

**COURSE OF STUDY: INTERCLASS SOCIAL SERVICE SCIENCES AND SOCIOLOGY (SSSS  
L-39/L-40)**

**COURSE IN SOCIAL SERVICE SCIENCES L-39**

**ACADEMIC YEAR : 2024-25**

**ACADEMIC SUBJECT: GENERAL SOCIOLOGY (M-Z)**

General information	
Year of the course	First year
Academic calendar (starting and ending date)	I semester (September 16 <sup>th</sup> 2024 – December 13 <sup>th</sup> 2024)
Credits (CFU/ETCS):	9
SSD	SPS/07 GENERAL SOCIOLOGY
Language	ITALIAN
Mode of attendance	SUGGESTED

Professor/ Lecturer	
Name and Surname	CATERINA BALENZANO
E-mail	<a href="mailto:caterina.balenzano@uniba.it">caterina.balenzano@uniba.it</a>
Telephone	
Department and address	Palazzo F. Cassano, Room 4th Ground Floor
Virtual room	team code: qju7qwy Link: <a href="#">Tutoraggio studenti e tesisti, prof.ssa Balenzano   Generale   Microsoft Teams</a>
Office Hours (and modalities: e.g., by appointment, on line, etc.)	Students' tutoring will take place, generally, on Tuesday from 12.00 to 14.00. During the period of lessons, an alternative tutoring sessions may be scheduled, regularly communicated on the teacher's page: Reception meetings will be organized by appointment; usually in person, in the lecturer's office. In special cases, or at the students 'request, the meeting may take place on the team's channel (code: qju7qwy). In order to facilitate the planning of tutoring meetings, students must book them by email at <a href="mailto:caterina.balenzano@uniba.it">caterina.balenzano@uniba.it</a> Please consult the teacher page for further updates: <a href="https://www.uniba.it/it/docenti/balenzano-caterina/caterina-balenzano">https://www.uniba.it/it/docenti/balenzano-caterina/caterina-balenzano</a>

Work schedule			
Hours			
Total	Lectures	Hands-on (laboratory, workshops, working groups, seminars, field trips)	Out-of-class study hours/ Self-study hours
225	72		153
CFU/ETCS			
9	9		

Learning Objectives
The course aims to provide students with the foundations and main methods of sociological analysis and to promote knowledge of the theoretical models that have been developed to understand the functioning of society and its structures.

	By presenting the main topics of sociological study and research, the course aims to develop students' ability to observe the social world from a sociological point of view, combining diachronic and synchronic perspectives, stimulating the ability to read, contextualise and interpret social reality, social phenomena and their transformations. In addition, the ability to read and interpret research data will be stimulated through seminar activities involving the presentation of a series of empirical studies related to the topics covered.
<b>Course prerequisites</b>	It is a first-semester examination of the first year; thus, there are no course's prerequisites other than those required for students' admission to the degree course. Successful completion of the General Sociology examination must precede the examinations in <i>Organizzazioni e modelli dei servizi sociali</i> and <i>Politica sociale</i> , the optional examinations in <i>Sociologia delle culture</i> and <i>Sociologia dei processi economici e del lavoro</i> , and the internship activity.
<b>Teaching strategies</b>	The course includes classroom lectures supported by Power Point presentations to facilitate interaction and learning. A number of in-depth seminars are also planned, which will cover topics of relevant interest in the field of social services (e.g. child protection, educational poverty...). Interactive teaching strategies will be used to train students' ability to apply knowledge to field work: guided class discussion of some research, presentation of case studies and/or project experiences.
<b>Expected learning outcomes in terms of</b>	By the end of the course, the student should possess the following knowledge, skills and competences.
<b>Knowledge and understanding on:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Knowledge of the main theoretical-methodological tools of sociological analysis;</li> <li>○ knowledge and critical understanding of the main phenomena investigated by the subject;</li> <li>○ understanding of the various currents of sociological thought and the main contemporary social phenomena;</li> </ul>
<b>Applying knowledge and understanding on:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Ability to understand the contemporary dynamics of social change in the light of the theories and themes addressed by the subject;</li> <li>○ Ability to read and interpret the phenomena characterising contemporary society and contextualise them in a diachronic perspective;</li> </ul>
<b>Soft skills</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <i>Making informed judgments and choices</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Ability to analyse contemporary social phenomena and their dynamics of change, also from a cross-cultural perspective;</li> <li>○ Ability to elaborate and express a subjective judgement on the topics investigated by the subject, and motivate it using personal experiences and empirical evidence presented.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● <i>Communicating knowledge and understanding</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Ability to communicate the content learnt using the specialised vocabulary of the subject;</li> <li>○ Ability to discuss in a group and with the teacher and express one's own arguments;</li> <li>○ Ability to argue views and ideas on social problems.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● <i>Capacities to continue learning</i></li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Ability to learn and contextualise theories and approaches for the study of social phenomena;</li> <li>○ Ability to identify and be able to apply sociological research methods;</li> <li>○ Ability to be able to research studies and investigations in sociology.</li> <li>○ Ability to self-assess one's knowledge to identify gaps and need for further study</li> </ul>
<b>Syllabus</b>	
<b>Content knowledge</b>	<p>The first part of the course will cover the main topics and areas of general sociology:</p> <p>Subjects and functions of sociology;          Globalization and social change;          Economy and work;          Social interaction and everyday life;          Social stratification and classes;          Families and intimate relationships;          Gender and sexuality;          Race, ethnicity and migration;          Mass media;          Education;          Life course;          Deviance;          Policies and social movements.</p> <p>In the second part of the course, there will be in-depth seminars on social policies, especially policies for children and families. There will also be a presentation of some project experiences on alternative care for children at risk of social exclusion and on the educational role of the community.</p>
<b>Texts and readings</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Giddens – P. W. Sutton. (2022) Fondamenti di sociologia. Il Mulino. (978-88-15-29894-2). All chapters except VII and XII.</li> <li>• Balenzano, M. Ferriti, A. Guerrieri, A. Tabacchi (2024). “Il ruolo delle comunità educanti per l’affido e l’adozione. Ricerche, esperienze e prospettive”. Libreria Universitaria. Collana 'Scienze sociali applicate. Cap. 1,7, 8, 9,10.</li> </ul> <p>Any further study material will be made available by the teacher.</p>
<b>Notes,additional materials</b>	
<b>Repository</b>	<p>The texts are available in the department library.          Please consult the following link for information:  <a href="https://www.uniba.it/it/ricerca/dipartimenti/scienze-politiche/biblioteca/biblioteche-1/servizi-offerti">https://www.uniba.it/it/ricerca/dipartimenti/scienze-politiche/biblioteca/biblioteche-1/servizi-offerti</a>          Any additional in-depth materials will be made available on the lecturer's team channel: code qju7qw</p>
<b>Assessment</b>	
Assessment methods	<p>Exercises may be scheduled during the course to test the expected knowledge and skills. The assessment of learning will consist of a final written test to examine the degree of achievement of the expected learning objectives. The test is divided into two parts: the first part requires definitions of terms and short answer questions to assess mastery of the</p>

	<p>content; the second part asks students to plan some elements of a social research design and to discuss and interpret research data.</p>
<p>Assessment criteria</p>	<p><i>Knowledge and understanding</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Degree of knowledge of the topics: the student has learned the main theoretical-methodological tools of sociological analysis addressed during the course;</li> <li>○ Capacity for critical understanding: the student is able to critically read the phenomena investigated by the subject;</li> <li>○ Mastery of models: the student understands and is able to identify the visions that the various currents of sociological thought have elaborated both of society and of the main contemporary social phenomena</li> </ul> <p><i>Applying knowledge and understanding</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Ability to understand social transformations: the student is able to read the main social changes, in the light of the theories studied and the interweaving of the themes addressed by the discipline (e.g. work-family; family-inequalities; digitalisation-social movements, etc.);</li> <li>○ Capacity for diachronic analysis: the student is able to read, interpret and contextualise social phenomena in a diachronic perspective;</li> </ul> <p><i>Autonomy of judgment</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Capacity for analysis and critical reasoning: the student is able to examine contemporary social phenomena in a critical manner and contextualised to the historical-cultural scenario;</li> <li>○ Capacity for judgement: the student is able to develop a personal judgement on the themes investigated by the discipline and is able to justify it on the basis of personal theses or drawn from the literature presented during the seminars.</li> </ul> <p><i>Communication skills</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Communication skills: the student is able to express in a clear, organised and detailed manner the content learned, using appropriately the specialised vocabulary of the subject;</li> <li>○ Debating skills: the student is able to engage in discussion with the group and with the teacher and is able to express arguments in support of a thesis, vision, or point of view, in an understandable, consistent and linear way;</li> <li>○ Argumentation skills: the student is able to justify his/her views and ideas on social problems, also with reference to the sociological theories and the projects addressed in the course.</li> </ul> <p><i>Capacities to continue learning</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Learning skills: the student knows how to contextualise the theories and scientific approaches used to investigate phenomena affecting the various contexts of society (education, family, work, etc.)</li> <li>○ Methodological skills: the student is able to identify and apply the main research methods introduced in the course to examine social reality and its transformations;</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Research skills: the student is able to research studies and investigations in the sociological field.</li> </ul>
<p>Final exam and grading criteria</p>	<p>The final grade is expressed in thirtieths. The examination is considered passed when the mark is greater than or equal to 18. The written tests will be marked as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2.5 points for short definitions (4 questions for a total of 10 points)</li> <li>• 4 points for questions on theories, classifications and concepts (2 questions for a total of 8 points)</li> <li>• 6 points for cross-cutting thematic questions (2 questions for a total of 12 points)</li> </ul> <p>The oral test involves the same type of questions as described for the written tests. The laude is awarded to students who achieve a mark of 30/30 (in both written tests or at the oral exam) and show argumentative skills and ability to connect topics.</p> <p>The criteria followed for the assessment of learning outcomes expressed in thirtieths are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Insufficient: 0-17 Lacking and inadequate knowledge of the main topics of the syllabus, use of inappropriate vocabulary.</li> <li>• Sufficient: 18-20 Sufficient knowledge of the main topics of the syllabus and overall appropriateness of the vocabulary used.</li> <li>• Satisfactory: 21-23 Satisfactory knowledge of the main topics of the syllabus, fair ability to argue and make connections between the different topics, use of appropriate vocabulary.</li> <li>• Good: 24-26 Good knowledge of the topics of the syllabus, good in-depth and critical study skills, use of appropriate vocabulary.</li> <li>• Very good: 27-28 More than good knowledge of all the topics of the syllabus, more than good capacity for in-depth study, for linking the different topics, for criticism and mastery of vocabulary.</li> <li>• Excellent: 29-30 Excellent knowledge of all the topics of the syllabus, very good in-depth study, ability to link between the different topics, as well as criticism and expertise in vocabulary's use.</li> <li>• Excellent cum laude Excellent knowledge of all the topics of the syllabus, excellent ability to study in depth, to link between the different topics, as well as criticism and full mastery of vocabulary.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Further information</b></p>	