

INTRODUCTION TO THE SOCIOLOGY OF THE CONTEMPORARY IMAGINARY

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This course intends to clarify the meaning of the “imaginary”, with special references to fantasies which construct our subconscious and support some everyday behaviors. Although their way of expression changes into time and space (they are expressed by the myths of yesterday or by science fiction of nowadays), they remain essential symbolic elements helping us to understand and to face and handle the human reality –even its’ irrational aspects).

Helped by some well known cinematographic productions, we analyze primordial themes neglected by Sociology such as: the research of super power, the “woman” as a symbol of “otherness”, the fear of lack of social control on technology, the “disaster impulsions”, the communication with the “difference” (monsters, animals, robots etc.): trying to approach the “dark side” of social life.

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