

# UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

# **COURSE SYLLABUS**

# **Urban Sociology**

2526-2-E4001N080

#### Learning objectives

The main objective of the course is to provide students with the basic conceptual and analytical tools to develop a reflection on the city and urban issues. In particular, with respect to the topics covered, at the end of the course students must demonstrate that they have reached appropriate levels of:

- Knowledge and understanding: ability to read and interpret phenomena in an urban setting
- Applied knowledge and understanding: ability to apply the theory to specific cases through different analysis methodologies
- Autonomy of judgment: ability to read the same urban phenomenon in a diversified way, even in a comparative way
- · Communication skills: ability to comment and express opinions on the topics covered
- Learning ability: ability to relate concepts in order to learn new emerging phenomena
  The objectives and the contents of the teaching are fully consistent with the educational objectives of the Degree Course
  - and with the skills expected for the outgoing profile as indicated in the SUA 25/26 sheet of the Degree Course.

#### **Contents**

The course is oriented to deal with the following issues:

- birth and development of the urban sociology in Italy and in the world,
- the traditional and more recent research themes in urban sociology,
- quantitative and qualitative research methods in urban sociology.

# **Detailed program**

#### First part: urban sociology

- The sociological analysis of the city
- The evolution of the urban phenomena
- Economy and urban society
- City conflicts and government
- Urban policies
- The city and the culture
- Urban space and environment
- Spatial sociology

#### Second part: urban research methods

- The ecological analysis and the survey
- The qualitative approach
- Urban sociology topics: objective and subjective indicators
- Flânerie as a strategy for urban explorations
- The analysis of "third places"

## **Prerequisites**

Knowledge of the Italian language, critical analysis skills, knowledge of basic methodology.

## **Teaching methods**

56-hour course

Delivery Teaching (DE) - lectures with the use of slides, audio and video - 80% Interactive Teaching (DI) - group exercises - 20%

#### **Assessment methods**

There are no ongoing tests.

The final exam consists of two tests:

- 1. Mandatory in-person written test open questions;
- 2. Optional additional oral test (only for those who passed the written test) interviews on the topics covered during the lessons and in the written test.
  - The skills acquired by students with respect to the topics of the course will be assessed, both from the expository point of view and the content.

# **Textbooks and Reading Materials**

Mandatory books:

- 1. Mela, A., Sociologia delle città, Carocci, Roma, (2006)
- 2. Nuvolati, G. e d'Ovidio, M., (a cura di), *Temi e metodi per la sociologia del territorio*, UTET, Torino (2022) (Introduction, conclusions and 3 chapters chosen by the student)

and one of these books:

Nuvolati, G., L'interpretazione della città. Flânerie come esperienza di vita, Firenze University Press, Firenze (2013)

Nuvolati, G., *Un caffè tra amici. Un whiskey con lo sconosciuto*, Moretti e Vitali, Bergamo (2016)

Nuvolati, G., Interstizi della città. Rifugi del vivere quotidiano, Moretti e Vitali, Bergamo (2019)

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

#### **Sustainable Development Goals**

SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES