

Discrimination / Diskriminierung

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The sociological literature has accumulated a large body of books and paper trying to explain discrimination. This literature addresses different target groups which are discriminated against, such as racial, religious or national minorities, immigrants and other weak groups. It also includes different types of explanations for discrimination. These explanations may operate on the micro level; examples for explanatory variables are national identity, value orientations, or sociodemographic characteristics. Other explanations may operate on the macro level; examples for explanatory variables are state policies, laws, or media coverage. We will discuss various theoretically-driven studies that investigate discrimination in its different forms. Some participants will present a study, and everyone will participate actively in discussions and read the literature before each meeting. We will host three international guests who will visit the course and talk with us about their research on discrimination of minorities.

Evaluation is not based on the English command. It is not mandatory to interact in English, but rather an opportunity for those who are interested in it.

Die Beurteilung für das Seminar basiert nicht auf der Beherrschung der englischen Sprache. Es ist nicht verpflichtend, während der Sitzungen auf Englisch zu kommunizieren; denen, die daran interessiert sind, soll aber die Gelegenheit dazu gegeben werden.

Dates of meeting:

1.3.12 (introduction)

15.3.12 (including a visit of Prof. Dr. Elmar Schlüter, University of Cologne, Germany)

22.3.12

29.3.12 (including a visit of Prof. Dr. Bart Meuleman, University of Leuven, Belgium)

19.4.12 (including a visit of Prof. em. Dr. Peter Schmidt, University of Giessen, Germany, and Higher School of Economics, Moscow, Russia)

3.5.12

Tasks:

- 1) Some will make a presentation for one course-session (instead of writing an essay at the end of the course). This presentation will be combined with a discussion with the other participants. Discussion and questions will be held during the presentation. Participants will prepare for each text two or three discussion points.
- 2) Writing an essay at the end of the seminar (those who hold no presentation) on a topic, which is related to the seminar. Details about how an essay should look like will be discussed during the semester. In a nutshell: It could include further literature search and elaborate on a topic which was discussed during the seminar;

compare two theories; pick up a practical social problem and discuss it with relation to the theories we talked about, or try to suggest whether and how the problem may be explained by one of the theories. It could also be a summary of one of the papers in the course program.

- 3) Reading the papers to be discussed in advance – before the meeting.
- 4) Participating in the discussion in class also with the guests, asking questions.

If you know that you would like to hold a presentation about one of the papers of the course before the course begins, please send the title/s of the paper to latcheva@soziologie.uzh.ch. Those who will choose to hold a presentation will not need to write an essay but instead will submit their revised PowerPoint presentation.

Please inform yourself in advance about the content of the papers; use literature databases or ScholarGoogle and read the abstracts. The papers will also be available as pdf-files with the password announced at the webpage <http://www.suz.uzh.ch/davidov/lehre.html> .

Suggested literature and plan of the course (we will pick up only some topics from this more conclusive list of possible topics):

1) Introduction to the course topic, plan of the course.

Stangor, C. (Ed.) (2000). Stereotypes and prejudice: Essential Readings. Wolume overview. Pp. 1-16. New-York, NY: Taylor and Francis.

The effect of social structure on negative attitudes

- 2) Kunovich, R. M. (2004). Social structural position and prejudice: An exploration of cross-national differences in regression slopes, *Social Science Research*, 33(1), 20-44.

The effect of media

- 3) Contextual sources of perceived group threat: Negative immigration-related news reports, immigrant group size and their interaction, Spain 1996-2007. Schlüter, E. and E. Davidov. *European Sociological Review*.
- 4) Optional: Boomgaarden, H.G. and Vliegenthart, R. (2009). How News Content Influences Anti-Immigration Attitudes: Germany, 1993–2005. *European Journal of Political Research*, 48, 516-542.
- 5) Optional: Persson, A.V. and Musher-Eizenmann, D.R. (2005). College Students' Attitudes toward Blacks and Arabs Following a Terrorist Attack as a Function of Varying Levels of Media Exposure. *Journal of Applied Social Psychology*, 35, 1879-1893.

Group threat theory and contact theory

- 6) Semyonov, M., Raijman, R. and Gorodzeisky, A. (2006). The rise of anti-foreigner sentiment in European societies, 1988-2000, *American Sociological Review*, 71, 426-449.

- 7) Schlüter, E. and U. Wagner (2008). Regional Differences Matter: Examining the Dual Influence of the Regional Size of the Immigrant Population on Derogation of Immigrants in Europe. *International Journal of Comparative Sociology*, 49, 153-173.
- 8) Changing attitudes toward immigration in Europe, 2002-2007. A dynamic group conflict theory approach (2009). Meuleman, B., E. Davidov, and J. Billiet. *Social Science Research*, 38, 352-365.

The role of values

- 9) Explaining attitudes towards immigration policies in European countries: The role of human values (in press). Davidov, E. and B. Meuleman. *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*.

Housing

- 10) Period and duration effects on the value of housing among immigrants (2003). Semyonov, M., N. Lewin-Epstein, and E. Davidov. *Social Science Research*, 32, 2-24.
- 11) Optional: Transition to homeownership among immigrant groups and natives in West-Germany, 1984-2008 (2011). Davidov, E. and S. Weick. *Journal of Immigrant & Refugees Studies*, 9, 393-415.

Anomia

- 12) Anomia: Empirical analyses of the level and development of the individual experience of anomie in the German population (2008). Legge, S., E. Davidov and P. Schmidt. *International Journal of Conflict and Violence*, 2(2), 248-267.

Nationalism and patriotism

- 13) Blank, T., and P. Schmidt. (2003). National identity in a united Germany: Nationalism or patriotism? An empirical test with representative data. *Political Psychology* 24:289–311.
- 14) Raijman, R., Davidov, E., Schmidt, P. and Hochman, O. (2008). What does a nation owe non-citizens? National attachments, perception of threat and attitudes toward granting citizenship rights in comparative perspective. *International journal of comparative sociology*, 49(2-3), 195-220.
- 15) Heyder, A. and P. Schmidt (2002). Authoritarianism and Ethnocentrism in East and West Germany - Does the system matter? Pp. 187-210 in: R. Alba, P. Schmidt & M. Wasmer (eds.). New York: Palgrave, St. Martins Press.

The interrelation between attitudes toward different minorities

- 16) Zick, A., C. Wolf, B. Küpper, E. Davidov, P. Schmidt, and W. Heitmeyer (2008). The syndrome of group-focused enmity: The interrelation of prejudices tested with multiple cross-sectional and panel data. *Journal of Social Issues*, 64(2), 363-383.

The effect of integration policies

- 17) Explaining cross-national variation in perceived group threat from immigrants: The role of immigrant integration policies. Schlüter, E., B. Meuleman and E. Davidov. Submitted to *Social Science Research*.

