

# UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

### **COURSE SYLLABUS**

## Social Change, New Social Risks and Social Innovation in Europe

2122-1-F8701N080

#### Learning objectives

The course aims at providing conceptual, analytical and methodological tools for understanding the main transformations of European societies from a comparative perspective.

#### **Contents**

The course explores the main characteristics and dynamics of change in contemporary European societies with particular attention to welfare and labour market regulation, social and inclusion policies, gender issues, migration and demographic phenomena and the impact of the process of supranational integration on these dimensions.

#### **Detailed program**

The course deals with the main transformations and challenges that European societies are going through and adopts a comparative perspective to analyse the convergence/divergence processes within Europe and the functioning of social institutions and socio-economic regulation in European countries. Particular attention is devoted to the changes in the labour market and welfare arena, to gender, demographic and migration issues.

The programme is developed around the following topics:

- European societies, multi-level governance and variety of capitalisms
- Work, digitalisation, gig economy
- Women, young people and immigrants in the labour market

- Active inclusion and labour policies
- Inequalities and welfare regulation
- New social risks, innovation and social investment
- Demographic change, family and social policies
- Immigration, integration, citizenship and identity

#### **Prerequisites**

None

#### **Teaching methods**

Lectures are combined with class discussions and use of teaching tools for interaction with students, who will be able to participate in group work, debates and presentations. In the event of emergency restrictions, teaching may be carried out in blended or distance modes. The corse is held in English.

#### Assessment methods

The exam consists of a written test with three open questions. Students have the opportunity to give presentations during the course and write a final paper.

#### **Textbooks and Reading Materials**

Basic textbooks:

Crouch, C. (2016) Society and Social Change in 21st Century Europe, Palgrave Macmillan

Mau, S., Verwiebe, R. (2010) European Societies. Mapping Structure and Change, The Policy Press

One text among the following:

Crouch, C. (2019) Will the Gig Economy Prevail? Cambridge, Polity

Esping-Andersen, G. (2009) The Incomplete Revolution. Adapting to Women's New Roles, Polity Press

Hassel, A., Palier, B. (2021, eds.) Growth & Welfare in Advanced Capitalist Economies, Oxford University Press

Hemerijck, A., (2017, ed.) The uses of Social Investment, Oxford University Press

Scalise, G. (2020) The political Economy of Policy Ideas: The European Strategy of Active Inclusion in Context, Palgrave Macmillan

