



UNIVERSITÀ  
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

## COURSE SYLLABUS

### Third Sector Cultures and Practices

2324-2-E3901N083

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#### Learning objectives

The course aims to provide keys to interpreting and analyzing the action of Third Sector organizations, focusing on their cultures and on the interdependence with their organizational practices and action and with the cultural, social, economic and political environment in which they operate and the variations over time and space of this relationship.

It will then focus on the strategic choices of social and economic positioning, relations with users, citizenship and public and private institutions, organizational forms and work models.

#### Contents

- Humanitarian and solidarity organisations in the pre-modern period
- Early forms of interaction with public intervention by states
- Mutual and cooperative experiences
- Mobilisations and movements for social rights
- The first forms of public welfare state
- The welfare state in the 20th century
- Associations during the 'glorious thirty years' period
- The movements of the 1970s and 1980s
- The emergence of new Third Sector actors

- The forms of institutionalisation of the Third Sector
- Professionalisation
- Mutual accommodation
- Economic crises and the responses of organisations
- Forms of social innovation
- Hybrid development paths
- The corporatisation of the third sector
- Social impact
- The reform of the Third Sector
- The new role of philanthropy
- New forms of advocacy
- The new mutualism
- Organisational cultures
- Scene styles
- Social cooperatives
- Voluntary organisations
- Foundations
- Philanthropy
- Systemic constraints
- Organisational dilemmas
- Social work and its tensions
- Human resource management
- Hybridizations and contaminations

## **Detailed program**

The course will first present the approaches to the topic and the teaching method adopted in the course.

It will then present the historical steps of development of non-profit organisations and social enterprises, highlighting the constants, changes and national and territorial specificities.

The course will focus in particular on the systemic transformations that have taken place over the last decade and the different ways in which the non-profit actors are responding to them: social innovation, hybridisation with other territorial institutions and with the profit actors, the new mutualism and the emerging experiences of advocacy coalitions, the reform of the Third Sector and the new Third Sector and Social Enterprise Code, the new forms of co-planning and co-programming, the role of philanthropy, with particular reference to banking foundations.

The course will then focus on the internal dynamics experienced by third sector organisations, with particular reference to the dynamics of entrepreneurial development, emerging organisational cultures, the effects on workers and volunteers, organisational forms, relations with users and citizenship, and the impacts on the organisations' founding missions.

## **Prerequisites**

Post-secondary education skills in logic, general culture, learning, writing and oral communication

## **Teaching methods**

- 1) Lectures, in Italian.
- 2) For attending students, laboratory teaching will be provided with working groups, analysis of written and audiovisual documents and, if possibile, on field trips.
- 3) During the course, specific case studies will be analyzed and protagonists of non-profit organisations and social enterprises will present their experience and reflexions.

## **Assessment methods**

The examination will take place in with two possible modes:

- In oral form, through an interview with questions related to the readings that will be offered at each lecture and that will be indicated on the course e-learning platform.
- By complementing the oral test with the production of a case study analysis paper of one's choice in the manner that will be indicated on the course e-learning platform at the beginning of the course. Those who will take advantage of this supplement will have a reduction in the compulsory readings.

## **Textbooks and Reading Materials**

Provisional texts (will be updated in September 2023)

Silvano Giovanni (a cura di) (2011) *Origini e sviluppi del Terzo settore italiano*, in Silvano Giovanni, *Società e Terzo settore: la via italiana*. Il Mulino, pp. 13-78.

Marcon Giulio (2004) *Le utopie del ben fare: percorsi della solidarietà: dal mutualismo al terzo settore, ai*

*movimenti. L'ancora del Mediterraneo*, pp.159-207

Evers Adalbert; Laville Jean-Louis (2004)\* *Defining the third sector in Europe\** in *The third sector in Europe* Edward Elgar, pp.11-42.

Moro Giovanni (2014), *Contro il non profit* (cap.2,3,4) Laterza, pp.16-67

De Leonardis Ota (1996) *I welfare mix. Privatisimo e sfera pubblica* in *Stato e mercato*, 46 (1), pp. 51-75.

Busso Sandro (2017) *Quarant'anni (e due crisi) dopo. L'equilibrio fragile tra ruolo economico e politico del Terzo settore*, in *Autonomie locali e servizi sociali, Quadrimestrale di studi e ricerche sul welfare* 3, pp. 483-502

Polizzi Emanuele (2020) *Cortili, Piazze, Mercati. I tre luoghi del Terzo settore* in Bolognini S. (a cura di) *Prospettiva ponte e Genius loci. Materiali per una ricerca*, Mimesis, pp.717-726.

Lori Massimo, Pavolini Emmanuele (2016) *Cambiamenti organizzativi e ruolo societario delle organizzazioni di Terzo settore*, in *Politiche Sociali*, 1, pp. 41-64.

Lori Massimo, Zamaro Nereo (2019) *Il profilo sfocato del Terzo settore italiano* in *Politiche sociali*, 2, pp. 225-242.

de Leonardis O., Vitale T., (2001), "Forme organizzative del terzo settore e qualità sociale", in M. La Rosa (a cura di), *Le organizzazioni nel nuovo Welfare: l'approccio sociologico. Pubblico, privato sociale, cooperazione e non profit*, Maggioli, Rimini, pp. 113-130.

Fazzi Luca, (2016) *Le caratteristiche degli assistenti sociali nel terzo settore; Le competenze professionali*, in *Il servizio sociale nel terzo settore*, Maggioli, Rimini.

Fazzi Luca, (2019) *Struttura e modelli organizzativi per l'innovazione; Leadership e potere; Le risorse in Costruire l'innovazione nelle imprese sociali e nel terzo settore*, FrancoAngeli, Milano.

## **Sustainable Development Goals**

DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH | REDUCED INEQUALITIES | PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

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