UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Private and Family Law

2627-2-E3902N010

Learning objectives

Knowledge and understanding
The course aims to provide the basic legal knowledge of private law and family and child law, necessary in regard to the training of social workers, with particular interest to the interventions focused on the Services to protect and to support the family in its widest sense, and to safeguard the weak subjects, especially the minors.
*Ability to apply knowledge and understanding
The acquired knowledge will allow the social workers to orientate themselves effectively in the sphere of the family's protection and of the weak subjects, quickly identifyng the regultory context, as well as the judicial authorities to address reports and requests.
*Autonomy of judgement *
The contents learned will help to understand and solve the legal problems that may arise in the performance of the profession of social worker.
*Communication Skills **
The knowledge gained will support students in their relations with users and with judicial authorities operating in family and child-related matters
Learning skills
The course aims to provide the methodological instruments to stay up to date on legislative reforms and judicial developments concerning the family and minors' subject.

Contents

Advanced study of Private and Family Law institutes.

Ample space will be reserved to the focus of the family's legal perspectives, to the protection's measures of children and weak subjects, and to the relevant court proceedings.

Detailed program

General notions of private law
• the sources of law
• rights: general classification and forms of protection
• principles and forms of civil liability
• the contract and its vicissitudes. Notes on the succession due to death
The persons
• the inviolable rights into domestic and international law
• the rights of personality; legal capacity, the ability to act
• the institutions for the protection of incapacitated persons
The family

- marriage and other family patterns;
- the discipline of marriage: constitution; personal and property relations between the spouses;
- measures relating to children following the breakup of the parental couple
- the civil unions between persons of the same sex and the cohabitation outside marriage
- the filiation
- parental responsibility: from the powers over children to the duties/powers for children; restriction and decay of liability
- protection interventions in situations of domestic violence
  The child
- the child from object to subject: from the paradigm of protecting the child to the promotion and participation of the subject in training
- the administrative and judicial system of child protection: the courts, the distribution of powers; relationship between judicial and administrative authorities
- institutions for protection and promotion: the protection and guardianship; the child's right to a family, foster care, adoption, the rehabilitative process

Prerequisites

Sufficient educational skills in logic, social culture and reasonable capacities in learning, writing and communication.

Teaching methods

Lectured-based Teaching: Classroom Lessons
21 two-hour lessons delivered through lecture-based teaching (classroom lessons using slides, audio, and video) held in person.
The course consists of in-class lectures and the analysis and discussion of real or plausible case studies, including judicial cases.

Assessment methods

The exam will be oral.
The oral exam will be focused on 3 topics (one about private law in general and two about family law), related to the course progra, with reference to the recommended texts and classroom lecutures.
In the case of face-to-face lessons, for attending students only (75% of lessons), one of the two family law topics may be indicated to their choice.
It will be evaluated the learning of fundamental notions of common private law and the ability to express them with appropriate language; the understanding which regards the institutions of family and child law, also in their legislative and judicial evolution; the acquisition of adequate knowledge to guide the social worker within the protection’s institutions conceived for the vulnerable individuals.

Textbooks and Reading Materials

• LENTI L., "Diritto di famiglia e servizi sociali", Giappichelli, 2025 or any subsequent editions.
• Other materials that will be available on the e-learning platform

Sustainable Development Goals

GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING | QUALITY EDUCATION | PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS