UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Social Policies - M-Z

2526-1-E1902R002-MZ

Course title

Social Services Policies (alphabetical filter: M-Z)

Topics and course structure

The Social Services Policies course introduces the study of social protection systems in the context of the challenges posed by economic globalisation, focusing on Italian welfare.
For each policy area the structuring and organisational characteristics of services will be presented and discussed, also through the analysis of case studies and empirical research.
The course programme will be divided into three parts:

- the first part will present the structural characteristics of the Italian welfare state in a historical perspective;
- the second part will analyse the origins and transformations of the health services network and the social services network;
- the third part will present the policies for each intervention sector (minors, disability, mental health, the elderly) between legislation, dilemmas and operational practices.

Objectives

The main objective of the course is to introduce students to the study of social policies, providing them with conceptual and analytical tools useful for understanding the operational logic of services.
In particular, it is intended to develop the following skills:

1. Knowledge and comprehension skills

- to develop a basic knowledge of Italian social legislation and the ability to understand the policy cycle (1. problem identification; 2. policy formulation; 3. decision making: 4. implementation; 5. policy evaluation)

2. Applied knowledge and understanding

- to apply theoretical knowledge and skills learnt to analyse concrete forms of service organisation in a dialectical relationship between theory and practice;

3. Autonomy of judgement

- starting from one's own educational positioning, to acquire and consolidate analytical and critical thinking skills having as a field of observation the ways in which services operate

4. Communication skills

- to know and be able to use specialist disciplinary language in a relevant manner
- to develop one's ability to analyse and critically rework content through classroom interaction and exercises

5. Learning capacity

- to know how to situate one's own educational work within the institutional and organisational framework of service operation;
- to think and plan possible change (if necessary) within structured organisational settings.

Methodologies

The course language is Italian. The training activities (42 hours) are carried out in presence.
Each lesson combines frontal teaching (frontal explanation and in-depth study) and a part of interactive teaching (dialogic exchanges, documentaries, exercises, shared reflections) with an overall distribution that can be roughly estimated at 60% DE and 40% DI.

Online and offline teaching materials

During the course, supplementary materials will be made available on the e-learning platform.

Programme and references

BIFULCO LAVINIA (a cura di), Le politiche sociali. Temi e prospettive emergenti, Roma, Carocci, 2005, (pagine: 13-36).
FERRARIO PAOLO, Politica dei servizi sociali. Strutture, trasformazioni, legislazione, Roma, Carocci, 2001/2013.

Assessment methods

The exam is a written test consisting of three open-ended questions to be answered in two hours. There are no intermediate tests.
The choice of a written test as the exam method is consistent with the objectives of the course, as it allows for a standardised assessment of not only knowledge but also learning skills in terms of independent reworking of what has been studied, as well as communication skills in the form of structured writing.

The tests will be assessed with reference to formal correctness (spelling, grammar and syntax); lexical appropriateness; knowledge of the subject matter; consistency of answers with respect to the specific questions asked; and the quality of the arguments used to discuss the topics and issues.

Office hours

Student appointments can be made by emailing at: raffaele.monteleone@unimib.it

Programme validity

The programs are valid for two academic years.

Course tutors and assistants

Sustainable Development Goals

NO POVERTY | GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING | DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH | REDUCED INEQUALITIES | PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS