UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

SYLLABUS DEL CORSO

Storia del Lavoro

2526-1-F5703R012

Course title

Labour History and History of the Training for/at Work

Topics and course structure

The course is divided in an intorductory part (12 hours) and in a second, monographic, part (44 hours).
The first part will introduce the students to history as a discipline (its aims, methods, and specificities; the use of history in the education) and to some theories and concepts that will be used in the course (Economic development, growth, and progress, the role of institutions, the factors of production, population and the demographic transitions).
The second part will analyze the changes in the world of work and in the training for and in the work betwenn the preindustrial periods and nowadays, with a particular focus on the Italian context. After an introduction about the characteristics of the organization of production, professional training and forms of remuneration typical of the pre-industrial age, we will move on to analyze the various transformations that have characterized work in Italy, paying attention to the broader international context and comparing the Italian case with other national cases.

We will follow a chronological and thematic approach at the same time. As regards the first aspect, the chronology, approximately 11 phases will be analysed, characterized internally by a certain continuity of the structures of the world of work (see the section “Programme and references”).
From a thematic point of view particular attention will be paid to the different working contexts (rural and urban), to the transformations relating to the organization of work and workers, to trade union and social dynamics, as well as to contractual and wage dynamics. Finally, we will explore with particular attention the complex issue of the relationship between training and work (training *at* work and *during* work).

Objectives

The first part of the course aims at broadening and completing the students' basic skills, bringing them closer to the historical perspective and notably training their ability to analyse the evolutionary and diachronic aspect of dysfunctional situations and contexts, with attention to causal links.
In accordance with the objectives of the degree course, thanks to the adoption of the historical perspective, the second part of the course intends to provide students with the tools to understand the transformations that have characterized the world of work, the training and development processes of human resources and the role that the socio-economic and institutional context has played in these transformations. Even if the main focus remains the Italian case, a comparative approach will always be maintained with the broader international context and with other States. With constant and participatory attendance at lessons, the following learning is intended to be promoted:

- Knowledge and understanding of the elements that have determined and still determine nowadays the transformations of the world of work;
- Ability to analyze the role played by workers in different contexts, both in terms of human resources but also of actors participating in the change processes through specific forms of agency;
- Understanding of the transformations that have occurred over time in worker training processes, both with regard to professional training inside and outside the school system, and in the context of the working world.
  The historical perspective will allow students to address the complexity of the interaction between the different actors involved, to observe the plurality of outcomes depending on the socio-economic and institutional contexts, strengthening the students' capacity for critical analysis and, consequently, the ability to make informed and effective choices in the work context in which they will find themselves operating.

Methodologies

The course (56 hours) will be of a teaching nature, with frontal lessons held in the classroom by the Professor. There will be also a live stream of the lessons, for the students who will not be able to attend in person. There will be particular attention in the interaction with the students and in their involvement during the lessons.
The lessons will also be registered and made available online, even if the attendance in-person is suggested, in order to achieve a more effective learning.

Online and offline teaching materials

The teaching materials will consist of the textbooks indicated in the "Program and bibliography" section and the contribution available online by P. Causarano, Il senso delle “150 ore”: cinquant’anni fa, oggi (https://www.storialavoro.it/fileadmin/user_upload/Al_presente_38.pdf).
As anticipated, the lessons will be registered and made available online.

Programme and references

Both for the first and for the second part of the course, the attendance of the lessons (in person or online), or the visualization of the registrations **substitute** the study of the textbooks listed in the following lines. The exams will include only questions on topic that will be debated in the lessons.

The first part is introductory and general on the functioning and use of history, and consists of the use of time as a fourth dimension in the analysis of critical settings: acquiring the historical method as part of a mindset (advantages, limits, conventions, methodological issues). It will also introduce some basic theories and concepts of the economic and labour history.

The textbook used will be:

- F. Braudel, *Storia misura del mondo.* Bologna: Il Mulino, 2015
- L. Neal, R. Cameron, "Storia economica del mondo. Dalla preistoria ad oggi". Bologna: il Mulino, 2021, pp. 13-30 e 508-529

The second part of the course will address for the Italian case the issues indicated in the "Topics and structure of the course" section, i.e. the transformations of working contexts (rural and urban), of the organization of work and workers, of trade union and social dynamics, of contractual and salary ones, and finally it will analyze the relationship between training and work over time. The following chronological scan will be adopted:

- Work in the preindustrial period
- The post-unification period and the government of the "historical Right" (1861-1876)
- The "historical Left" and the crisis of the late 19th century (1876-1900)
- The Giolittian age and the first Italian industrialization (1900-1915)
- The First World War and its consequences (1915-1922)
- The world of work between Fascism and the Second World War (1922-1945)
- Post-war Reconstruction (1945-1960)
- The economic boom (1960-1973)
- Work in the crisis of the 70s (1973-1980)
- Post-crisis transformations (1980-1992)
- Between the 1990s and the new millennium: continuity and transformations (1992-2024)

For this purpose, the following textbooks will be used:

P. Bonafede, P. Causarano, *Istruzione tecnica e formazione professionale*, in F. De Giorgi, A. Gaudio, F. Pruneri, *Manuale di storia della scuola italiana*. Brescia: Scholè, 2019, pp. 219-254
P. Causarano, *La formazione professionale fra relazioni industriali e regolazione pubblica. Il caso italiano dal dopoguerra agli anni '70*, in «Annali di storia dell'educazione e delle istituzioni scolastiche», n. 22, 2015, pp. 233-252
P. Causarano, "Il senso delle "150 ore": cinquant'anni fa, oggi", online all'indirizzo: https://www.storialavoro.it/fileadmin/user_upload/Al_presente_38.pdf
S. Gallo, F. Loreto, *Storia del lavoro nell'Italia Contemporanea*. Bologna: Il Mulino, 2023
R. Ago (a cura di), *Storia del Lavoro in Italia. L'età moderna*. Roma: Castelvecchi, 2018, pp. 17-198

In case of difficulties in finding the bibliography, the articles will be supplied directly by the Professor.

Non-native Italian speaking students are invited to contact the Professor, if necessary, in order to find alternative textbooks in English.

Assessment methods

The verification of the students' learning will take place through a written test consisting of three open questions, with a maximum of five answer lines each and 15 multiple choice questions. As anticipated, the study of the textbook is not necessary if the student attend the lessons or watch the registrations.

The test can be took in two ways (according to the students' preference).

- an intermediate test on the first half od the programme, and a final test on the second half;
- only a final test on the entire programme.

The short open questions are used to verify the student's ability to select the information learned and formulate a congruous and effective response on specific topics. A maximum of 5 points can be assigned for each question (for a total of 15 points).
The 15 multiple choice questions, with three possible answers of which only one is correct, are used to check the student's preparation for the entire exam program as completely as possible.
One point will be awarded for each correct answer (for a maximum total of 15 points).

The sum of the scores obtained in the open questions and in the multiple-choice questions will give the final evaluation. Clearly, if the student took both the intermediate and the final test, the final evaluation will be the average of the two. Honors will be awarded if both teachers demonstrate a strong and original analytical ability in both the intermediate test and the final test, which goes beyond the simple understanding and memorization of what is proposed in the classroom and in the textbooks.

The students can refuse both the final evaluation and the intermediate one.
Both the intermediate and the final test will last one hour.

Office hours

Giulio Ongaro: normally Wednesdays 10.30-12.30 am, by appointment agreed via email [room 3079 third floor, Building "Agorà", ex-U6]. However, it is possible to arrange via email an in-person or online interview in other days and/or times.

Programme validity

The programme is valid for two Academic Years

Course tutors and assistants

Sustainable Development Goals

DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH | INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE | REDUCED INEQUALITIES | PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS