"Neo-tribes" from Emile Durkheim to Michel Maffesoli and beyond

Lecturer: Dr. Ismo Kantola

Credits: 2 to 4 credits

Time: Tue 14–16 and Thu 10–12 from Mar 9th to May 6th 2010, altogether 20 hours

Location: Pub 5 of the Publicum building, 3rd floor

Target group: students of sociology (M.3.) and related fields, advanced level

Language: English

Registration: completed by attending the first lecture

Completion of the course: attending lectures, passing the exam (2 credits); literature (2 credits) by exam or essay (detailed instructions and a select list of literature at the first lecture)

The programme

1. Introduction: the concept of 'neo-tribe' as a key concept or a pontus asinus?

2. The development of Durkheim's ideas about modern tribalism
   (J. Alexander)

3. Maffesoli's reading of Durkheim
   (Maffesoli 1988)

4. The concept of representation as a methodological solution in philosophy and Durkheimian sociology

5. Is sociology not structural anthropology?
   (C. Levi-Strauss etc.)

6. The common stance of sociology and semiotics on cultural formations
   (R. Williams & A. Greimas)

7. Neo-tribes by M. Maffesoli and A. Melucci

8. Consumer communities
   (Maffesoli & Schultze etc.)

9. Spiritual healing in rave-parties
10. Conclusion: celebration and law