

## *COURSE DESCRIPTION AND REQUIREMENTS*

|                                       |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Course name:</b>                   | <b>Settlement Sociology</b>  |
| <b>Code:</b>                          | 3MNRKG1-EA-2-SETTLEMENSOC and 3MNRKG1-GY-2-SETTLEMENSOC            |
| <b>Study Programme:</b>               | Master of Economic Science in Regional and Environmental Economics |
| <b>BA / MA:</b>                       | MSc  |
| <b>Form of programme:</b>             | Full time  |
| <b>Lessons per week:</b>              | 2 lectures + 1 seminar   |
| <b>Type of evaluation:</b>            | lecture course grade and seminar grade                             |
| <b>Course leader:</b>                 | Gábor Molnár, PhD  |
| <b>Teacher:</b>                       | Gábor Molnár, PhD  |
| <b>Department of course:</b>          | Social Sciences (Faculty of Pedagogy)                              |
| <b>Head of department:</b>            | Péter Bertalan, PhD, habil.  |
| <b>Year &amp; term of the course:</b> | Autumn semester 2015/2016  |

### ***Objectives of the course:***

The objective of the course is to introduce the students to the specific angle, the fundamental concepts and paradigms, the most important theories and methods of settlement sociology as well as the most recent research achievements in the field. It displays the spatial organization of society at micro, meso and macro levels; the social aspects of, and differences in, rural and urban life; regional social organizations; the processes of urbanization and globalization, including the concomitant social problems and conflicts; the social impacts and problems of settlement and regional development and planning.

The students attending the course will be able to utilize the knowledge and abilities gained for analysing and better understanding recent social phenomena and processes related to the field of regional and environmental economic and to use them during regional and environmental policy and decision making.

### ***Requirements:***

Regular attendance at lessons is obligatory. Missing more than 1/3 of the lessons results in failing the course.

The grades of the final exam will be used to determine the final grade.

Rating:

|                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| 0,00% – 49,99%   | failed (E)       |
| 50,00% – 62,49%  | satisfactory (D) |
| 62,50% – 74,99%  | moderate (C)     |
| 75,00% – 87,49%  | good (B)         |
| 87,50% – 100,00% | very good (A)    |

**Course themes:**

| No. | Themes   |
|-----|--|
| 1   | <b>Introduction.</b> What is settlement sociology?   |
| 2   | <b>Rudiments of sociology:</b> social action and interaction, social group; social organization, social network, and local society; social stratification, structure and mobility; social subsystems   |
| 3   | <b>The basic concepts of settlement sociology.</b> Space and society: the spatial organization of social life; geographical, biological, economic constraints; sedentism and its results for social life   |
| 4   | <b>Research methods</b> in settlement sociology: the steps of sociological research; quantitative and qualitative methods; the survey method, in-depth interview and focus group, field research and case study, statistical analysis.   |
| 5   | <b>Rural sociology:</b> typologies of rural settlements; the village society: interpersonal relations, power relations and social conflicts; the village in the space of socio-economic inequalities; rural settlements and agriculture.   |
| 6   | The village and folk culture; the future of the village; scattered settlements.<br><b>Excursus I: Historical and developmental sociology:</b> modernization; preindustrial, industrial and postindustrial societies.   |
| 7   | <b>Urban sociology:</b> typologies of urban functions and urban settlements; the urban society; social, economic and political specificities of urban life; processes of urban development: urbanization, agglomeration, suburbanization, disurbanization; commuting.  |
| 8   | Differences in rural, urban and city life; cultural life in the city: elite and mass culture; urban social conflicts and problems: homelessness, slums, segregation and deviances; settlement hierarchies: national city rankings.   |
| 9   | <b>Regional sociology:</b> settlement networks; historical regions and administrative regions; regional inequalities; physical geographical, economic and cultural differences; inland migration.  |
| 10  | The social conflicts of settlement and regional development from the second half of 20th century to the present; urban, rural and regional processes in the 21st century.<br><b>Excursus II: Environmental sociology:</b> the interaction of society and its natural environment; the drawbacks of modernization and industrialization; the impacts of climate change on settlements and regions: ecological inequalities. |
| 11  | <b>The sociology of globalization:</b> the global world system, economic and cultural globalization; the effects of globalization; global inequalities; cities in the global world: international city rankings; international and regional integration and disintegration processes; European integration; international migration processes.   |
| 12  | Systematizing summary of the course, preparation for the final exam.   |
| 13  | Final exam.  |
| 14  | Summary of the course. Evaluation of the final exam.   |

**Literature:**

Handouts and ppts.

Hillyard, Sam : *The Sociology of Rural Life*. New York: Berg. 2007.

Giddens, Anthony and Philip W. Sutton: *Sociology*. 7<sup>th</sup> Ed. 2013.

Lin, Jan and Christopher Mele (eds): *The Urban Sociology Reader*. 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed. London and New York: Routledge, 2012

Stevenson, Deborah: *Cities and Urban Cultures*. Philadelphia: Open University Press, 2003.

Swedberg, Richard: *The Principles of Sociology*. Princeton and Oxford: Princeton University Press, 2007.

Parker, Simon: *Urban Theory & the Urban Experience: Encountering the City*. London: Routledge, 2004.

Kaposvár, 25 August, 2015

**Gábor Molnár, PhD**

associate professor

**Péter Bertalan, PhD**

head of department, habil. associate prof.