UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

SYLLABUS DEL CORSO

Mutamento Sociale e Vita Quotidiana

2526-2-E3901N073

Learning objectives

1. Knowledge and Understanding - Students will acquire theoretical knowledge to identify and understand the main challenges that local and global social change pose to contemporary social work.

2. Applying Knowledge and Understanding - Students will be able to apply conceptual and methodological tools to the empirical analysis of how current social transformations impact the practice and aims of social work.

3. Making Judgements - Through lessons, group work, and class discussion, students will practice thinking critically and forming their own opinions about how social work can respond to the challenges posed by social change.

4. Communication Skills - The course aims to encourage effective communication tailored to diverse audiences, including interdisciplinary teams and professional environments.

5. Learning Skills - The course structure encourages active learning, providing tools to understand the transformations and future of social work.

Contents

The course aims to:

- discuss the relationship between sociocultural change, globalization and social work;
- highlight the connection between social change and life courses;
- identify global and local challenges for social work in the 21st century.

Detailed program

The course, which is delivered in Italian, consists of two interdependent parts.

1. The first part will introduce the key concepts of the course: social change, globalization, gender, generations, life courses, and everyday life.
2. The second part will focus on the relationship between social change (global trends) and individual and family life courses, as well as the challenges that social work is called to address in the 21st century.

The course will also provide an overview of the main research tools used in social work to explore its connection to social change.

Prerequisites

Reasonable skills in sociology and social research methodology.

Teaching methods

Lessons and seminars held by guest speakers.

The course consists of 56 hours, of which about 60 percent will be standard lectures with the use of slides and 40 percent will be interactive teaching (group work promoting peer learning and interactions, case study discussions, and the design and preparation of slide/PPT presentations to be presented in class).

Assessment methods

Written exam: 10 multiple-choice questions (1.5 points for each correct answer) and one open-ended question (worth up to 15 points), based on the REQUIRED READINGS from the course syllabus. The questions are designed to verify the study and understanding of the required readings.

Students who attend at least 75% of the classes may choose to carry out a group project, which will be taken into consideration as part of their overall evaluation, alongside the written exam. The aim of the group project is to design and deliver a presentation with slides (PPT) focusing on one of the topics covered during the lectures and in the required or recommended readings from the course syllabus. Specifically, the project should address one of the main challenges facing social work in the 21st century.
The slide/PPT presentation can be done individually or in small groups (up to 4 students per group), and it needs to be presented and discussed in class before the course ends.
The slide presentations should follow the guidelines that will be explained at the beginning of the course.

*Erasmus students: Since the course is taught in Italian, Erasmus students are advised to take the standard exam, which includes open and closed questions based on the required texts assigned to Erasmus students. The exam questions will be provided in English.

Textbooks and Reading Materials

REQUIRED READINGS FOR THE EXAM

1. Cimagalli, F. (2017). *Mutamento Sociale e 'Social Work'. Nuove sfide per una professione*. In: Studi di Sociologia, 55(3), pp. 251–264:
   http://www.jstor.org/stable/44808103
   https://www.jstor.org/stable/pdf/44808103.pdf?refreqid=fastly-default%3A6cf4108a1e8d85bf5037f258623e6e20&ab_segments=&initiator=&acceptTC=1
2. Definizione internazionale di Servizio Sociale-Global Definition of Social Work (2014):
   https://www.ifsw.org/wp-content/uploads/ifsw-cdn/assets/ifsw_13127-9.pdf
3. Dominelli, L. (2022). *Servizio Sociale. La professione del cambiamento*, nuova edizione. Erikson:
   https://www.erickson.it/it/servizio-sociale
4. Lodi Rizzini, C. & Maino, F. (2023). "Da una crisi all'altra: bisogni sociali crescenti per un welfare dal futuro incerto", Capitolo 1. In: F. Maino (a cura di) (2023), *Agire insieme. Coprogettazione e coprogrammazione per cambiare il welfare. Sesto Rapporto sul secondo welfare*. Milano, Percorsi di secondo welfare:
   https://www.secondowelfare.it/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/Agire-insieme-coprogettazione-coprogrammazione_6R2W.pdf
   https://www.secondowelfare.it/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/Capitolo-1_6R2W_LodiRizzini-Maino.pdf
5. Grand Challenges for Social Work (2021). *Progress and Plans for the Grand Challenges. An Impact Report at Year 5 of the 10-Year Initiative*:
   https://grandchallengesforsocialwork.org/publications/grand-challenges-5-year-impact-report/
6. ISTAT-Istituto Nazionale di Statistica (2024). *Il Paese domani: crescerà lo squilibrio tra nuove e vecchie generazioni, aumenteranno le differenze*, Statistiche Report, 24 Luglio 2024:
   https://www.istat.it/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/Previsioni-popolazione-famiglie_2023.pdf

ERASMUS STUDENTS - REQUIRED READINGS FOR THE EXAM

1. Brandt, S., Roose, R. & Verschelden, G. (2016). *Coming up for air: exploring an intergenerational perspective on social work*. In: British Journal of Social Work, 46(5), pp. 1266-1281: https://academic.oup.com/bjsw/article/46/5/1266/1753890
2. Dominelli, L. (2013). *Environmental justice at the heart of social work practice: greening the profession*. In: International Journal of Social Welfare, 22, pp. 431-439: https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/pdf/10.1111/ijsw.12024
3. *Global Definition of Social Work* (2014):
   https://www.ifsw.org/what-is-social-work/global-definition-of-social-work/
4. Grand Challenges for Social Work (2021). *Progress and Plans for the Grand Challenges. An Impact Report at Year 5 of the 10-Year Initiative*:
   https://grandchallengesforsocialwork.org/publications/grand-challenges-5-year-impact-report/
5. Lyons, K. (2006). *Globalization and social work: International and local implications*. In: British Journal of Social Work, 36(3), pp. 365-380:
   https://academic.oup.com/bjsw/article/36/3/365/1688814?login=true
6. Udah, H. & Francis, A. (2021). *Covid-19: Challenges, opportunities, and the future of social work*. In: International Journal of Innovation, Creativity and Change, 15(1), pp. 54-74: https://researchonline.jcu.edu.au/67457/1/15104_Udah_2021_R.pdf

Suggested Readings

GENDER

• Benvenuti, P., & Segatori, R. (a cura di). (2000). Professione e genere nel lavoro sociale. Milano, FrancoAngeli.

• Fiore, B., & Facchini, C. (2013). Social work as gendered issue from a generational point of view. In: International Review of Sociology, 23(2), pp. 310–325: https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/pdf/10.1080/03906701.2013.804294

• Di Rosa, R.T., & Gui, L. (a cura di) (2021). Cura, relazione, professione. Questioni di genere nel servizio sociale. Il contributo italiano al dibattito internazionale. Milano, FrancoAngeli open access: https://series.francoangeli.it/index.php/oa/catalog/book/691

• Dominelli, L. (2002). Feminist Social Work. Theory and Practice, Basingstoke, Palgrave: https://www.gacbe.ac.in/images/E%20books/Feminist%20Social%20Work%20Theory%20and%20Practice.pdf

DIVERSITY

• Barberis, E., Boccagni, P., & Denaro, C. (2024). Il lavoro sociale con le persone immigrate. Verso una pratica riflessiva e inclusiva. Maggioli Editore: https://www.maggiolieditore.it/il-lavoro-sociale-con-le-persone-immigrate.html
• Julkunen, I., Ruch, G., & Nurmi, A. (2022). Social work in a superdiverse society: an exploration of cooperation in professional practice. In: European Journal of Social Work, 26(4), pp. 612–625. https://doi.org/10.1080/13691457.2022.2066634
• Kolar, E., & Sicora, A. (Eds.) (2015). Social Work Around The World: Colors and Shapes in a Complex Mosaic. Quaderni del Csal, Numero speciale di Visioni LatinoAmericane, Anno VII, Numero 13, Luglio: https://www.openstarts.units.it/server/api/core/bitstreams/863efa7b-7034-4a5d-bc75-db264cd09a71/content
• Noble, C., Strauss, H., & Littlechild, B. (Eds.) (2014). Global Social Work: Crossing Borders, Blurring Boundaries. Sydney, Sydney University Press: https://open.sydneyuniversitypress.com.au/9781743324042.html
• Pattaro, C., & Nigris, D. (2022). Le sfide dell'aiuto. Assistenti sociali nel quotidiano dell'immigrazione. Milano, FrancoAngeli open access: https://series.francoangeli.it/index.php/oa/catalog/book/320
• Solcà, P. (2018). Il lavoro sociale tra migrazione e cooperazione internazionale. In: Iride 4, aprile 2018: https://www2.supsi.ch/cms/iride/iride-4-aprile-2018/

GENERATIONS

• Brandt, S., Roose, R., & Verschelden, G. (2016). Coming up for air: Exploring an intergenerational perspective on social work. In: British Journal of Social Work, 46(5), pp. 1266–1281: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4985731/
• Istituto degli Innocenti (2022). Manuale di programmazione e progettazione dei servizi per le nuove generazioni, a cura di Donata Bianchi e Stefano Ricci:
https://www.manualenuovegenerazioni.it/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/idi_Manuale-libro_221104.pdf
• Mantulak, A., Bullen, A., & Arundel, M.K. (2020). Generational learning in social work: Is it them or us?. In: Field Educator, 2020, Vol. 10, Issue 1, pp. 1–22: https://fieldeducator.simmons.edu/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/20-246-2.pdf
• Teater, B., & Chonody, J. (2017). Promoting actively aging: Advancing a framework for Social Work practice with older adults. In: The Journal of Contemporary Social Services, 98(2), pp. 137–145: https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1606/1044-3894.2017.98.19

GLOBALIZATION

• Lorenz, W. (2010). Globalizzazione e Servizio Sociale in Europa. Roma, Carocci.
• Lyons, K. (2006). Globalization and social work: International and local implications. In: British Journal of Social Work, 36(3), pp. 365–380:
https://www.jstor.org/stable/23720931

GREEN SOCIAL WORK / ECO-SOCIAL WORK

• Banks, S., Bertotti, T., Cairns, L., Shears, J., Shum, M., Sobo?an, A. M., Strom, K., & Úriz, M. J. (2024). Social work beyond the pandemic: Exploring social work values for a new eco-social world. In: International Social Work, 67(4), pp. 890–904: https://doi.org/10.1177/0020872824122706
• Bowles, W., Boetto, H., Jones, P., & McKinnon, J. (2018). Is social work really greening? Exploring the place of sustainability and environment in social work codes of ethics. In: International Social Work, 61(4), pp. 503–517: https://doi.org/10.1177/0020872816651695
• Breen, K, Greig, M., & Wu, H. (2023). Learning green social work in global disaster contexts: A case study approach. In: Social Sciences, 12(5): 288: https://doi.org/10.3390/socsci12050288
• Dominelli, L. (2013). Environmental justice at the heart of social work practice: greening the profession. In: International Journal of Social Welfare, 22, pp. 431–439: https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/pdf/10.1111/ijsw.12024
• Dominelli, L. (2014). Promoting environmental justice through green social work practice: A key challenge for practitioners and educators. In: International Social Work, 57(4), pp. 338–345: https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/pdf/10.1177/0020872814524968
• Matutini, E. (a cura di) (2023). Eco-social Work. Politica e lavoro sociale nella crisi ecologica. Varazze, PM

Edizioni.
• Matutini, E., Da Roit, B., & Busacca, M. (2023). Il lavoro sociale nella crisi ecologica. In: Secondo Welfare, 9 maggio 2023: https://www.secondowelfare.it/primo-welfare/il-lavoro-sociale-nella-crisi-ecologica/
• McKinnon, J. (2008). Exploring the nexus between social work and the environment. In: Australian Social Work, 61, 3, pp. 256–268: https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/03124070802178275
• Nothdurfter, U., & Pedroni, M.C. (2024). Esplorare le pratiche di lavoro eco-sociale. Un progetto di rilevante interesse nazionale. In: Welforum.it, 29 Luglio 2024: https://www.welforum.it/esplorare-le-pratiche-di-lavoro-eco-sociale/#ftnref2
• Ramsay, S., & Boddy, J. (2017). Environmental social work: A concept analysis. In: The British Journal of Social Work, 47(1), pp. 68–86: https://academic.oup.com/bjsw/article/47/1/68/2622336

SOCIAL CHANGE AND CHALLENGES
• Calbucci, R., Deidda, M., De Santi, M., Di Rosa, R. T., Fiorentini, A., Giuliano, E. M., Gui, L., Mordeglia, S., Pelosio, S., Sartori, F., Ticchiati, R., & Zannoni, A. (2016). Servizio sociale e calamità naturali: interventi di servizio sociale. Roma: Edizioni EISS:
https://www.assieme-rer.it/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/E-book-Servizio-Sociale-e-calamit%C3%A0-naturali.pdf
• CNOAS-Consiglio Nazionale Ordine Assistenti Sociali (2020). Vademecum servizio sociale professionale e post pandemia: https://cnoas.org/servizio-sociale-professionale-e-post-pandemia-ecco-un-vademecum/
• European Union (2023). L'impatto dei cambiamenti demografici in un ambiente in evoluzione. Publications Office of the European Union:
https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/priorities-2019-2024/new-push-european-democracy/impact-demographic-change-europe_it
• Grand Challenges for Social Work (2024). 2024 Policy Recommendations for Meeting the Grand Challenges for Social Work, July 30:
https://grandchallengesforsocialwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/240701-Final-Policy-Brief-Packet_V3.pdf
• Gruppo di esperti su demografia e COVID-19 (2020). L’impatto della pandemia di covid-19 su natalità e condizione delle nuove generazioni: https://famiglia.governo.it/media/2192/rapporto-gruppo-demografia-e-covid19_1412020.pdf
• Sanfelici, M., Gui, L., & Mordeglia, S. (a cura di) (2020). Il Servizio Sociale nell’emergenza Covid-19, Fondazione Nazionale Assistenti Sociali, FrancoAngeli open access: https://series.francoangeli.it/index.php/oa/catalog/book/581

TECHNOLOGY
• Burgalassi, M., & Tilli, C. (2023). La professione di assistente sociale nel Terzo Settore: Una ricerca nazionale. Milano, Franco Angeli open access: https://series.francoangeli.it/index.php/oa/catalog/book/1061
• Campanini, A. (2022). L’utilizzo delle tecnologie informatiche nel servizio sociale. In: Welforum.it, 8 Luglio 2022: https://welforum.it/il-punto/welfare-digitale-servizio-sociale-e-gap-formativo/lutilizzo-delle-tecnologie-informatiche-nel-servizio-sociale/
• Clary, K. L., Nason, E., Selber, K., & Smith, K. S. (2022). Developing a Roadmap for Harnessing Technology in Social Work: Training the Next Generation of Social Workers. Smith College Studies in Social Work, 92(2), pp. 111–132. https://doi.org/10.1080/00377317.2022.2041148
• Dif-Pradalier, M., & Geppi, S. (2018). Il lavoro sociale all'epoca della digitalizzazione: Rischi e opportunità. In: Iride: Rivista di economia, sanità e sociale, (5), pp. 33–35. https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-1044661
• Russ, E. & Reimer, E. C. (2025). Digital intervention for advancing social work and welfare education. In: Social Sciences, 14(1), 50: https://doi.org/10.3390/socsci14010050

VaW GbV
• American Academy of Social Work and Social Welfare (2015). Ending Gender-Based Violence: A Grand Challenge for Social Work. Working Paper N. 15:
https://grandchallengesforsocialwork.org/publication/ending-gender-based-violence-a-grand-challenge-for-social-work-working-paper-no-15/
• Bartholini, I., & Intravaia, V. (2019). Riflessioni sul ruolo dell'assistente sociale nella presa in carico di migranti vittime di violenza di prossimità. In: Welfare e Ergonomia, IV, 2, pp. 77–90.
• Olsson, H., Larsson, A-K. L., & Strand, J.M.S. (2024). Social Workers’ experiences of working with partner violence. In: The British Journal of Social Work, Volume 54, Issue 2, March, pp. 704–722:

https://doi.org/10.1093/bjsw/bcad240
• Popolla, M., & Bagattini, D. (2024). Violenza maschile sulle donne. Il ruolo dell'assistente sociale tra sfide e opportunità. Genova University Press: https://gup.unige.it/Violenza-maschile-sulle-donne

FUTURE OF SOCIAL WORK
• Lynch, H., & Wilson, T. E. (Eds.). (2023). Social Work Future(s): What social work does the world need now? In: Social Work & Society, 21(1), Special issue: https://ejournals.bib.uni-wuppertal.de/index.php/sws/issue/view/43
• Nissen, L. (2020). Social work and the future in a post-Covid 19 world: A foresight lens and a call to action for the profession. In: Journal of Technology in Human Services, 38:4, pp. 309–330: https://drive.google.com/file/d/18Q9DmiqZVwLnCLo_wTuHGaRuQPdezQto/view
• Udah, H., & Francis, A. (2021). Covid-19: Challenges, opportunities, and the future of social work. In: International Journal of Innovation, Creativity and Change, 15(1), pp. 54–74: https://researchonline.jcu.edu.au/67457/

Sustainable Development Goals

GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING | GENDER EQUALITY | REDUCED INEQUALITIES | CLIMATE ACTION | PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS