

UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Social Structure and Process of Economy

2526-2-E4001N114

Learning objectives

The course - in Italian - has two main objectives: a) giving elements for the theoretical understanding of the social dimension of economic life;

b) giving tools for knowledge and analysis of some empirical domains in which social and economic relations, and their transformations, are particularly relevant today.

The specific objectives are as follows:

Knowledge and understanding: Provide theoretical skills useful for understanding the social dimension of the economy

Ability to apply knowledge and understanding: Provide an overview of the main methods of analyzing the social dimension of the economy

Autonomy of judgment: Encourage critical reading of social processes

Communication skills: Refine both oral and written communication tools

Learning skills: Foster an attitude of openness towards the complexity of social reality

Contents

The sociological study of economic phenomena: the classics Karl Polany and the great transformation
The Welfare State
The financial capitalism
The foundational economy
the social innovation
The environmental crisis anche the global capitalism

Detailed program

The first part of the course provides the basic elements for the sociological study of economic phenomena, presenting and discussing the most important approaches in classical theories.

Afterwards we will outline yhe main features of the so called financial capitalism.

Then we will deepen a specific current approach (the foundational economy) and will discuss its potential of analysis by referring in particular to the Italian case.

The third part of the course is devoted to the environmental crisis and global capitalism

Prerequisites

Good skills in learning, writing and oral communication.

Teaching methods

Lectures in presence with interactive teaching (60%) with classroom exercises, discussion of papers, videos, etc.

Assessment methods

Written examination with open question at the end of the course in order to check capacities of autonomous reflection on central points of the program

The exam will assess the ability to correctly apply the theories and concepts covered in class, as well as to independently analyse specific cases. The grade will measure the level of skills acquired and the level of autonomy in analytical application.

Textbooks and Reading Materials

Selection of papers (on Moodle)

Luciano Gallino, 2013, Finanzcapitalismo, Einaudi, Torino, cap. 1, 2, 3, 5, 6,

Karl Polany, 1943, La grande trasformazione, Einaudi, Torino: cap. 1, 4, 6, 7, 8

Angelo Salento, Joselle Dagnes, 2022, a cura di, Prima i fondamentali, Fondazione Feltrinelli, Milano (Introduzione, capitoli su istruzione, sanità, welfare socio-assistenziale, abitare)

Amitav Ghosh, 2022, La maledizione della noce moscata (cap. 7-8-9-10-11-12-13-14), Neri Pozza

Sustainable Development Goals

REDUCED INEQUALITIES

