UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Social Policy

2324-2-E3901N046

Learning objectives

This course aims to:

- introduce students to key ideas and concepts in social policy
- examine the delivery of social policy in different welfare regime types
- provide an overview of the main features of social policy in Italy in a comparative perspective
- discuss and critically analyze the development of social policy against “new social risks”
- examine the development of social policy at local level

Contents

- Key social policy ideas and concepts: social policy, welfare state, social need, risks, and benefits
- The development of the welfare state
- The different welfare regimes in Europe and the main feature of the Italian regime
- Social policy provision against the “new" social risks
- The development of social policy at local level

Detailed program

This course introduces students to the theory and practice of social policy and welfare states. In particular, it

- provides the theoretical foundations (key ideas and concepts) of social policy and the welfare state
- explores the nature and extent of welfare provision in different European countries
- analyses the main features of the Italian welfare regime

- critically explore shifts in welfare provision and the nature of social policy responses to “new social risks”
- examines the development of social policy at local level

Prerequisites

Good logical reasoning ability; good comprehension and communication skills; basic knowledge of social work and social policy.

Teaching methods

This course will address these topics by reading textbook and additional recommended resources, by lectures and class discussions.

Assessment methods

Written exam (max 100 minutes), with the opportunity to take an integrative oral exam.

The written exam contains:

- 5 closed questions
- 5 short-answer questions (definitions, concepts, theories)
- 1 essay-type question

Each exam, written or oral, will be marked based on the ability to communicate effectively concepts, theories and empirical evidence by using the appropriate scientific language.

Textbooks and Reading Materials

Ranci C. e Pavolini E. (2015), Le politiche di Welfare, Il Mulino, Bologna [with the exception of chapter VI "Le politiche di sostegno alle transizioni istruzione-lavoro"].

Additional compulsory reading materials will be indicated and uploaded at the beginning of the course.

Sustainable Development Goals

GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING | GENDER EQUALITY | REDUCED INEQUALITIES