UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Laboratory 7

2526-3-E1501N113

Learning objectives

The laboratory equips students with the knowledge and analytical tools needed to understand current developments in mobility services and their integration within tourism systems. Particular attention is devoted to the role of transport and mobility in fostering tourism development and enhancing the territories in which tourism takes place. Mobility is therefore examined not simply as a means of access, but as a key component of destination management and, more broadly, of sustainable territorial development.
The Laboratory also introduces students to the main academic debates and emerging research trends in mobility studies, especially from Social Science perspective. Students will explore the principal data sources available in this field, assess their potential applications, and become familiar with innovative mobility policies and strategies implemented at the international level.
Students will be able to develop a critical approach to mobility and tourism, understand and analyse complex scientific and policy texts, and critically interpret and effectively use key institutional data sources.

Contents

The course is structured into three modules:

1. The nexus between Mobility and Tourism
2. Data Sources for the Study of Mobility and Tourism
3. Policies, Innovation and Emerging Trends in Sustainable Mobility for Tourism

Detailed program

The course is structured into three modules.

The first module (The nexus between Mobility and Tourism) introduces the key concepts of mobility studies, with particular emphasis on perspectives developed within the social sciences, and frames tourism within this broader theoretical context. The first part of the module examines mobility as a key condition for ensuring access to tourist destinations, focusing on the main components of transport and mobility systems in Italy and Europe, as well as on the Extraordinary Plan for Tourism Mobility (2017–2022). The module then considers mobility not only as a means of supporting tourism, but also as a tourism experience in its own right. This section explores topics and case studies related to railway tourism, greenways, walking routes and trails, and museums dedicated to mobility and transport.

The second module (Data Sources for the Study of Mobility and Tourism) focuses on the main sources of data used in territorial, mobility, and tourism research at international, European, and Italian levels. Particular attention is devoted to their characteristics, potential, and possible applications, both in social research and in professional, policy, and operational contexts.

The third module (Policies, Innovation and Emerging Trends in Sustainable Mobility for Tourism) examines key policies, governance approaches, pilot initiatives, and innovations in the field of tourism mobility. It also introduces the European Union’s strategic framework for sustainable mobility and its main decarbonisation objectives.

Each module includes selected readings and in-class activities designed to encourage the practical application of the concepts discussed. Exercises will be carried out both individually and in groups.

Prerequisites

To facilitate participation in the laboratory activities, basic knowledge of quantitative and qualitative social research methods is required.
It will be considered as known the programme faced in the courses:

- Fundamentals of Tourism Systems (Prof. Colleoni)
- Methods for Territorial Analysis Applied to Tourism (Prof. Daconto)
- Sociology and Social Research (Prof. Decataldo)

Teaching methods

Teaching lessons and group exercises.

Assessment methods

Assessment is based on active participation in classroom activities and the presentation of a final project.

Textbooks and Reading Materials

The reference texts will be provided at the beginning of the course.

The following readings are suggested

J. Urry (2005) Lo sguardo del turista. Il tempo libero e il viaggio nelle società contemporanee. Roma SEAM
J Urry (2002) The tourist gaze London Sage.
(edizione italiana o inglese)

M. Colleoni (2019). Mobilità e trasformazioni urbane: la morfologia della metropoli contemporanea, Milano, Franco Angeli.

M. Sheller (2018). Mobility justice : the politics of movement in an age of extremes. London Verso.

Sustainable Development Goals

QUALITY EDUCATION | AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY | REDUCED INEQUALITIES | SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES | CLIMATE ACTION