UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Comparative Analysis of Welfare Systems

2122-1-F8701N068-F8701N051M

Learning objectives

The aim is to develop the conceptual and methological tools needed for the comparative analysis of welfare systems and for the analysis of social policies.

Contents

Main topics of the course:

1) theories about welfare state, welfare regime and welfare system

2) historical and sociological explanation of the development of the welfare state

3) typologies of welfare state

4) sectors of welfare policies

5) social policiy and inequality

6) poverty and social policy

Detailed program

In the first part of the course the main conepts and theories about welfare and welfare state are introduced, with reference to the historical development of State intervention in this domain. The welfare state is approached in combination with social and economic inequality and with the impact that welfare policies can have on it. Then, the different sector of welfare policies (pensions, health, work, and social assistance) are analysed in details. this part is focused on the Italian situation but with systematic comparison with the other European and extra-European

countries.

Finally, the important question of poverty and the policy instruments to fight poverty is discussed, with special reference to basic income schemes.

Prerequisites

None

Teaching methods

The students are required to actively participate to the lessons, to make teamwork and to make public presentations.

Assessment methods

The exam is written and oral. If necessary, it will be held at distance through the Webex platform.

The student is required to answer to one question for each text.

Textbooks and Reading Materials

Basic texts:

1) M. Ferrera, “Le politiche sociali”, Il Mulino, (2019);

2) D. Carbone e Y. Kazepov, “Che cos’è il welfare state?”, Carocci, Roma, (2007);

One text among the following:

1) W. Beveridge, “Alle origini del welfare state”, Angeli, (2010)

2) Ciarini, Le politiche sociali nelle regioni italiane, Il Mulino, 2012

3) E. Morlicchio, “Sociologia della povertà”, Il Mulino (2012)

4) F. Conti e G. Silei, “Breve storia dello stato sociale”, Carocci (2013)

5) C. Saraceno, D. Benassi e E. Morlicchio, Poverty in Italy. Features and drivers in a European perspective, Policy Press (2020)

An english program is also available for foreign students