



UNIVERSITÀ  
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

## **COURSE SYLLABUS**

### **Health and Poverty**

2021-3-E4001N096

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#### **Learning area**

#### **Learning objectives**

- 1) capacity to identify and understand the social inequality and poverty, with special attention to health inequality
- 2) awareness of main policy instruments to combat social inequality and reduce its consequences on individuals and society

#### **Contents**

Theoretical concepts for the critical analysis of:

- 1) social inequality in contemporary societies
- 2) poverty as special case of social inequality
- 3) health inequality as special case of social inequality

Methodological issues in the analysis of poverty and inequality are discussed as well.

#### **Detailed program**

The course discusses the relationship between poverty and inequality, on one side, and health, on the other. The

first part of the course is devoted to poverty both from a theoretical point of view - distinguishing concepts like inequality, absolute and relative poverty, vulnerability, social exclusion - and from a methodological and empirical point of view. In the second part of the course the concepts of health and inequality of health are introduced, together with the main determinants of health of the population. The last part of the course is devoted to the social policies that favour the improvement of health in the population and reduce the inequalities of health, with reference to the literature on welfare regimes.

## **Prerequisites**

None

## **Teaching methods**

- 1) lessons
- 2) discussion about movies and images
- 3) online database (Oecd, Eurostat, Istat, Gapminder, ...)
- 4) workgroup and powerpoint presentations

If the limitations imposed by the Covid-19 emergence will remain in the second semester, part of the course will be based on video-recorded lessons uploaded on the moodle platform, and part on online lessons through the WebEx platform.

## **Assessment methods**

The exam is written and oral. If the Covid-19 emergence will not be over, the exam will be held at distance through moodle and webex.

For students attending class, the final evaluation is based on tasks assigned during the course and on a final exam (written test and oral discussion) on two texts (Morlicchio and Marmot)

For those that don't attend regularly the class, written test and oral discussion on the three texts (Morlicchio, Marmot and Carbone/Kazepov).

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## **Textbooks and Reading Materials**

1. Morlicchio "Sociologia della povertà", Il Mulino (2012) (with the exclusion of chapters 5, 6 and 7) or C. Saraceno, D. Benassi e E. Morlicchio, Poverty in Italy, "Features and drivers in a European perspective", Policy Press (2020)
2. Carbone e Kazepov Che cos'è il welfare state, Carocci (2018) (non l'edizione precedente)
3. Michael Marmot "la salute diseguale" Il Pensiero Scientifico (2016)

Erasmus students: ad hoc reading list agreed at the beginning of the course.

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