



UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Urban Politics

2021-3-E4001N092

Learning objectives

Knowledge and understanding

Provide theoretical skills needed to understand city government processes.

Applying knowledge and understanding

Provide an overview of the main methods of urban policy analysis.

Contents

The course introduces students to the topic of urban policy, proposing some essential interpretative models for how cities deal with the contemporary transformations.

Detailed program

The course provides an overview of the main analyzes and interpretations relating to urban policy. The theme of the city government is deepened starting from some classic models proposed by urban sociology and political sociology. The city government is further analyzed in relation to demographic, economic, cultural and political conditions that are investing contemporary cities in the last few decades. Among the issues on which the course is concentrated in a specific way: the way in which decisions are made about the city; the mechanisms by which are

built government coalitions; urban policy strategies to address the current challenges of growth and sustainability; the competition between cities to attract resources; the relationship between urban governance and government of territorial systems of different scale.

Prerequisites

Students in the course must have a knowledge of the main sociological theories, and in particular those relating to urban sociology. They are also required basic methodological skills.

Teaching methods

Teaching lessons and research work. In case of an extension of the COVID-19 emergency the lessons will take place remotely. There will be recorded video lessons (asynchronous) and video conference events (synchronous).

There will be two forms of participation:

- 1) "**attending**" mode. Students who regularly follow the lessons and participate, at the times and in the ways indicated, in the individual and group activities proposed by the teacher.
- 2) "**non-attending**" mode. Students who choose not to attend lessons regularly and do not participate in the individual and group activities indicated by the teacher.

The two modes of participation provide for different forms of assessment.

Assessment methods

Non-attending students

Oral test aimed at verifying the proper acquisition of the course content and the ability to use concepts in the analysis of urban processes. In the event of a prolonged COVID-19 emergency, the oral exams will take place in telematic mode. A public link for access to the exam will be provided on the e-learning page of the teaching.

Attending students

In itinere evaluations of group and individual work that will be assigned during the course. These works include the production of written papers and their discussion during synchronous sessions.

Textbooks and Reading Materials

Attending students:

Semi, G. (2015). Gentrification. Tutte le città come Disneyland? Bologna: Il Mulino.

Further bibliography will be communicated during the course.

Non attending students:

a) *Mandatory for everyone*

- Semi, G. (2015). *Gentrification. Tutte le città come Disneyland?* Bologna: Il Mulino.

b) Choose one among the following:

- Barile A., Raffini L. e Alteri L., *Il tramonto della città*, Roma, DeriveApprodi, 2019.

- Belligni S. e Ravazzi S., *La politica e la città. Regime urbano e classe dirigente a Torino*, Bologna, Il Mulino, 2012.

- Tosi S., *Cultural stadi. Calcio, città, consumi e politiche*, Milano, Ledizioni, 2018.
