UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Public Action and Knowledge

2122-2-F8802N040

Learning objectives

Learning conceptual and analytical tools for studing the ways knowledge underpinning public action is built, configured, certified and used, for both research and operational purposes (design, monitoring, evaluation

Contents

a)Theories and research on: definition, classification and measurement of social phenomena; public action instruments, with regard to the cognitive dimension (both ideational and technical; expert knowledge and political choices;

b) Exercises on the analysis of public policies on social matters.

Detailed program

The course aims at learning conceptual and analytical tools for studing the ways knowledge underpinning public action is built, configured, certified and used, for both research and operational purposes (design, monitoring, evaluation).

Prerequisites

Mastery of theoretical knowledge and methodological basise and good skills in learning, writing and oral

communication.

Teaching methods

Lectures and exercises.

Assessment methods

Written test for attending students

Oral test for non attending students

Textbooks and Reading Materials

Burawoy M. (2005), “For Public Sociology”, American Sociological Review, 70(1), 4-28.

de Leonardis O. (2009) “Conoscenza e democrazia nelle scelte di giustizia: un’introduzione”. La Rivista delle Politiche Sociali, 3, 73-84.

Desrosières, A., 2011, “Buono o cattivo? Il ruolo del numero nel governo della città neo-liberale”, La Rassegna Italiana di Sociologia, 3.

Espeland W.N. & Stevens M.L. (2008) “A Sociology of Quantification”. European Journal of Sociology, 49(3), 401-436.

Mozzana C., 2019, Welfare, capacità, conoscenza, Roma, Carocci

Supiot A., Governance by numbers, https://www.college-de-france.fr/site/en-alain-supiot/Governance-by-Numbers