UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

SYLLABUS DEL CORSO

Geografia e Politica dell'Ambiente

2526-2-F8802N060

Learning objectives

1. Knowledge and understanding: acquire advanced knowledge of the concepts of territory, place, and environment, understood as complex networks of relationships and territorial configurations; understand the plurality of meanings attributed to the environment across different cultural traditions; know the main theories and practices of environmentalism, with particular attention to the relationships between humans and other animals.
2. Applying knowledge and understanding: apply conceptual tools to deconstruct media and cultural discourses on environmental issues.
3. Making judgments: develop critical skills in reading environmental narratives, both institutional and popular.
4. Communication skills: communicate analyses and reflections clearly and with sound reasoning; be able to present and critically discuss discourses, images, and narratives related to territory and environment.
5. Learning skills: develop an autonomous, critical, and reflective approach to environmental and territorial issues; be able to integrate interdisciplinary perspectives, broadening the understanding of the complex interactions among society, environment, and animals.

Contents

A brief introduction to the theoretical content of the discipline and methodology of analysis will be followed by a critical analysis of the discourse on the environment and its evolution. Particular attention will be paid to the analysis of the discourse on the environment in relation to nonhuman anomalies, interspecific cohabitation, the power relationship that connects us to nonhuman animals and the forms of exploitation to which they are subjected. In the second part of the course, popular culture texts will be selected for group analysis to deconstruct the discourse on the environment produced and conveyed by them.

Detailed program

The course is divided into three parts; the first includes an introduction to popular geopolitics and ecocritical geopolitics. The second focuses on the analysis of environmental discourses. The third, which is applied in nature, focuses on viewing and reading popular geopolitical texts from different sources.

Prerequisites

none

Teaching methods

in-person teaching: 70%
in-presence interactive mode: 30%
Interactive mode involves subgroup work, prepared and discussed during the course.

Assessment methods

In-course assessments: No in-course assessments are planned for this course; the final evaluation is based on the oral exam or the critical discussion, as described below.

Type and structure of the exam:
The final exam consists of an oral test aimed at assessing the student's overall preparation on the course topics.
Alternatively, for students who have attended at least 75% of the lessons, a critical discussion focused on the analysis of one or more popular culture texts related to environmental and territorial themes is provided. This option allows for a deeper exploration of the ability to read and deconstruct cultural discourses about territory and environment.

Textbooks and Reading Materials

1. E. dell'Agnese, "Geografia politica critica", Milano, Guerini, 2024

2. E. dell'Agnese, Ecocritical geopolitics, Routledge, 2021

3). Yi-Fu Tuan, Dominance and Affection: The Making of Pets, New Haven: Yale University Press, 1984

Sustainable Development Goals

GENDER EQUALITY | REDUCED INEQUALITIES | PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS