



UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Environmental Sociology

2324-2-E4001N130

Learning objectives

The main purpose of the course is to teach students how to interpret, problematize and analyze the relationship between man and environment or between environment and social phenomena. The approach is multidisciplinary even if theoretical and methodological tools of environmental sociology and social research are widely used.

Contents

The course deals with issues relating to the relationship between man and environment, to this end it dedicates space to the concepts of place, environment, territory and space, addressing them from different points of view: economic, political, cultural. The course also offers thematic insights aimed at reconstructing the public and scientific debate around the relationship between society and nature in the scenario of the global ecological crisis, also in the light of the pandemic crisis.

Detailed program

The course is divided into two parts.

The first part deals with the basic concepts of the sociology of the territory and the environment with the support of Osti's text, thanks to which the concepts of space, place, territory and environment are discussed, highlighting how these are declined in economics, politics and culture.

In the second part, thanks to a review of scientific articles, thematic aspects related to the global ecological crisis will be investigated, such as (by way of example): 1. the ecological impacts of development, production and consumption models; 2. sustainable development and biodiversity policies, global climate and environmental

governance; 3. the issues of environmental justice and ecological democracy; 4. the circular economy and practices aimed at sustainability; 5. the social perception of environmental risks; 6. environmental movements, ecofeminism, deep ecology, eco-mafia and transnational environmental crime

Prerequisites

Ability to understand and critically analyze sociological texts. Ability to interact and discuss in the classroom among colleagues starting from the reading of scientific articles (also in English)

Teaching methods

Classroom lessons, seminars, e-learning and individual and group exercises. Please note that an e-learning platform is available, to which students are invited to register. During the course, lectures will alternate with moments of debate and discussion starting from the text and articles shared by the teacher. Participation in the moments of debate is part of the commitment required of attending students

Assessment methods

For those who will participate in the classroom activities and debate moments organized in a structured way by the professor, there will be:

- moments of discussion and debate in the classroom divided into groups from readings assigned by the lecturer to each group
- the creation of in-depth project work on some of the topics covered in class as group work.

Both the discussions and the project work will be assessed. The assessment - based on relevance, completeness, originality and linguistic correctness - will be aimed at determining the depth and maturity with which the learning of the specific training objectives took place; skills in the use of acquired knowledge (ability to apply theoretical concepts to empirical cases), writing and expository skills in the classroom will also be assessed.

For those who will not participate in the debate activities and project work, a written test in the computer lab (5 open-ended questions in the form of a short essay) is planned.

The evaluation criteria will take into account content knowledge as well as language property and the ability to synthesize and logical correlation.

Textbooks and Reading Materials

Mandatory for attending and not attending students:

- Osti G., Sociology of the territory. Il Mulino: Bologna 2010.
- review of articles made available by the teacher

Sustainable Development Goals

AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY | SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES | RESPONSIBLE
CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION | CLIMATE ACTION | PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS
