

COURSE SYLLABUS

Social Capital and Local Socioeconomic Systems

2021-2-F8802N023

Learning objectives

The course aims at providing concepts and examples in order to explain the role of social capital in the enhancement of human capital in the development of local production systems. Through the analysis of sociological literature and of empirical case studies, students will acknowledge the contribution of sociology to the interpretation of the practices of social cohesion in local production systems.

Contents

- Introduction to Social Capital
- Discussion of the main theories of national and international authors
- Role of Social Capital for the development of local socio-economic systems
- Local Production Systems: case studies and models
- Relationship between networks, Social Capital, development Of Local Production Systems

Detailed program

The course consists of two parts. In the first one classes will deal with the following topics:

- Introduction to Social Capital
- Italian debate about Social Capital and Local Development in Italy (with reference to papers by Bagnasco, Pizzorno, Trigilia and Piselli)
- James Coleman: trust and Social Capital
- Robert Putnam: Social Capital and Social Cohesion

In the second part, we will discuss the relations between social capital and development of local production systems. Classes will address the following topics:

- Social Capital and Local Production System in Europe
- Social capital, local production systems and Local Collective Competition Goods
- Case studies and models of local production systems
- Networks as tools for the study of Social Capital and Local Production Systems (inter-personal and inter-organizational networks)

Prerequisites

Basic knowledge of sociology

Teaching methods

Set of lectures and workshops; case studies discussion and presentations.

Assessment methods

Presentations and discussions of theoretical and empirical papers, essays, case studies and written tests.

Textbooks and Reading Materials

[A reading list will be available on the e-learning webpage.](#)

- Coleman J. (1990) *Foundation of Social Theory* (VIII, XII e XXI), Harvard, Harvard University Press.
- Crouch, C., Le Galès P., Trigilia C., Voelzkow H. (2000) *Local Production Systems in Europe*, Oxford, Oxford University Press.(introduction)

- Pacetti V. (2008) Beni collettivi locali e competitività dei territori: un confronto tra Piemonte e Bretagna, in "Stato e mercato", n. 82.
 - Powell (1990) Neither Market nor Hierarchy. Network Forms of Organization, in "Research in Organizational Behavior", vol. 12.
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