



UNIVERSITÀ  
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

## SYLLABUS DEL CORSO

### Teorie Sociologiche e Mutamento Sociale

2627-1-E4002N001

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#### Learning objectives

##### Knowledge and Understanding

The course introduces students to the classical authors of sociological thought, their theories, and the main conceptual issues related to social structure, with particular attention to social change and social inequalities.

##### *Applying Knowledge and Understanding*

By the end of the course, students will be able to apply the fundamental sociological theories and concepts to analyse contemporary social realities and interpret complex social phenomena.

##### *Making Judgements*

The course develops students' critical ability to analyse different sociological theories and perspectives, particularly concerning the dimensions of social structure, social change, and inequalities.

##### *Communication Skills*

Students will acquire the specialised language necessary to clearly and effectively present sociological theories and concepts.

##### *Learning Skills*

The course encourages students to further explore sociology on their own, fostering curiosity and critical thinking.

#### Contents

The course provides an introduction to the key classical sociologists and the fundamental concepts of sociological analysis. It also addresses the central themes of sociological research, illustrating the different theoretical and analytical approaches developed within the discipline and their links with other fields. Finally, the course provides an insight into the issues of social change and inequalities in their many forms.

## Detailed program

The first lessons of the course provide an introduction to sociological thinking in relation to the historical and social conditions that influenced its origin and development. It also highlights how sociology has been characterised by a plurality of analytical approaches and elements of convergence with related disciplines.

Subsequently, the course explores the contributions of key classical authors to sociological theory, such as Comte, Marx, Durkheim, Weber, Simmel, Parsons and Merton. Particular focus is given to the various approaches each author took to the topic of social structure, as well as related concepts such as action and reproduction, order and change.

The next part of the course covers some of the key concepts and themes in contemporary sociological research, such as groups and organisations, institutions and values, roles and socialisation. Finally, particular attention is given to the issue of social inequalities, which are analysed in their various forms and contexts, in light of processes of social change.

## Prerequisites

No prerequisites.

## Teaching methods

Approximately 90% of the 56 hours that make up the course will be delivered using traditional teaching methods, such as slide-based lectures, audio and video. The remaining 10% will be delivered using interactive methods, such as exercises and small-group work. All lessons will be held in person.

## Assessment methods

The written exam consists of open questions on the content covered in the course. The aim is to assess students' ability to develop their thinking based on the concepts learned.

The assessment criteria are:

1. Language skills - Appropriate use of terms.
2. Accuracy in the logical presentation of arguments;
3. Ability to make connections between different topics;
4. Completeness of presentation.

*Students enrolled in academic years prior to 2026/27 must contact the instructor at least one week before the exam date to finalise the programme to be covered in the exam. Students are recommended to adopt the programme of the current academic year.*

## Textbooks and Reading Materials

Jedlowski P. (2009). Il mondo in questione. Introduzione alla storia del pensiero sociologico. Roma: Carocci.

- Capitoli: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 11.

Simmel G. (1905). Die mode. Trad. it. 1985 (M. Monaldi), La moda. In Id. La moda e altri saggi di cultura filosofica (pp. 29-52). Milano: Longanesi.

Weber M. (1917). Wissenschaft als Beruf. Trad. it. 2004 (P. Rossi), La scienza come professione. In Id. La scienza come professione. La politica come professione (pp. 5-44). Torino: Einaudi.

Thomas W.I. (1923). The unadjusted girl: with cases and standpoint for behavioral analysis. Trad. it. 2012 (V. Romania), La ragazza disadattata. Un'analisi del comportamento deviante. Edizioni Kurumuny.

- Capitoli: 1 (I desideri) e 2 (La regolazione dei desideri).

Cressey P. (1932). The Taxi-Dance Hall as a social world. In Taxi Dance Hall: A sociological study in commercialized recreation and city life (Cap. 3). Trad. it. 2013 (A.M. Brighenti), La Taxi-Dance Hall come mondo sociale. Etnografia e ricerca qualitativa, 3, pp. 447-462. Scaricabile al link: <https://www.rivisteweb.it/doi/10.3240/75035>

Santagati M., Ferrari C., Noia E., Cornaggia C. e Medina L. (2023). Donne all'origine della sociologia: Il contributo alla ricerca empirica in America, in Europa e in Italia. AG About Gender-International Journal of Gender Studies, 12(23), pp. 249-287. Scaricabile al link: <https://doi.org/10.15167/2279-5057/AG2023.12.23.2039>

Bagnasco A., Barbagli M. e Cavalli A. (2012). Corso di Sociologia. Bologna: Il Mulino.

- Introduzione e Capitoli 3, 4, 5, 6.

Giancola O. e Salmieri L. (a cura di) (2020). Sociologia delle diseguaglianze. Teorie, metodi e ambiti. Roma: Carocci.

- Tutto, a eccezione dell'Introduzione e del Capitolo 1.

Grande T. e Parini E.G. (a cura di) (2014). Sociologia. Problemi, teorie, intrecci storici. Roma: Carocci.

- Capitolo 18 (di Navarini G.)

## **Sustainable Development Goals**

REDUCED INEQUALITIES

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