

Annotation:

The thesis *Normality and Normativity* is concerned with the problems of the relation of normal and abnormal. The analysis of the expression ‘normal’ is the introduction of the topic followed by the demonstration that there are multiple meanings of the normal that do not always coincide. During the description of the aspects of norm and normal the fundamental relations between facts and prescriptions will have to be taken into account. The full meaning of the notion normal will be demonstrated on the basis of its relation to the pathological and healthy. A definition of health presented in this thesis, which takes into consideration the specifics of the normal, is based on the works of George Canguilhem and Kurt Goldstein. The crucial moment is the understanding of disease as a reaction of an organism to the limitation of the milieu. An important factor is the introduction of vital normativity that is intrinsic to the living being. This conception opposes the influential conception which identifies the state of health with certain physiological criteria – standards of health - advocated among others by Claude Bernard. At the end of the thesis we will shortly overview the norms as formative aspect in a society. The sociological view of norms that is significant for the extensive work of Michel Foucault does include some of the ideas developed by Canguilhem. Still, both conceptions differ in a fundamental question concerning the nature of vital and social norms.