



UNIVERSITÀ  
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

## COURSE SYLLABUS

### Sociology of Organizations

2223-3-E4001N093

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#### Learning objectives

The aim of the course is to provide the background knowledge of organisational sociology in order to enable students to read, interpret and understand various organisational structures and processes.

More specifically, the course aims to

- provide basic information on organisations and organised action
- describe some models of organisational structure and learn how to recognise them
- reflect on the role of technology, power and cultures in organisations
- define, understand and analyse networks of organisations

#### Contents

The course is an introduction to the sociology of organisation, with the aim of guiding students in their understanding of what organisations are and how organisational structures and work within them are studied.

#### Detailed program

Classes will introduce the fundamental concepts provided by the sociology of organization.

In the first part, we will discuss the meaning and definition of "organization" in contemporary society, then focussing on some of the central themes in the analysis of organizations, such as organizational structures, the systems theory of organizations, power, technology, organizational culture.

In the second part, we will focus on inter-organizational networks (definitions, analytical framework, empirical

cases).

Classes will involve presentations, case studies, and exercises.

## **Prerequisites**

Basic knowledge in sociology.

## **Teaching methods**

Lectures in the classroom, individual and group exercises, witness talks and site visits (if possible).

## **Assessment methods**

Final written examination.

The examination, consisting of 6 open questions, is computer-based and is aimed at assessing the study and understanding of the contents of the lectures and textbooks.

Attending students may participate in individual and group exercises, which will contribute to the final assessment.

## **Textbooks and Reading Materials**

- Pichierri A., "Sociologia dell'organizzazione", Laterza, 2011 (except chapter 2, 5 e 10)
- Pacetti V., Pichierri A. "Le reti organizzative", Laterza, 2021

Erasmus students are asked to contact me by e-mail for a reading list in English.

## **Sustainable Development Goals**

DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH | INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE |  
SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

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