



UNIVERSITÀ  
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

## COURSE SYLLABUS

### Cultural Anthropology - M-Z

2122-2-E1901R142-MZ

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#### Course title

Cultural Anthropology - M-Z

#### Topics and course structure

The course is an introduction to cultural anthropology that today is a critical knowledge aimed at understanding and analyzing cultural diversity and the processes of identities construction in the contemporary world.

"Culture" is a notion that common sense often invests with stereotypes or reduces to simple culturalism. Anthropology, born from the meeting with other visions of life and human being in distant lands, is an important tool for understanding how cultural diversity is constructed and what are the languages, practices and tools that establish this diversity.

During the course, special attention will be devoted to ethnographic method as anthropological instrument apt to understand cultural alterity.

#### Objectives

The course aims to provide students with solid knowledge in cultural anthropology, presenting some notion of discipline such as society, ethnicity, religion, rite, power, gender, etc. The course also intends to present the methodological issues of anthropological approach such as field research, the "immersion" in another world of life, decentralization of the perspective etc. In this sense, the discipline reveals its educational dimension exploring the

phenomena of acculturation and the encounter with the "other", but also in the clash and friction or in the fascination that diversity can arouse.

The lessons and the readings provide the students with the tools necessary for the understanding of the dynamics of identity and cultural differences. The goal is to develop an attitude to comparison and critical approach to multiplicity and cultural realities. The students will gain useful knowledge for critical reflection on the complexity of the contemporary world.

## **Methodologies**

Lectures and class discussions. The use of various teaching materials, including eventual audio-visual materials, aims at encouraging learning skills and critical skills in common discussions.

Attendance and active participation are recommended.

The exam can be performed in English by foreign/Erasmus students.

## **Online and offline teaching materials**

## **Programme and references for attending students**

**Tassan M.**, 2020, *Antropologia per insegnare. Diversità culturale e processi educativi*, Bologna, Zanichelli. (Available in print and e-book versions).

**Dei F.**, 2021, *La scuola multiculturale. Una critica antropologica*, StreetLib, collana RicercAzione MCE Libri. (E-book)

**Grilli S.**, 2019, *Antropologia delle famiglie contemporanee*, Roma, Carocci Editore.

**Biscaldi A.**, *Etnografia della responsabilità educativa*, Bologna, Archetipolibri.

Erasmus students can contact Dr. Tassan to define a programme exclusively in English.

## Programme and references for non-attending students

**Tassan M.**, 2020, *Antropologia per insegnare. Diversità culturale e processi educativi*, Bologna, Zanichelli. (Available in print and e-book versions).

**Dei F.**, 2021, *La scuola multiculturale. Una critica antropologica*, StreetLib, collana RicercAzione MCE Libri. (E-book)

**Grilli S.**, 2019, *Antropologia delle famiglie contemporanee*, Roma, Carocci Editore.

**Biscaldi A.**, *Etnografia della responsabilità educativa*, Bologna, Archetipolibri.

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## Assessment methods

### WRITTEN EXAMINATION WITH OPTIONAL ORAL EXAMINATION

The examination consists of a two-hour written test comprising four open questions about all the texts. If the evaluation of the written test is between 18/30 and 30/30, the student may request a supplementary oral examination (optional).

The student is automatically notified of the publication of the results of the written exam when the written exam register is closed by an e-mail sent to the University e-mail address. The finale score can be consulted on the student's personal page.

When the results of the written paper are published, the student has three days to choose one of the following options:

a) the student can accept the outcome of the written paper: the test is concluded and the grade and CFUs are recorded in the student's career with telematic verbalization at the end of the publication period;

b) the student may indicate that he/she wishes to take an oral integration, on the day and at the time set by the teacher. The student may proceed with enrolment up to the day before the oral call. In this case, if the student does not attend the oral examination, or does not enrol, he will be "withdrawn". If a student does attend, he will be informed verbally of the result of the test.

In the event that the student does not express any of the above options within the timeframe, the result of the written test is considered accepted and the score will be recorded at the end of the publication period.

### **Evaluation criteria**

Using appropriate questions, the teacher will test the soundness of the skills acquired, the students' ability to read texts critically and to construct an effective argumentative essay. The student will have to reach at least 18/30 in all the questions of the written paper in order to pass the test and enter the eventual oral exam. One or more questions left blank or assessed as insufficient will preclude the student from passing the written examination.

### **Office hours**

By e-mail appointment.

### **Programme validity**

Two academic yers. This means that this programme is valid from the summer session (June, July, and September) of 2022 until the winter session (January and February) of 2024.

Programme 2020-2021 is valid until February 2023.

Programme 2019-2020 is valid until February 2022.

### **Course tutors and assistants**

Angela Molinari, PhD; \_\_\_

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