



UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Sociology of Labour

2425-2-E4001N081

Learning objectives

Analysing the functioning of the Italian labor market in a European comparative framework, with particular attention to the economic, social and institutional factors that influence the level and composition of employment and unemployment. Illustrate the changes in occupations and in ways of working in advanced societies, with particular attention to front-line service jobs.

To make the students able to analyse the characteristics of occupations, read the main indicators concerning the labour market, to analyse statistical data and to identify the structural features and the main trends of the labour market in a comparative perspective

Contents

The labor market changes are one of the most relevant aspects of the social transformations. They are also a very interesting topic for economic sociology studies. After having presented the main changes of the labor market, the course will take into consideration the characteristics of customer oriented jobs, on the one hand, and the role of trade unions, on the other.

Detailed program

The course is divided into two parts.

The first part, after having presented some basic concept of economic sociology and showed concepts and tools of analysis of labour markets, deals with the main changes that took place. In particular a special attention will be devoted to the labour participation of women, the unemployment models in Europe and Italy, emphasising on

penalization of youths, the main trends of employment in Europe and Italy, emphasising the process of “tertiarisation”, the incorporation of immigrants in the labour market and the role of the unions and of collective bargaining.

The second part introduces the main sociology of work concepts and applies them to the analysis of lived working experiences and of work practices in front-line service jobs (jobs that entail worker-customer interactions)

Prerequisites

Students must be able to understand hypotheses connecting socio-economic phenomena to their likely reasons.

Teaching methods

28 lectures with erogative and interactive teaching methods (as average 60% erogative teaching methods and 40% interactive teaching methods). 10 lectures will include discussion with students concerning specific topics. Use of tools available on the e-learning platform.

Assessment methods

Written examination (2 questions). An oral exam can be required by the teacher or by students.

Textbooks and Reading Materials

The detailed references list will be provided before the beginning of the classes on this e-learning platform.

The main references are:

- Cavalca G., Mingione E. and Pugliese E. (2024), *Il lavoro. Dalla rivoluzione industriale alla transizione digitale*, Carocci editore (excluded chapters 2, 3 and 9)
- Fullin G. (2023), *I clienti siamo noi. Il lavoro nella società dei servizi*, Il Mulino.

Other texts will be included in the list (check the e-learning platform before the beginning of the classes).

*INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS. A reading list in English will be provided to exchange students upon request. An English exam will be allowed as well.

Sustainable Development Goals

GENDER EQUALITY | DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH | REDUCED INEQUALITIES
