## Syllabus

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Sociology</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2023/2024</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Course</td>
<td>Disasters and Inequalities</td>
<td>ECTS</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Study programme

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level of study programme</th>
<th>Undergraduate</th>
<th>☐</th>
<th>Graduate</th>
<th>☒</th>
<th>Integrated</th>
<th>☐</th>
<th>Postgraduate</th>
<th>☐</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Type of study programme</td>
<td>☐ Single major</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>University</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>Professional</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>Specialized</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Year of study | ☒ 1 | ☐ 2 | ☐ 3 | ☐ 4 | ☐ 5 |

| Semester     | ☒ Winter | ☒ Summer | ☐ I | ☐ II | ☐ III | ☐ IV | ☐ V | ☐ VI | ☐ VII | ☐ VIII | ☐ IX | ☐ X |

| Status of the course | ☐ Compulsory | ☒ Elective | ☒ Elective course offered to students from other departments | Teaching Competencies | ☐ YES | ☐ NO |

| Workload | 30 L 15 S E | Internet sources for e-learning | ☒ YES | ☐ NO |

| Location and time of instruction | 004, 12-14.30 | Language(s) in which the course is taught | English |

| Course start date | 12.10.2023. | Course end date | 25.01.2024. |

| Enrolment requirements | Enrolment in graduate level programme |

### Course coordinator

Dr Karin Doolan, Full Professor

E-mail: kdoolan@unizd.hr

Consultation hours: Thursday 11-12

### Course instructor

Dr Karin Doolan, Full Professor

E-mail: kdoolan@unizd.hr

Consultation hours: Thursday 11-12

### Mode of teaching

- ☒ Lectures
- ☐ Seminars and workshops
- ☐ Exercises
- ☐ E-learning
- ☐ Field work
- ☐ Individual assignments
- ☐ Multimedia and network
- ☐ Laboratory
- ☐ Mentoring
- ☐ Other

### Learning outcomes

Upon completion of the course students will be able to:
- understand basic concepts and theories in the sociology of disasters
- critically engage concepts such as justice, resilience and vulnerability for analysing the impact of disasters
- critically evaluate media reporting on disasters

### Learning outcomes at the Programme level

- identify and describe complex social phenomena
- differentiate and compare sociological theories
- critically evaluate social phenomena and form an opinion on them
- evaluate relevant literature
- summarize and interpret relevant literature
- connect new insights with previously acquired knowledge and experiences
- active listening and note-taking

| Assessment criteria | ☑ Class attendance | ☑ Preparation for class | ☑ Homework | ☑ Continuous evaluation | ☑ Research
|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|-----------|------------------------|-----------
| Practical work     | ☐ Experimental work | ☐ Presentation          | ☐ Project | ☐ Seminar              |           |
| ☐ Test(s)          | ☐ Written exam      | ☐ Oral exam             | ☐ Other   |                        |           |

**Conditions for permission to take the exam**
- Attending classes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exam periods</th>
<th>☑ Winter</th>
<th>☐ Summer</th>
<th>☑ Autumn</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exam dates</td>
<td>8.02., 22.02.2024.</td>
<td>5.09., 19.09.2024.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Course description**
Disasters are a frequent occurrence across the globe. Worldwide many people are killed in disasters and many more are negatively affected by them in terms of their health and material conditions. Globally, the most frequent disasters are floods and over the last year we have all witnessed the COVID–19 pandemic catastrophe. There are many different emphases in the study of disasters, however this course engages with a core sociological concern: how disasters intersect with and expose existing inequalities as well as create new ones along the lines of social class, gender, ethnicity, and age. More specifically, we will be examining, from a social and climate justice perspective, how disasters such as floods, earthquakes, hurricanes and pandemics do not affect everyone equally and how they often have the most detrimental effects for the poor, racial and ethnic minorities and the elderly. Such findings will be situated in broader discussions about how political and economic contexts create risks and strengthen injustices.

**Course content**
2. Disaster research: from the margins to the mainstream 19.10.2023.
4. Disaster resilience 2.11.2022.
12. Media reporting on disasters 11.01.2024.
13. On care 18.01.2024.

**Required reading**


Additional reading


Internet sources


Journal Natural Hazards: [https://www.springer.com/journal/11069](https://www.springer.com/journal/11069)

**Assessment criteria of learning outcomes**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>☒ Final written exam</th>
<th>☐ Final oral exam</th>
<th>☐ Final written and oral exam</th>
<th>☐ Practical work and final exam</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Only test/homework</td>
<td>Test/homework and final exam</td>
<td>Seminar paper</td>
<td>Practical work and final exam</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Calculation of final grade**

- 20% written seminar reflections, 80% final exam

- 60–69% % Satisfactory (2)
- 70–79% % Good (3)
- 80–89% % Very good (4)
- 90%+ % Excellent (5)

**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

**Note /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.

This course uses the Merlin system for e-learning, so students are required to have an AAI account.