UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

SYLLABUS DEL CORSO

Sociologia dell'Ambiente

2425-2-E4001N130

Learning objectives

Training objectives include:

- Understand the fundamental concepts of environment and their relationship with society.
- Analyze the main theoretical strands and schools of thought that have dealt with the relationship between society and the environment.
- Examine the current issues of the public and scientific debate on the ecological and climate crisis.
- Learn more about the processes and consequences of global environmental transformations

The approach is multidisciplinary even if theoretical and methodological tools of environmental sociology and social research are widely used.

Contents

The course addresses issues relating to the relationship between man and the environment, deepening the study of the main theories and approaches that characterize the discipline. The course also offers thematic insights aimed at reconstructing the public and scientific debate around the relationship between society and nature in the scenario of the global ecological crisis, also in light of the pandemic crisis.

Detailed program

The course is divided into two parts.

The first part deals with the basic concepts and main theories of environmental sociology

In the second part, thanks to a review of scientific articles, thematic aspects linked to the global ecological crisis will be explored in depth, such as (by way of example): 1. the ecological impacts of development, production and consumption models; 2. sustainable development and biodiversity policies, global climate and environmental governance; 3. the issues of environmental justice and ecological democracy; 4. the circular economy and practices aimed at sustainability; 5. the social perception of environmental risks; 6. environmental movements, ecofeminism, deep ecology, eco-mafias and transnational environmental crime

Prerequisites

Ability to understand and critically analyze sociological texts. Ability to interact and discuss in the classroom among colleagues starting from the reading of scientific articles (also in English)

Teaching methods

Approximately 60% of the course will be offered with Educational Teaching (DE) - frontal lessons with the use of slides, audio and video

and 40% with Interactive Teaching (DI) - exercises, subgroup work, presentation of case studies from which to develop individual and subgroup work, prepared and discussed during the course

Please note that an e-learning platform is available, to which students are invited to register. During the course, moments of frontal lessons will alternate with moments of debate and discussion starting from the text and articles shared by the teacher. Participation in debates is part of the commitment required of those attending

Assessment methods

For those who will participate in the classroom activities and debate moments organized in a structured way by the professor, there will be:

- moments of discussion and debate in the classroom divided into groups from readings assigned by the lecturer to each group
- the creation of in-depth project work on some of the topics covered in class as group work.
- an individual test by answering a question on the materials and insights covered.

Both the discussions and the project work will be assessed. The assessment - based on relevance, completeness, originality and linguistic correctness - will be aimed at determining the depth and maturity with which the learning of the specific training objectives took place; skills in the use of acquired knowledge (ability to apply theoretical concepts to empirical cases), writing and expository skills in the classroom will also be assessed.

For those who will not participate in the debate activities and project work, a written test in the computer lab (5 open-ended questions in the form of a short essay) is planned.
The evaluation criteria will take into account content knowledge as well as language property and the ability to synthesize and logical correlation.

Textbooks and Reading Materials

For those who participate in the classroom work, in-depth articles and materials will be indicated to study and use during the lessons for interactive activities.

Studying is provided for those who do not participate in classroom work

- a handout made available by the teacher
- of the text by Angelini A. and Pizzuto P., Sustainable society. Manual of human ecology, Franco Angeli 2021

Sustainable Development Goals

AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY | SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES | RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION | CLIMATE ACTION | PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS