Critical Sociology
Rémy Bocquillon
Wednesdays, 6.00-9.00 pm (not every week!)
Kap-010

Summary of the course:
What is critique? What does it have to do with sociology? How can critique be understood as part of sociological methods but also as social practices? Taking the Grundzüge Soziologischer Theorien as starting point, the relation between sociology and critique will be explored further through its most important sociologists and philosophers: a closer look at how each of them constructed their critiques, how they understood relations of power and domination, and through which methods they analysed social inequalities.
However, and as Michel Foucault notes it, critique is always a critique of something. It does not stand alone. Therefore, an understanding of the context in which those theories were developed is necessary. What were those critiques about? Towards whom were they directed? From Marx’s critique of capitalism to the sociology of critique introduced by Luc Boltanski, critical sociology is always linked to a certain order, to a certain situation, a certain history.
Finally, as an open question, a reflexion will be attempted about the relevance of critical sociology nowadays in a political context of superlatives and extremes.