Learning objectives

The analysis of the Italian labour market in a cross-European perspective, with a peculiar emphasis on the trade-off between family and welfare state and on the economic, social and institutional factors affecting both the level and the composition of employment and unemployment.

To make the students able to read the main indicators concerning the labour market, to analyse statistical data and to identify the structural features and the main trends of the labour market in a comparative perspective.

Contents

The labor market changes are one of the most relevant aspect of the social transformations. They are also a very interesting topic for economic sociology studies. After having presented the main changes of the labor market, the course will take into consideration the role of trade unions.
The course is divided into two parts.

The first part, after having presented some basic concept of economic sociology and showed concepts and tools of analysis of labour markets, deals with the main changes that took place. In particular a special attention will be devoted to the labour participation of women, the unemployment models in Europe and Italy, emphasising on penalization of youths, the ways for searching and finding a job, the main trends of employment in Europe and Italy, emphasising the process of “tertiarisation”, the work flexibility, the incorporation of immigrants in the labour market and the role of the unions and of collective bargaining.

The second part introduces the main sociology of work concepts and applies them to the analysis of lived working experiences and of work practices in specific working contexts.

Prerequisites

Students must be able to understand hypotheses connecting socio-economic phenomena to their likely reasons.

Teaching methods

Teaching lectures, discussion with students concerning specific topics, self-assessment tests available on the e-learning platform.

Assessment methods

Written examination (2 questions). An oral exam can be required by the teacher or by students.

Textbooks and Reading Materials

Textbook


Pais I. e Provasi G. (2017), Karl Polanyi. Le forme di integrazione tra economia e società alla prova della sharing economy, in Barbera F. e Pais I. (a cura di), Fondamenti di Sociologia Economica, Egea, Milano, cap.6 (pp.71-83)

Articles


*INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS. A reading list in English will be provided to exchange students upon request. An English exam will be allowed as well.