UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

SYLLABUS DEL CORSO

Antropologia della Parentela e di Genere

2324-1-F0101R012

Course title

Anthropology of Kinship and Gender

Topics and course structure

The course 1) presents different theoretical approaches in the anthropology of kinship and gender; 2) it explores the impact of feminist anthropology and gender studies on the anthropological analysis of kinship; 3) the focus is on recent debates on reproduction and other transitions in individual and households' life-cycles.

Objectives

The course aims to provide master student with:

1. knowledge and tools for a critical understanding of kinship and gender;
2. abilities to identify and make connections between different understandings of kinship and gender;
3. skills for applying specific models of kinship and gender to the understanding human reproduction and other life transitions.

Methodologies

The course draws on a variety of methodologies including: lectures; readings and watching videos: class activities

on the topics covered by the course. These include: in-class discussion of texts covered by the exam syllabus, watching and discussion of audiovisual documents provided either by the lecturer or by students, and presentation and discussion of exercises assigned to students.

Online and offline teaching materials

Teaching materials will be available from October.

Programme and references

Current debates on kinship have shown a complex correlation between the biological aspects of reproduction and human life and broader kinship relationships. This is due partly to the impact of gender studies on kiship and to a new-found interest in the body and in personhood, as well to demographic changes, and to the spread of artificial reproductive technologies and of new family forms.
The course explores some of the central issues in the anthropology of kinship and gender. It introduces key concepts such as "descent", "marriage", "domestic groups/cycles", "sex/ gender", "relationality" and "care". It also analyses contemporary debates on reproductive health, assisted reproductive technologies, adoption, kinning, intimacies and family forms and dynamics.
The focus is on reproduction and other life transitions as privileged events to observe the interactions of gender, kinship, politics, religion, science and law, and to reflect on how these interrelated social fields affect relations and subjectivities.

References

1. L. Stone, D. E. King, *Kinship and Gender An Introduction*, Routledge, 2019.
2. S. Grilli, Mattalucci C., *Parentele del terzo millennio*, Rivista di Antropologia Contemporanea, 2/2022, https://www-rivisteweb-it.unimib.idm.oclc.org/issn/2724-3168/issue/8677
3. 6 essays from those uploaded on the e-learning platform
4. 1 book among
   C. Mattalucci, *Antropologia e riproduzione. Attese, fratture e ricomposizioni della procreazione e della genitorialità in Italia*, Libreria Cortina, 2017.
   R. Di Silvio, *Parentele di confine. La pratica adottiva tra desiderio locale e mondo globale*, Danyang M&J Publisging House 2021
   C. S. Guerzoni, *Sistemi procreativi. Etnografia dell'omogenitorialità in Italia*, Franco Angeli, 2020.
   J. Carsten, H-C. Chiu, S. Magee, E. Papadaki, K. M. Reece, *Marriage in Past, Present and Future Tense*, UCL Press, 2021.
   A. L. Acquistapace, 2022, *Tenetevi il matrimonio e dateci la dote. Il lavoro riproduttivo nelle relazioni di intimità, solidarietà e cura oltre la coppia nell'Italia urbana contemporanea*, Mimesis 2022.
   E. Rafferty, *Families We Need: Disability, Abandonment, and Foster Care Resistance in Contemporary China*, Rutgers Univ Pr, 2022.
   M. Scaglioni, F. Diodati, *Antropologia dell'invecchiamento e della cura: Prospettive globali*, Ledizioni 2021
   J. Favi, *Invecchiare. Prospettive antropologiche*, Meltemi 2021.

Students who do not read Italian should contact the course instructor for an alternative reading list.

Assessment methods

Grade will be based on the following:

1. Participation in class discussions and fulfillment of assigned assignments.
2. Oral exam. The evaluation will be based on the understanding of the texts books; the presentation of contents in a clear and synthetic way; the ability to critically analyse and re-elaborate, making connections between assigned texts.

For students who will not attend lectures and carry out the activities proposed during the course, grade will be based on final oral exam only. Please, contact the course instructor for further advice on the course program.

Office hours

By appointment

Programme validity

Programme validity is two academic years

Course tutors and assistants

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Sustainable Development Goals

GENDER EQUALITY