UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Culture as Intangible Heritage - 40 hours

2324-108R-01

Title

Culture as Intangible heritage Module

Teacher(s)

Ivan Bargna (M-DEA/01)
Bernardino Palumbo (M-DEA/01)
Fabio Dei (M-DEA/01)
Valentina Porcellana (M-DEA/01)
Lorenzo Domaneschi (SSD - SPS/08)
Dinko Fabris (L-ART/07)
Alessandra Donati (IUS/02)

Language

Italian

Short description

The UNESCO's path to Intangible Heritage, anthropological and cultural perspectives. Intangible heritage in the Italian context: communities, identities, traditions of research and study, socio-cultural innovation; fieldwork

research methodologies, ethnography and oral history; ethical problems in the study and valorisation of intangible heritage; community engagement and the challenges of restitution.

Prof. Lorenzo Domaneschi (SSD - SPS / 08), University of Milan-Bicocca
The heritage-making in food cultures
The seminar aims to introduce to the sociological analysis of cultural heritage, with a focus on the processes of transformation of Italian and European gastronomic heritage. The complex social organization of the multiple authorities competing for the monopoly of the legitimate definition of this gastronomic heritage will be examined. We will see, in fact, how the fabrication of a "heritage value" of foodstuff and food production procedures emerge at the end of a conflictual process, propped up by continuous negotiations between different political and economic actors, which ends in the stipulation of formal and informal documents through which this value is certified. Finally, we will discuss the relationship between material and immaterial dimensions that characterizes this type of cultural valorization of food.

Prof.ssa Alessandra Donati (IUS/02), University of Milan-Bicocca
Immateriality and dematerialization of contemporary works of art: protection in law
Unlike works of traditional sculpture and painting, contemporary artworks have taken on a conceptual or processual and becoming dimension. The artwork becomes the manifestation of an artist's idea through ephemeral media, which is also capable of being conceptually renewed. One of the greatest challenges in contemporary art concerns the complexity of systems for recognizing authorship and the meaning of authenticity and its protection. The enormous transformation of visual art has prompted, or perhaps compelled, artists to invent original systems of authentication and traceability of their creations.

Prof. Dinko Fabris (L-ART/07), University of Basilicata, Potenza-Matera
Urban musicology and soundscape: the case of Naples, capital town of the early modern Mediterranean sea
In 1984 Reinhard Strohm published the first book entirely devoted to the sonic landscape of a town (Music in Medieval Bruges). The word 'soundscape' was just adopted in musicology few years after the book published by the Canadian composer Murray Schafer Soundscape. Our Sonic Environment and the Tuning of the World (1977). … In 2023 I accepted to write an article on Naples for a collection exploring twelve Mediterranean cities in the early modern age. I will refer to this recent study, after illustrating the scope and tendencies of the Urban Musicology, to describe Naples as the real music capital town of the Mediterranean, in a diacronical vision from the late fifteenth-century to the present times. (with audio and video)

Prof. Fabio Dei (M-DEA/01), University of Pisa
From demology to anthropology of heritage
Part one: some theoretical foundations of heritage anthropology. Part two: the case of historical reenactments.

Prof. Berardino Palumbo (M-DEA/01), University of Messina
Drawing on an anthropological and ethnographic perspective
he module will analyze the political economy and the consequent epistemological scenarios within which (some) social scientists have come to imagine something like "culture" in the form of "intangible heritage". It will be animated by a critical and political stance towards processes occurring in the heritage-scape and, therefore, by a deep dissatisfaction with many of the current participative readings of the "heritageisation" processes.

Prof.ssa Valentina Porcellana (M-DEA/1), University of Valle d'Aosta
Moving mountains
The seminar will focus on how demographic changes and territorial mobility, that characterize the italian mountain areas, affect the preservation of cultural elements and local languages. Qualitative surveys do not unequivocally show the link between demographic decline and cultural impoverishment, especially in relation to the arrival of new inhabitants; on the contrary, hints of new creative forms and economic and sociocultural vitality can be traced.

Prof. Ivan Bargna (SSD M-DEA/01), University of Milano-Bicocca
The social life of monuments between materiality and immateriality, visibility and invisibility
The seminar aims to reflect on the notion of the monument from a cross-cultural perspective, focusing on its materiality and immateriality, visibility and invisibility: built to remember, monuments authorize forgetting, becoming

invisible even when exposed to full light. Invisibility, however, is not so much a property of things as a quality of relationship. If monuments become invisible, it is because in marking public space they become an integral part of a normalized landscape, as if they had always and forever been there, obscuring subordinate groups who remain excluded, but also becoming visible targets of contestation.

Prof. Franco Lai (SSD M-DEA/01), University of Sassari
Landscape from an anthropological point of view: theoretical framework and research examples
The examples of research carried out and in progress concern some areas of Sardinia. I will discuss the landscape and its transformations using the notions of the Third Landscape and the Anthropocene. With this documentation I will try to exemplify the theoretical frameworks and talk about some forms of valorisation of the territory and its resources. I will also present ongoing research on an ongoing PNRR project on "Tourism and Cultural Heritage".

Prof. Ivan Bargna (SSD M-DEA/01), University of Milano-Bicocca
From objects to relationships. Collecting as a cultural practice
Collections can help construct cultural memories, articulate and express social and interpersonal relationships, disagreements and conflicts. Drawing on the lecturer's ethnographic research in Italy and Cameroon, we reflect from a cross-cultural perspective on contemporary forms of "collecting" in everyday life and art, from museums to landfills, from appropriation to repatriation.

CFU / Hours

5 CFU/40 Hours

Teaching period

November to June.

Sustainable Development Goals

QUALITY EDUCATION | INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE | SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES