UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Globalization and Political Cultures

2122-2-F8802N032

Learning objectives

The notion of political culture has been the subject of an important debate in recent years that has profoundly changed both the theoretical definition and the fields and methods of investigation. The course aims to present the evolution of the concept in relation to globalization processes through the discussion of important theoretical contributions and examples of empirical research.

At the end of the course, students will be able to grasp the relationship between production processes of political cultures and globalization, to distinguish the different analytical dimensions and to identify a variety of areas in which political cultures are produced and manifest

Contents

The course, after a brief introduction dedicated to the themes and problems of globalization, focuses on the study of political cultures, on the analysis of their dimensions, on production processes and on the collective subjects that produce them.

Detailed program

In the first part of the course the theoretical objective is twofold: on the one hand, to draw a map of the main problems that are discussed under the label of "globalization" in order to critically orient oneself in the face of a broad literature that has transformed the concept into a paradigm of the contemporary situation; on the other hand, to introduce theoretical reflection on the notion of political culture starting from the political tradition.

The second part of the course proposes a work of reflection on the possible "new interpretations" of the concept of

political cultures starting from different contributions attributable to the new sociological perspectives of the study of cultures. In parallel, a discourse will be developed on long-lasting socio-cultural changes (secularization, individualization) which, in relation to globalization, have had a notable impact on production and consumption, on the invention and use of traditional political cultures and their reformulations.

Prerequisites

A good knowledge of sociological theory and methodology of social research.

Teaching methods

Lectures, project works, and presentations.

Assessment methods

Attending students: an individual research paper on a theme to be agreed with the teacher.

Non-attending students: oral examination.

Textbooks and Reading Materials

1) Ambrogio Santambrogio (a cura di) La cultura politica nell'Italia che cambia. Percorsi teorici ed empirici, Carocci Roma 2001.

2) Choose 4 articles from those listed (The list of texts in point 2 will be presented in the first lessons of the course and, where possible, will be made available in pdf format on the elearning page).

3) A text of your choice among the following:

Bauman Z. (1999) Dentro la globalizzazione. Bologna: Il Mulino.

Zolo D. (2006) Globalizzazione. Una mappa dei problemi. Roma: Laterza.

Beck U. (2009) Il Dio personale, Roma: Laterza

Pedrini L. (2020) La boxe popolare. Etnografia di una cultura fisica e politica. Aprilia: Novalogos.

Casanova J. (2000) Oltre la secolarizzazione. Le religioni alla riconquista della sfera pubblica. Bologna: il Mulino.

Costa P. (2019) La città post-secolare. Il nuovo dibattito sulla secolarizzazione, Brescia: Queriniana.