UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

The European City

2324-2-F8802N016

Learning objectives

The course offers analytical, methodological and conceptual tools to comprehend and be able to analyse the transformations affecting the contemporary European city and the role of the civil society in leading, confronting, influencing the transformation. The goal is that developing a critical approach by building an articulated framework keeping into account actors, narratives, stakes and opportunities. The European cities offer a very interesting context because of the unique mix of historical, local and multilevel institutional elements as well as involved actors.

Contents

The debate about the European city
The main features (history, institutional framework and traditions, multilevel governance....)
Focus on some issues: segregation and neighbourhood change, urban poverty and local welfare, urban and economic development, the role of culture, social innovation

Detailed program

The course addresses the debate that, between the 1990s and the early 2000s, characterized the urban studies in Europe. On the one hand, the emergence of European cities as a new subject in the political arena was observed; on the other hand, the persistence of some characteristics that, traditionally, were associated with these contexts: social cohesion, high quality of life, economic competitiveness, models of housing segregation which tend to be not very pronounced and so on.
From this point of view, is the category of European city still valid today? And, if so, what characters does it present?
The course, starting from this perspective, aims to reconstruct the debate (contemporary and historical) on the

European city and to outline its characteristics; moreover it aims to deepen some main themes, which better than others help to focus on the main transformations taking place and the role of the civil society.

Prerequisites

None

Teaching methods

Traditional class lectures, seminars with experts, practitioners and policy maker; class discussion and students' presentations. If possible, visit outside the university campus will be organised.

Assessment methods

Students can choose two alternative paths:
a) **Path with groupworks and presentation:** a twofold assesment based both on group work and individual work: class presentations of a scientific paper and essay on a case study (groupwork); individual oral exam aimed at assess the knowledge of the course topics;
b) **Path without groupworks and presentation:** oral exam aimed at assess the knowledge of the course topics, the texbook and the reading materials

In generale, the assessment keeps into account the knowledge of the topics of the course and bibliography, of the language use and of the critical stances of students

Textbooks and Reading Materials

Two different materials:
a) **Path with group work and presentation**: Texts will be listed on the e-learning page

b)**Path without groupwork and presentations:**

- Patrick Le Gale?s, 2005, Le citta? europee: societa? urbane, globalizzazione, governo locale, Il mulino, Bologna*
- Alberta Andreotti, 2019, Governare Milano nel nuovo millennio, Il Mulino, Bologna*
- Kazepov et al., 2019, European Cities between continuity and change, in Orum, Ruiz-Tagle, Vicari Haddock (eds), Companion to urban and regional studies, John Wiley & Sons
- Haussermann, EH., 2005, The end of the European Cities?, in European Review, Vol. 13, No. 2, 237–249
- d'Ovidio, M. Ranci, C., 2014, Social cohesion and global competitiveness: clustering cities, in Ranci C, Brandsen T and Sabatinelli S. (eds.), Social Vulnerability in European Cities. The Role of Local Welfare in Times of Crisis, Palgrave Macmillan

*For English speakers other texts can be available if requested

Sustainable Development Goals

SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES