



UNIVERSITÀ  
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

## COURSE SYLLABUS

### Economic History for Tourism

2526-1-F7602M006

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#### Learning objectives

The course aims at providing the students with the fundamental conceptual skills necessary for the examination and interpretation of the main phenomena in economic history of tourism. The ultimate goal is the acquisition of abilities related to learning, investigation and analysis, with particular reference to historical development of tourism. Students will be able to address the specific issues of tourism, demonstrating an understanding of their structural changes in the long run

#### Contents

The course aims to illustrate the long-term socio-economic implications of a complex phenomenon such as tourism. The time period taken into account starts with the age of the Grand Tour in pre-industrial Europe until the full affirmation of mass tourism in the twentieth century, through the great transformations that occurred during the nineteenth century with the hydrotherapy, the discovery of the mountain and the role played by the first travel agencies in channeling towards the touristic destinations increasing flows of visitors, also thanks to transport improvements such as the railroad. The final part of the course will be devoted to a more specific examination of the Italian case with special regards to the recent changes which followed the birth of the so called post modern tourism

#### Detailed program

The course is divided into three parts

1. The first "building the foundations" includes ten lessons from the professor in traditional mode and is aimed at providing the basic information necessary to tackle the continuation of the course. It therefore initially

deals with methodological issues and then outlines the main transformations of tourism starting from the birth of modern tourism up to today's global tourism

2. The second part, "a window on the world", aims to present the main types of tourism from the pre-industrial age up to today using the Peninsula as a visual angle and includes 14 lessons in traditional and interactive mode with a first part carried out by professor and the rest working in the classroom with the students. At the end of this part there will be a period of interruption of the lessons for the intermediate tests where an open question test be carried out on the first two parts of the course
3. The third and final part of the course, "working together", is always in a traditional and interactive mode and is dedicated to exploring issues relating to tourism and its economic history identified together with the students. At the end, an open question test will be carried out on this third part of the course

#### First part of the course

##### Building the foundation

Presentation of the course and methodological aspects: history, economic history of tourism, travel

1-5 Course presentation; method and historical research; the economic history of tourism: definitions and chronology; relevant themes in the economic history of tourism; the different aspects of the journey

##### The transformations of tourism

6-10 Why modern tourism was born in England; the United States and the birth of mass tourism; the Mediterranean boom after the Second World War; towards global tourism: small-scale tourism, Africa's delay and the tourist boom in the East

#### Second part of the course

##### A window on the world

The main types of tourism in the long term

11-14 An undisputed leadership: seaside tourism; mountain tourism; religious tourism; travel related to health: spa tourism; educational trips: the grand tour and cultural tourism

##### Tourism in Italy in brief

15-16 The evolution from the end of the nineteenth century to today

##### Tourism in Italy between tradition and innovation

17-24 Tourist typologies and regional cases

##### Seaside tourism

- Elite tourism (Lido di Venezia, Forte dei Marmi, Capri etc.)
- The Romagna model
- Sardinian planning

##### Mountain tourism

- Aosta Valley and Alto Adige

The rediscovery of the territory: from parks to food and wine tourism.

##### Big events

- Jubilees
- Expos and major events: Milan and the Lombard case

##### The Italian situation in recent years

- Strengths and weaknesses
- The new frontiers of tourism

#### Third part of the course

##### Working together

25-40 Interactive work on topics identified together with the students and aimed at exploring aspects previously presented or areas deemed of interest

41-42 Conclusions

## **Prerequisites**

Basic knowledge of the historical and political events (XVIIIth-XXth centuries)

## **Teaching methods**

Ten hours of lectures by the professor in traditional mode. Thirty-two hours of frontal lessons in delivery and interactive mode involving students' classroom work. The recording of the lessons will be available on the e-learning website

## **Assessment methods**

Students have two options: the first is to take the intermediate test first and then the final test

### **Intermediate test**

Knowledge and understanding will be assessed with a test consisting of four open questions, chosen from the six that will be proposed (up to 7.5 points for each answer). The test will last two hours. This part of the exam will have a weight of 50% and will focus on the topics covered in the first two parts of the course. The outline of the lessons (they are simple slides) will gradually be uploaded to the course page on the university e-learning site: <http://elearning.unimib.it/> in the economic and statistical area

### **Final test**

The test, which will take place at the end of the course, weighs 30% and is made up of 4 open questions (up to 7.5 points per answer) relating to the third part of the course. The time available is two hours.

For those who have carried out the activity in the classroom, the remaining 20% is given by the grade assigned to the work carried out.

For those who have not carried out the classroom activity, the two written tests weigh 60% and 40% respectively.

The second possibility is to not take the intermediate test but take a complete test which will take place at the end of the course. In this case the test will be worth 80% for those who have carried out the classroom activities and 100% for those who have not carried them out. The overall final test consists of six open questions (up to five points per answer). The time available will be two hours

### **Important**

The standard method of verifying knowledge is, until the January exam, the written test with open questions, however those who prefer to take the oral test have the possibility to do so by agreement with the professor. Anyone wishing to take the oral test to try to improve an unsatisfactory outcome of the written test has the possibility of doing so but must keep in mind that in that case the grade for the written test will be lost because it is clear that the outcome could be for the better but also for the worse. Said more clearly: if you take the oral exam to improve an 18 and the result is negative, the 18 does not remain but you have to take the test again

Starting from the January session, the exam will only be conducted in an oral manner

## **Textbooks and Reading Materials**

A useful text that complements when presented in class is P. Battilani, Vacanze di pochi vacanze di tutti. L'evoluzione del turismo europeo, Bologna, Il Mulino, 2009

## **Semester**

First semester

## **Teaching language**

Italian

## **Sustainable Development Goals**

DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH | INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE | CLIMATE ACTION

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