Outcomes at Igor Sikorsky KPI
https://osvita.kpi.ua/sites/default/files/downloads/Pologennia_RSO_2025.pdf

9. Additional information on the discipline (educational component)

Recommendations for master's students

When attending lectures, master's students should take notes on the main concepts, characteristics, classifications, definitions, and algorithms discussed by the lecturer. If master's students listen carefully, record the relevant material, and then read this text, they will be able to apply it when solving problems or preparing for practical classes. If, after that, the master's student presents their reasoned position (opinion), critically evaluates the positions (opinions) of other master's students, asks questions to the lecturer and classmates, the amount of educational material they have learned and the depth of their understanding will increase.

When preparing for a practical class, the master's student must study the lecture material on a specific topic and, preferably, familiarise themselves with additional resources on the Internet. If questions arise or unclear provisions are identified, it is necessary to discuss them with the teacher.

At the beginning of the course, attention should be paid to the definitions of the concepts of war, hybrid war, trinitarian war, conventional/unconventional war, class/civilisational approaches to war, and patriotism. It is very important to follow a logical sequence in covering issues related to the theoretical aspects of the study of war. This will ensure a systematic understanding of the issues and theories in the field of the sociology of war.

In some cases, it is possible to make up for seminar topics missed by the master's student by writing creative essays.

Creative essays are also provided for in the Modular control work (Appendix 1). When writing an essay, the following structure should be followed:

Introduction. The first few sentences should define the topic of the essay, the author's goal and intentions in researching a particular issue.

Main part. This part should examine in detail the main ideas, arguments and examples of the author of the publication.

Conclusions. In this part, you should present your general conclusions. Did the author manage to research a particular problem satisfactorily? What are the suggestions or recommendations for further research on this topic?

Bibliography. If you have used any sources for your essay, you must list them in the bibliography. IW to sources are mandatory in the text, for example [3, p. 5], which means a reference to source No. 3 on p. 5. IW to electronic sources (Internet articles, videos) are not marked with a page number. In this case, the reference is formatted as follows: [4].

Informal distance and online courses

At the request of the applicant, in conditions that do not facilitate regular attendance of classes, it is permissible to study individual content parts of the discipline in asynchronous mode, in particular through distance learning courses and other forms of informal learning. In order to be included in the rating system for assessing points for such courses, they must correspond in content to certain topics of the syllabus, and their completion must be agreed with the teacher of the discipline. To confirm completion of informal learning, the student must provide a relevant document (certificate) indicating the name of the courses and their duration in hours. Recognition of informal education results is carried out in accordance with the procedure set out in the relevant Regulations of Igor Sikorsky KPI: <https://osvita.kpi.ua/node/179>

Distance learning

Synchronous distance learning is possible using video conferencing platforms and the university's educational platform for distance learning.

Inclusive learning

Permitted

The working programme of the academic discipline (syllabus):

Prepared by Associate Professor of Sociology, Candidate of Social Sciences, Associate Professor, M.N. Yeniny.

Approved by the Department of Sociology (Minutes No. 14 of 23 June 2025)

Approved by the Methodological Commission of the Faculty (Minutes No. 4 of 24 June 2025)

Appendix 1.

Modular control work.

Writing an essay (up to 5 pages, up to 12,000 characters).

When writing an essay, demonstrate your own position on the topic of the essay and the issues raised in publications on one of the topics of your choice. Prepare a report for the seminar on the main ideas of the essay. The structure of the essay is described above (see recommendations).

Topic 1. Review of any topic of your choice in Malesevic Sinisa's book "The Sociology of War and Violence".

Topic 2. Humanitarian activities in wartime.

Topic 3. The concept of hybrid warfare: pros and cons.

Topic 4. Communication tools for countering information aggression.

Appendix 2.

Questions for exam preparation.

1. Sociology of war and military sociology: areas of research.
2. Cultural studies approach to war. The concept of the clash of civilisations.
3. The sociobiological approach to war and its criticism.
4. Economocentric and organisational approaches to war.
5. William S. Lind's concept of 4GW.
6. Martin van Creveld's concepts of the transformation from trinitarian warfare to "low-intensity" warfare.
7. The theory of controlled chaos.
8. The theory of network warfare.
9. The theory of cognitive warfare.
10. Features of proxy wars.
11. Features of the concept of hybrid warfare.
12. Technologies of hybrid warfare.
13. Dominant discourses of hybrid warfare.
14. Institutional changes in wartime conditions.
15. Historical experience of arming the armed forces. The state and ideology of army recruitment.
16. The essence of patriotism. Ideological forms of patriotism.
17. The problem of social mimicry. Empirical recording of social mimicry reactions. Strategies for the survival of the civilian population in wartime.
18. Soft power as a tool for promoting political interests. Components and instruments of soft power.
19. Problems and opportunities for conducting sociological research in wartime. The main risks of conducting research in wartime.
20. War and propaganda.
21. War as a catalyst for deviance.
22. War as a factor in changing the structure and level of trust. Adaptation options in emergency conditions.
23. The formation of the idea of regulating war in European public opinion.
24. International conventions and treaties on the conduct of war and the prohibition of aggression.

Another option for taking the exam is to prepare a research paper on the topic of your choice:

"Armed conflict and its consequences".

Form – written report (up to 12,000 characters) and presentation.

Approximate plan for the topic "Armed conflict and its consequences".

Choose any armed conflict for analysis that took place in the modern history of the 19th–21st centuries (interstate or within a single state). For example, "The Iran-Iraq War (1980–1988)", "The Arab-Israeli Wars" (1948, 1956, 1967, 1973), the Korean War (1950–1953), the Vietnam War (1955–1975), the Gulf War (1990–

1991), the Spanish Civil War (1936–1939), "Cuban Revolution (1953–1959)", "Rwandan Civil War (1990–1994)", "Indo-Pakistani Wars" (1947, 1965, 1971), "Lebanese Civil War (1975–1990)", etc.

Analyse relevant information about the selected conflict (articles, books, professional video reviews, documentaries or other sources that reveal the causes, course and consequences of the conflict).

1. Analyse the causes of the armed conflict (political, economic, cultural, ideological, and religious factors that contributed to the conflict). Consider which of the theories of war discussed in the lecture are relevant to describing the causes (you can use the provided notes and relevant literature for this).

2. Briefly describe the main stages of the military operations.

3. Consider the geopolitical context and international reaction to the armed conflict, as well as the consequences of the conflict for the countries directly involved in the armed confrontation.

4. List of sources after the main text. IW to sources are mandatory in the text, for example [3, p. 5], which means a reference to source No. 3 on p. 5. IW to electronic sources (Internet articles, videos) are not marked with a page number. In this case, the reference is formatted (as an example) as follows: [4], which means a reference to source No. 4. It is desirable to use at least 5 sources with different (alternative) points of view.