



СИБИРСКИЙ ФЕДЕРАЛЬНЫЙ УНИВЕРСИТЕТ  
SIBERIAN FEDERAL UNIVERSITY

**Methodology of Contemporary Cultural Studies**  
**Course Guide**

**Krasnoyarsk, 2021.**

**Siberian Federal University**

**Methodology of Contemporary Cultural Studies**  
**Course Guide**

This course contributes to the requirements for the Degree of PhD in Cultural Studies.

Krasnoyarsk, 2021

## Table of Contents

<b>1. Course Description .....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>1.1 Course overview.....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>1.2 Special features .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>1.3 Course aims and objectives.....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>1.4 Learning outcomes.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2. Course Lecturer, Contact Information .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>3. Prerequisites .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>4. Course Outline.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>4.1 Course requirements.....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>4.1.1 Web-page of the course.....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>4.1.2 Required reading .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>4.1.3 Course materials .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>4.1.4 Required feedbacks.....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>4.2 Course Structure .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>4.3 Time schedule of the course and course outline .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>5. Assessment.....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>6. Attendance Policy.....</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>7. Required Course Participation.....</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>8. Facilities, Equipment and Software .....</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Annex 1 Final Oral Exam Questions .....</b>	<b>15</b>

## 1. Course Description

This course contributes to the requirements for the Degree of PhD in Cultural Studies.

<b>Course period</b>	1 semester Third semester: from October, the 1st to February, the 1st (18 weeks)
<b>Study credits</b>	3 ECTS credits
<b>Duration</b>	108 hours
<b>Language of instruction</b>	English
<b>Academic requirements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– MSc degree in “Cultural Studies”, or equivalent (transcript of records);</li><li>– good command of English (certificate or other official document)</li></ul>

## 1.1 Course overview

“Methodology of Contemporary Cultural Studies” is a core course.

The course “Methodology of Contemporary Cultural Studies” is an important element of the professional training in the field of “Cultural Studies”.

The course program is focused on theoretical and practical training.

## 1.2 Special features

Graduate students will be able to come up with and develop their own cultural research project, using the ideas and methods mastered during the training.

## 1.3 Course aims and objectives

### Course Aims

- The purpose of discipline " Methodology of Contemporary Cultural Studies " is to form the knowledge of the basic methodological concepts of Cultural studies, as well as the methods and techniques of Cultural studies, about approaches to the analysis of cultural forms and processes.

### Course Objectives

- to learn ideas about the formation of the scientific image of humanitarian knowledge in the period from the XVI to the beginning. XXI centuries;
- to develop the ability to apply methods and techniques of cultural studies for conducting scientific research in the process of preparing a Ph.D. thesis;
- to develop the ability to conduct scientific historiographic reviews in the field of contemporary cultural studies.

## 1.4 Learning outcomes

By the end of the course, students will know:

- basic concepts and terms of the discipline;
- features of humanitarian knowledge in culture during the 16th - early 21st centuries.


By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- apply the methods and techniques of cultural research;
- analyze scientific culturological directions and their methodological strategies;
- actively use the knowledge gained in scientific research;
- present and substantiate the results of scientific research and acquire new knowledge based on culturological methods.

By the end of the course, students will possess:

- methodological basis for conducting a historiographic review;
- the style of scientific thinking in planning cultural research and theoretical understanding of scientific results.

## 2. Course Lecturer, Contact Information

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## 3. Prerequisites

Each part of the course includes a short introduction of methods that are required for its study. Therefore, a student without the denoted experience must be encouraged to make some additional efforts in education.

#### 4. Course Outline

Week	Seminars/ Assignments	Hours Lec/CA/HA
<b>Semester 3</b>		
1-2	Basic concepts and terms of the discipline. Sources and historiography	-/3/12
3-4	Formation of the scientific image of humanitarian knowledge in the culture of the early modern period	-/3/12
5-7	"Scientific method" in the context of the new European culture of the late 18th - early 20th centuries and its modifications	-/4/12
8-9	Anti-scientist ideas about the methodology of humanitarian knowledge in the culture	-/4/12
10-13	Objectivism and Relativism in the Humanities of the 20th Century: Collisions and Interaction	-/4/12
14-15	Understanding of method and truth in humanitarian knowledge of the second half of the XX - early XXI centuries	-/4/10
16-18	Methods and techniques of cultural studies	-/4/12



## **4.1 Course requirements**

### **4.1.1 Web-page of the course**

Course materials and required reading materials are available on the course webpage “Methodology of Contemporary Cultural Studies”. The webpage is available through the SibFU E-learning portal [www.e.sfu-kras.ru](http://www.e.sfu-kras.ru). You must be logged in to access this course <https://e.sfu-kras.ru/course/view.php?id=31340>

### **4.1.2 Required reading**

The main books here will be Cultural Turn. Selected Writings on the Postmodern 1983-1998 by F. Jameson; Visual Methodologies. An Introduction to Researching with Visual Materials by G. Rose; Decolonizing Methodologies: Research and Indigenous Peoples by L. T. Smith.

### **4.1.3 Course materials**

The recommended books and reviews that will guide a postgraduate through the course contain all of topics of this course according to the schedule. They will provide you with useful links at the end of each chapter that will help students to improve their understanding of the topics. Also, the reflection activities on the topics in the e-course will help to understand the discipline.

### **4.1.4 Required feedbacks**

Students are free to contact the lecturer by email. The name of department and a number of a group should be written in the subject or in the beginning of the letter for convenience. More information on how to contact the lecturer can be found in «Lecturer information» section of this Guide.

Students' Home or Class Assignment reports must be attached as a separate pdf file. The name and group number should be written on the first page of the file. Students send this report in electronic form only before the deadline.

If necessary, the lecturer will schedule a video-conference, upon request.

## 4.2 Course Structure

Learning Activities	Hours
Lectures	-
Practice sessions / Seminars	26
Self-study Assignments	82
Total study hours	108

## 4.3 Time schedule of the course and course outline

<i>Nº</i>	<i>Theme</i>	<i>Week</i>	<i>Learning Activities</i>	<i>Hours</i>	<i>Home Assignment and Reading</i>
<i>Semester 3</i>					
1	Basic concepts and terms of the discipline. Sources and historiography	1-2	<b>Seminar 1</b> “Basic concepts and terms of the discipline. Sources and historiography”	3	Group discussions about basic concepts and terms of the discipline based on publication reviews
			<b>Home assignment 1</b>	12	Publication reviews
2	Formation of the scientific image of humanitarian	3-4	<b>Seminar 2</b> “Formation of the scientific image of humanitarian	3	Writing a test (in the course of a seminar) on the topic: "Formation of the humanities in the era

	knowledge in the culture of the early modern period		knowledge in the culture of the early modern period. Rationalism and the formation of approaches to the study of culture in the 17th century”		of modern times"
			<b>Home assignment 2</b>	12	Synopsis of selected chapters of I. Herder's treatise "Ideas for the Philosophy of the History of Mankind"  Preparation for the test on the topic: "Formation of the humanities in the era of modern times."
3	"Scientific method" in the context of the new European culture of the late 18th - early 20th centuries and its modifications	5-7	<b>Seminar 3</b> “Scientific method" in the context of the new European culture of the late 18th - early 20th centuries and its modifications”	2	Comparative analysis of the positivist and non-positivist project of the humanities
			<b>Seminar 4</b> “Approaches to	2	Comparative analysis of the positivist and non-

			the Study of Culture in European Education”		positivist project of the humanities
			<b>Home assignment 3</b>	12	Comparative analysis of the positivist and non-positivist project of the humanities
4	Anti-scientist ideas about the methodology of humanitarian knowledge in the culture	8-9	<b>Seminar 5</b> “Anti-scientist ideas about the methodology of humanitarian knowledge in the culture”	2	Abstract of treatises: Rickert G. "Sciences about nature and sciences about culture" (selected chapters).
			<b>Seminar 6</b> “Positivism and the methodology of cultural studies in the 19th century. Approaches to the Study of Culture in Philosophy of Life and Neo-Kantianism”	2	Writing a test (in the process of a seminar lesson) on the topic: "The doctrine of G. Rickert about values"
			<b>Home assignment 4</b>		Preparation for the test on the topic: "The doctrine of G. Rickert on values."

5	Objectivism and Relativism in the Humanities of the 20th Century: Collisions and Interaction	10-13	<b>Seminar 7</b> “Cultural-historical approach in European historiography of the first third of the XX century. Objectivism and Relativism in the Humanities of the 20th Century: Collisions and Interaction”	2	Group discussions about Objectivism and Relativism in the Humanities of the 20th Century
			<b>Seminar 8</b> “Development of a methodology of culture in social and cultural anthropology of the first third of the XX century. The direction of "cultural studies" in modern humanitarian knowledge and its modifications”	2	Group discussions about Cultural Turn. Selected Writings on the Postmodern 1983-1998 by F. Jameson

			<b>Home assignment 5</b>	12	Abstract of scientific treatises: Huizinga J. "Homo ludens" (selected chapters); Weber M. "Protestant Ethics and the Spirit of Capitalism."
6	Understanding of method and truth in humanitarian knowledge of the second half of the XX - early XXI centuries	14-15	<b>Seminar 9</b> “Development of a cultural methodology in social and cultural anthropology of the second half of the XX century. Methods of studying culture in the Moscow-Tartu school”	2	Abstract of treatises: Geertz K. "Interpretation of Cultures".
			<b>Seminar 10</b> “Understanding of method and truth in humanitarian knowledge of the second half of the XX - early XXI centuries”	2	Writing a test (in the process of a seminar) on the topic: "The main approaches to the study of culture in the second half of the XX century"
			<b>Home assignment 6</b>	10	Preparation for the test on the topic: "The main approaches to the study of

					culture in the second half of the XX century."
7	Methods and techniques of cultural studies	16-18	<b>Seminar 11</b> Content analysis and associative experiment. In-depth interview and focus group	2	Group discussions about Visual Methodologies. An Introduction to Researching with Visual Materials by G. Rose; Decolonizing Methodologies: Research and Indigenous Peoples by L. T. Smith.
			<b>Seminar 12</b> Field research and biographical method. Mental mapping and psychological drawing technique	2	Writing a test (in the course of a seminar) on the topic: "Modern methods of cultural studies"
			<b>Home assignment 7</b>	12	Preparation for the test on the topic: "Modern methods of cultural studies."

## 5. Assessment

Assessment strategy	Points, max	Evaluation criteria
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Writing a tests	40	Tests
Abstract of treatises	30	Abstracts
Reflection activity on the questions that require knowledge of the concepts explained	30	Discussion

Grade policy for final assessment is:

A (excellent work) 91–100 points

B (above average work) 81–90 points

C (average work) 71–80 points

D (below average work) 61–70 points

F (failed work) < 60 points

The credit is received when students get A, B or C for the work done.

## 6. Attendance Policy

Students are expected to attend classes regularly. In case of missing seminars a postgraduate should perform additional work submitted to the instructor within a week after a class was missed.

Every topic involves an assignment. A written report on the assignment should be submitted within two weeks from the moment students received a list of problems. The final mark will rely on the same grading policy as for the final exam.

## 7. Required Course Participation

There are no special requirements for the course participation. The preferred type of report submission is the electronic one.



## 8. Facilities, Equipment and Software

### **Software:**

Microsoft Office 2007 or later (or similar), including:

text editor Word; Excel editor; Power Point presentation editor; Adobe Reader 9 or later (or equivalent) pdf viewer; Media Player Classic (or similar) with preinstalled media codecs; Program for working with rar and zip archives 7-Zip (or similar).

## Annex 1 Final Oral Exam Questions

1. The influence of linguistic psychoanalysis on the methodology of culture.
2. Structural-semiotic approach to the study of culture in the Moscow-Tartus school.
3. The research methodology of the myth in the works of E.M. Meletinsky.
4. The Birmingham School for Cultural Studies: Research Approaches and Methods for the Study of Contemporary Culture.
5. A Gender Approach to the Study of Cultural History: Contemporary German Studies.
6. "Turns" in cultural studies of the XX-XXI centuries.
7. Linguistic turn methodology.
8. Postcolonial turn methodology.
9. Visual (pictorial, iconic) turn methodology.
10. Performative turn methodology.
11. Gender turn methodology.
12. Cross-cultural research methods.
13. Anthropological research methods.
14. Visual culture research methods.