



UNIVERSITÀ  
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

## COURSE SYLLABUS

### Philosophy of Mind and Theory of Affections

2425-1-F8501R024

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#### Course title

Politics'affects

#### Topics and course structure

In recent years, after much insistence, in the humanities and social sciences as well as in philosophy, on the sovereign and rational subject capable of socially deploying an equally rational action, philosophical reflection has brought the question of affects and emotions back to the centre. By doing so, it has been attempting, be it explicitly or not, to take seriously the idea elaborated by Spinoza at the dawn of modernity that we are literally 'traversed/constituted by passions'. Against the background of this from this 'affective turn', the course intends to raise questions such as: what are the political consequences of the centrality of affects for subjects and their social living, i.e. for society? What is it that gets lost, when this centrality is denied or removed, as has long been the case in philosophical, political and social reflection? And what are the underlying reasons for such removal? During the course, we will critically discuss the perspectives of a number of contemporary authors who, from different perspectives, have claimed the centrality of the affects and emotions for political thought and action, allowing us to address these questions and to question our political and social present, both national and international, in which affects and passions play a role that is not immediately legible according to the traditional dichotomies inherited from the past.

The first part of the course, of approximately 36 hours, will be delivered by Dr. S. Pippa. The second part, will be held by Prof. V. Morfino, who will run a seminar (approx. 20 hours) entitled: "E. Balibar: from transindividual to egaliberté".

#### Objectives

## **Methodologies**

The course consists of lectures (DE), mixed lectures with active participation of the student body (DE/DI) and seminars, participative discussions, group work on texts. Overall, the course will be 40% DE and 60% DI.

External guests may also participate. Some lectures may be videotaped and made available for asynchronous use (max. 20%).

## **Online and offline teaching materials**

## **Programme and references**

M. Nussbaum, L'intelligenza delle emozioni, Bologna: il Mulino, 2004 [solo le pagine che verranno indicate]

C. Mouffe, Politica e passioni. Il ruolo degli affetti nella prospettiva agonistica, Bologna: Castelvecchi, 2023.

W. Brown, Stati murati, sovranità in declino, Roma-Bari: Laterza, 2013

F. Lordon, Capitalismo, desiderio e servitù, Roma: DeriveApprodi, 2015.

## **Assessment methods**

Oral exam

Assessment criteria: knowledge of topics and themes discussed in class; knowledge of texts; critical thinking; terminological precision

## **Office hours**

please email the lecturers

## **Programme validity**

Two academic years

## **Course tutors and assistants**

## **Sustainable Development Goals**

NO POVERTY | QUALITY EDUCATION | REDUCED INEQUALITIES | PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

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