UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

SYLLABUS DEL CORSO

Sistemi Locali di Welfare

2526-2-F8701N055

Learning objectives

Knowledge and understanding
Knowledge of the lines of development and tension in local welfare systems, in the Italian and European context, with particular attention to the cultural, cognitive, and political-regulatory components underlying the discourse, tools, and practices implemented by the various actors in the systems: national, regional, and local governments and public administrations, third sector entities, businesses, philanthropic organizations, trade unions, social movements, organized citizens, and families.

Particular focus will be placed on: new forms of territorial health (Case di Comunità), modes of community welfare, shared administration, the role of philanthropy, public action by civil society, including forms of 'bottom-up' intervention and conflictual mobilization.
Understanding the issues at stake, the controversies, the scenarios for the evolution of Italian and local welfare, and the possible challenges.

Ability to apply knowledge and understanding
Identifing the analytical elements in the examples of local welfare actions, interventions, projects, programs, and policies, in their mutual relationship and interaction with other levels of government, from a multilevel perspective.
Understanding how and to what extent the various forces at play interact, the power asymmetries between them, which ideas and tools support public actions, how actors and tools influence each other in a relationship of interdependence, exogenous and endogenous variables, conflicts, compromises, forms of governance, and the impacts of the various trajectories undertaken.

Autonomy of judgment
The course aims to develop the ability to critically interpret ideas, policies, programs, projects, and actions in local welfare systems, with particular attention to: the dynamics of hegemony in discourse; the most commonly used tools; approaches based on the use of the concept of community and local networks; reporting, accounting and social impact ; the role of private and philanthropic actors; forms of governance and participation in use.

Communication skills

Students will be given the opportunity to practice, discuss, and learn various forms of knowledge communication. Different forms of communication will therefore be used: digital presentations, discursive presentations, argumentative, dialogic, and deliberative debate, adapting language to different interlocutors and professional contexts, also from a multidisciplinary perspective.

Learning skills
The course aims to promote learning skills through the study of scientific literature, through the independent analysis of cases and documents produced by actors, through the use of data in publicly accessible archives and repositories, and through qualitative research techniques such as interviews and ethnographic observation.

Contents

- The social, economic, cultural and political contexts of the welfare development

- The institutional dimension of social policies

- The territorial turn

- Subsidiarity and public sphere

- From the bureaucratic State to the New Public Management

- Instruments and practices of welfare governance

- The Lombard Welfare

- Welfare and the crisis

- Governance and third sector

- Third sector and civil society: theories and approaches

- Places and culture in third sector organizations

- The new role of philanthropy

- Bank foundations and the local welfare

- Social innovation

Detailed program

The first part of the course will present the configurations of the Italian model of local welfare, including comparisons with other countries: its political and normative elements, its policy instruments and the governance models developed in the last thirty years, with a special attention to the Lombard context.

The second part of the course will focus on institutional and social actors in local welfare systems, their approaches to public action and the relationships they have developed over the years.

Attending students will have the opportunity to practice learning by participating to working groups, analyzing documents and audiovisual products, lectures with guests from the fieldwork.

Prerequisites

Teaching methods

Lessons will be held 50% with traditional lectures and 50% with interactive methods, i.e. in laboratory form, with group work, analysis of written and audiovisual documents, testimonies and visits with public, third sector and trade union operators.

Up to 20% of lessons may be delivered remotely.

Lessons will be held in Italian.

Assessment methods

The exam consists of two mandatory components: a thesis on a case study, which accounts for 50% of the final grade, and an oral interview, which accounts for the remaining 50%.
The essay will be an original piece of work of 5-10 pages (15,000 to 40,000 characters) on a real local welfare issue or case study, analyzed according to the categories presented in the exam texts.
The essay is intended to test the knowledge and skills acquired through reading and participation in the course.
Those who attend the lessons may present their case study in the last lesson of the course. Even if the work has not yet been completed in terms of gathering empirical material and/or has not yet been elaborated in its overall interpretation, it will still be possible (and desirable) to present the progress of the work. This presentation will not be evaluated but will be for educational purposes only. In other words, it will not contribute to the final grade but will help participants to compare their work and improve it.

The oral interview will serve to verify the specific content of the readings, the ability to connect them to each other and to real-life examples, and their relevance to the thesis.

The final assessment will take into account the mastery of the topics covered in the readings and the authors' arguments, the ability to summarize the social, cultural, and political processes addressed in the readings, the ability to distinguish between the analytical and evaluative dimensions, and the connection with examples from the course and the current reality of social policies.

Students will receive further instructions on the course website and will agree on the topic of their paper with the instructor. The oral exam will be partly a test of knowledge of the exam texts and partly a discussion of the thesis.

Textbooks and Reading Materials

**Readings: *To be confirmed at the beginning of the course
**
De Leonardis O. (2001), Le istituzioni. Come e perché parlarne, Carocci, cap1. e cap4.

Bifulco L. (2015) Il welfare locale. Processi e prospettive (cap 1. Questioni e strumenti)pp.15-40. Carocci.

Ambrosini, M., & Campomori, F. (2020) La controversia dell'asilo: politiche di accoglienza e solidarietà contro i confini. Social Policies, 7(2), 181-200.

Andreotti, A., Mingione,E. Polizzi E. (2022) "The transformation of local welfare systems in European cities." Handbook on Urban Social Policies. , pp. 101-115, Edward Elgar Publishing

Polizzi E., Tajani, C., Vitale T. (2013) Programmare i territori del welfare. Attori, meccanismi ed effetti (cap.1,7) Carocci. 107pp.

Fazzi, L. (2023) "Siamo sicuri ne valga veramente la pena?" Amministrazione condivisa e terzo settore in Italia. Impresa Sociale, 3, 7-13.

Saruis T., Kazepov, Y. Boczy, T. Consolidare l'innovazione sociale in contesti diversi di welfare: tra dinamiche trasformative e adattamento, in "Autonomie locali e servizi sociali" 3/2021, pp. 579-592

Polizzi, E. (2021) L'innovazione sociale mimetica. La diffusione dei modelli filantropici di welfare Autonomie locali e servizi sociali, 44(3), 477-492

Ingrosso M. (2023) La prospettiva di welfare community nella progettazione e sperimentazione delle Case della Comunita, Autonomie locali e servizi sociali, (1) 19-40

De Leonardis O., De Vidovich L. (2017) Innovazioni per l'apprendimento istituzionale. Il Programma Microaree della Regione Friuli Venezia Giulia, *Working papers. Rivista online di Urban@it* - 1/2017.

Gori, C. (2020) Più servizi e meno regolazione. Il welfare lombardo nella longue durée. Social Policies, 7(3), 375-396.

Sustainable Development Goals

REDUCED INEQUALITIES | SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES