UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

SYLLABUS DEL CORSO

Storia delle Istituzioni Politiche e Sociali

2122-1-F5701R020

Course title

Modernity and consumption: needs, wishes, and politics

Topics and course structure

The program consists of a thematic part and a general one.

Thematic Part: The course investigates consumption as an effective token for needs, wishes, lifestyles, networks and real economy. Particular attention will be drawn to the evolution of food consumption patterns starting from the great geographical explorations and the Colombian exchange, considering the analysis of new forms of organization of production, the establishment of the Atlantic trade, and the first forms of intensive globalization, highlighting the absolute novelties, the implications for all the continents involved and notably the long-term legacies. Through the analysis of consumption, and especially food consumption, we will investigate the deep connections between production systems, fiscal flows, institutional choices, market dynamics, widespread habits, fashions and lifestyles.

General part: a guided tour through the main events of the modern age, focusing on the social, political, economic and cultural features and institutions that originated between the XVI and the XIX century and that are deeply connected to the contemporary world.

Objectives

The general path and the thematic path interplay, pursuing shared objectives.

The teaching, in its dual path, aims to build an understanding by an evolutionary key of the contemporary world in its socio-cultural, political, institutional, and economic factors. Historical awareness and the conjectural method used throughout classes contribute to enhancing students' theoretical models, tools, and methods of training, i.e. to consolidate key skills associated with the role of experts in training and HR.

Thanks to the dialogical approach, seminars, and group work, the course also trains and promotes the communication skills of the participants, whereas - with regards to the Dublin descriptors - particular attention will be paid to:

- Applied knowledge and learning skills (2)
- Make judgment (3)

Methodologies

Lectures, interaction through class discussion, seminars, blogs. Individual presentations and group work are foreseen.

Online and offline teaching materials

Selection of readings, videos and further didactic tools.

Programme and references for attending students

The course is divided into 2 parts: a general and a thematic one.

References:

Bibliografia:

Bellabarba-Lavenia, *Introduzione alla storia moderna*, Mulino, 2018

Further readings will be indicated throughout classes.

Programme and references for non-attending students

Bellabarba & Lavenia, *Introduzione alla storia moderna,* Mulino, 2018

Mintz, *Storia dello zucchero, tra politica e cultura*, Einaudi, 2020

Assessment methods

Written and oral exam.

Evaluation criteria: the evaluation will consider the completeness of the preparation and the effectiveness of the restitution, both in terms of organization of the discourse, and with respect to formal features.

Office hours

From March to early June 2022:

Monday: 14:00-15:00

and by appointment by writing to laura.prosperi@unimib.it

Programme validity

Programs last two academic years.

Course tutors and assistants