



UNIVERSITÀ  
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

## COURSE SYLLABUS

### Philosophical Models in The Human Sciences

2122-2-F8501R062

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#### Course title

Work, care, environment

#### Topics and course structure

The unprecedented situation caused by the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic has brought to the foreground questions that often, in the "normal" course of our lives, tend to remain in the background. As in any situation of "crisis", the contours of the obvious are cracked, thus allowing us to glimpse, sometimes dramatically, the tensions and fractures that run through our existence and form of social organization.

Among the many themes that have emerged in recent months, very central are:

**the theme of work**, which has seen an acceleration of social inequalities and which, in its dominant version, comes into crisis with the protection of the environment and health;

**the theme of care**, understood in its broadest sense, as a dimension that is as much collective as it is personal and intimate: care work, social care, personal care, care as responsibility and its relation to the theme of justice;

**the theme of the environment**, as a trans-human place (in relation to anti-specism and the concept of life in general), as a problem of its consumption to produce profit, as a question of its conformation for forms of life.

How can we think of the relationship between the needs of the economy and those of the health and work? how can we think a different relationship to environment? and the care of vulnerably people, at a time when these dimensions enter into an apparently unsolvable conflict? And in what way has the pandemic, with the measures determined for its contrast (such as smart-working, school closures...), brought to the fore the unequal gender distribution of "caring", a something usually confined to the silence of the household and invisible (because rendered such) in public space?

Starting from this framework, the course intends to explore these issues from a political, historical-philosophical and theoretical point of view, each time focusing on the pedagogical implications they entail. The theme of care will be addressed in its connections with the themes of justice and vulnerability, with the theme of work and gender, and its underlying structure will be articulated in the light of a philosophical perspective.

## Objectives

Through this teaching, with constant and participatory attendance at lessons, we aim to promote learning in terms of:

Knowledge and understanding

Ability to relate different knowledge and models to each other

Ability to apply knowledge and models

## Methodologies

## Online and offline teaching materials

Selected passages will be provided during the lectures

## Programme and references for attending students

Judith Butler, *Due letture del giovane Marx*, Mimesis 2021.

Antologia di passi scelti a partire dai testi affrontati a lezione (siete invitati? ad andare a vedere la sezione apposita nella pagina e-learning del corso):

Louis Althusser, *Ideologia e apparati ideologici di Stato*, in "Critica marxista", 5 (1970), pp. 23-65

Silvia Federici, *L'invenzione della casalinga a tempo pieno*, in Ead., *Genere e capitale. Per una lettura femminista di Marx*, DeriveApprodi, 2020

Marx, *Lettera a Ruge*, in MEGA, vol. III, pp. 153-157. (qualsiasi altra edizione va bene)

Judith Butler, *Vita buona e vita cattiva*, in Ead., *A chi spetta una buona vita*, nottetempo, Milano 2013, pp. 13-63

Angela Davis, *Donne Razza e Classe*, Alegre, Roma 2021, i capp. 11, 12, 13, pp. 221-302.

E. Balibar, I Wallerstein, *Razza nazione classe. Le identità ambigue*, Asterios, Trieste 2000, le seguenti pagine:

- cap. 1 (Esiste un «neorazzismo»?), pp. 57-72

- cap. 2 (Universalismo contro razzismo e sessismo: le tensioni ideologiche del capitalismo) pp. 73-84.

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

Same as for attending students

## **Assessment methods**

Oral examination

Assessment criteria: knowledge of topics and themes discussed in class; knowledge of texts; critical thinking; terminological precision

## **Office hours**

Please email the teaching staff to organise

## **Programme validity**

Two academic years

## **Course tutors and assistants**

N/A

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