UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Social Change, New Social Risks and Social Innovation in Europe

2223-1-F8701N080

Learning objectives

The course aims at providing conceptual, analytical and methodological tools for understanding the main socio-economic 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 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 asked to participate to group work, debates and presentations. The course is held in English.

Assessment methods

The exam consists of a written test with three open questions aimed at assessing both preparation on the course programme and independent and critical thinking. Students have the opportunity to give presentations during the course and write a final paper.

Textbooks and Reading Materials

Basic textbook:

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

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

Burroni, L., Pavolini, E., Regini, M. (2021) Mediterranean Capitalism Revisited. One Model, Different Trajectories, Cornell University Press

Sustainable Development Goals

GENDER EQUALITY | DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH | REDUCED INEQUALITIES