

UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Environment and Territorial Networks

2122-3-E4001N094

Learning objectives

The main aim of this course is to teach how to analyze, in an interdisciplinary perspective, the relationship between human beings and the environment or between space and social phenomena.

Students will also be stimulated to use theories and methods of social science to describe and understand the connections between society and environment.

Contents

This course deals with issues related to the relationship between human beings and environment. The concepts of place, environment, territory and space will be presented, such concepts will be addressed from different points of view: economic, political, cultural. Moreover, the definition of borders and the mobility concepts will be tackled. Finally, the attention will be focused on food and food systems.

Detailed program

The course is divided into two parts.

In the first part, the basic concepts of the sociology of the territory are presented and, with the support of Osti's book, the concepts of space, place, territory and environment will be discussed. These concepts are addressed from economics, politics and culture prospectives.

In the second part, the topic related to food or food system will be used in order to investigate the relationship between society and the environment. Such topic is relevant for its impacts on the environment, politics and the related systems of value.

Prerequisites

Capability in analyzing sociological texts. Basic skills in social research methods.

Teaching methods

Lessons and Seminars

Assessment methods

Written examination with oral optional exam.

The evaluation criteria will take into account the knowledge of the contents; skills (properties of language and synthesis capacities) and skills in the use of concepts (ability to apply theoretical concepts to empirical cases).

Textbooks and Reading Materials

Giorgio Osti, 2010, Sociologia del territorio, Mulino

Nunzia Borrelli e Alfredo Mela, 2018, Lo spazio del cibo, Carocci