UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Social Policy

2425-2-E3901N046

Learning objectives

The course aims to achieve the following training objectives:

- provide the conceptual and analytical tools necessary for the study and understanding of social policies and the welfare state
- present and discuss the characteristics of the different welfare state models in Europe and, in this framework, the peculiarities of the Italian model
- critically analyze the political responses formulated in response to the needs of specific social groups
- explore the ways in which social policies are developed on the basis of the territorial context in which they exist

Contents

- The fundamental concepts: social policies, welfare state, risks and social needs
- The different areas of social policies
- The models of social policies in Europe and the characteristics of the Italian model
- Welfare policies in response to specific emerging social risks

Detailed program

The course aims to provide students with the conceptual and analytical tools necessary for the study of social policies and understand their application in different fields. In particular:

- the introductory part aims to present the fundamental concepts and categories for understanding social

policies
- the second part is aimed at defining the different areas of application of social policies. Examples of particular interest for the training objectives of the course will be proposed and discussed
- clarify the main characteristics of welfare state models in Europe and the peculiarities of the Italian model, with reference to different territorial areas
- the third part focuses on policy interventions to address emerging social risks, underlining the extent to which they manage to address the specific needs of different social groups
- the last part is dedicated to some thematic insights in line with the contents of the course

Prerequisites

- Good logical, learning, writing and oral communication skills; minimal knowledge of social work and social policy.

Teaching methods

50% of the contents of the course are presented and discussed with didactics, i.e. through lessons in seminar format with the use of slides or other multimedia supports. For the remaining 50%, the contents of the course will be developed through interactive teaching, i.e. through exercises, group work, presentations of case studies and in-depth studies, prepared and discussed during the course. Students are asked to always refer to the detailed course guide uploaded on e-learning for the exact scheduling of the topics covered in each lesson.

Assessment methods

The evaluation consists of three different aspects:

Class participation
Individual assignments
Written final examination

Textbooks and Reading Materials

The reference text of the course is the volume by Ranci C. and Pavolini E. (2015), Welfare policies, Il Mulino, Bologna. The parts of the book that will be covered during the course, and which will therefore be examined, will be specified from time to time during lessons.

Other bibliographic material will be indicated by the teacher and made available on the e-learning platform.

Sustainable Development Goals

GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING | QUALITY EDUCATION | GENDER EQUALITY