

Syllabus

Descrizione corso

Titolo insegnamento	Fondamenti del Servizio Sociale e della Politica Sociale
Codice insegnamento	51121
Titolo aggiuntivo	
Settore Scientifico-Disciplinare	GSPS-05/A
Lingua	Inglese; Tedesco
Corso di Studio	Corso di laurea in Servizio sociale
Altri Corsi di Studio (mutuati)	
Docenti	prof. dr. Urban Nothdurfter, Urban.Nothdurfter2@unibz.it https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/education/academic-staff/person/17145 dr. Maria Chiara Pedroni, MariaChiara.Pedroni@unibz.it https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/education/academic-staff/person/48833
Assistente	
Semestre	Primo semestre
Anno/i di corso	1
CFU	11
Ore didattica frontale	66
Ore di laboratorio	0
Ore di studio individuale	209
Ore di ricevimento previste	33
Sintesi contenuti	L'insegnamento offre un'introduzione ai fondamenti del servizio sociale e della politica sociale. FONDAMENTI DEL SERVIZIO SOCIALE: Questo modulo introduce i concetti, le teorie e i fondamenti etici centrali del servizio sociale. L'attenzione è rivolta al servizio sociale come professione e disciplina, alle sue funzioni, ai suoi mandati e

	ambiti di intervento, nonché alle questioni relative alla professionalizzazione e alla dimensione sociopolitica dell'agire professionale nel servizio sociale. POLITICA SOCIALE: Questo modulo ha l'obiettivo di fornire agli studenti e alle studentesse le conoscenze fondamentali sullo stato sociale, sulla sua evoluzione in una prospettiva comparata internazionale, nonché sulle tendenze attuali e sulle sfide contemporanee. Viene inoltre affrontata in chiave comparata l'interazione tra famiglia, mercato e Stato nella produzione e nell'erogazione del welfare. Vengono infine introdotti i principali ambiti della politica sociale.
Argomenti dell'insegnamento	SOCIAL POLICY Part 1 – Fundamentals: Social problems, their stratification in society and during the life course. Rationale for public intervention and for the welfare state. Historical developments of the welfare state in Western Europe. The interplay of family, market and the state in welfare provision. Different national trajectories and welfare regimes. Recent trends and major challenges. Part 2 – Introduction to the main social policy areas: Care and long-term care; Education; Family; Health, Housing; Labour market; Pension system; Poverty & Income Maintenance; Social assistance; Social Exclusion. Part 3 – Cross-cutting themes: Gender and generations in contemporary welfare systems; Not-for-profit sector; Globalization and welfare systems; Social and political sustainability of the welfare state.
Parole chiave	Social Policy, Welfare Regimes, Welfare State.
Prerequisiti	
Insegnamenti propedeutici	
Modalità di insegnamento	Frontal lectures, short exercises and case studies, discussion in class.
Obbligo di frequenza	In accordance with the regulation
Obiettivi formativi specifici e risultati di apprendimento attesi	SOCIAL POLICY The module provides students with foundational knowledge of social policy and the welfare state, their historical development,

	main institutional arrangements, and transformations. Particular attention is given to different welfare models and to the respective roles of the state, market, family, and other actors in the provision of welfare. The module introduces students to key areas of social policy and to contemporary social, economic, and demographic challenges affecting welfare systems. A particular educational objective is to enable students to understand social policies not only as specific programmes and interventions but also as institutional arrangements that shape social rights, patterns of inequality, opportunities for social participation, and responses to social needs. Through comparative perspectives, students develop the ability to recognise differences between welfare systems and to critically reflect on how social policies address changing social problems and needs. Expected learning outcomes Upon successful completion of the module, students will be able to: • explain key concepts, principles, and historical developments of social policy and the welfare state; • identify and compare major welfare state models and different arrangements for the provision of welfare; • describe and analyse the roles of the state, market, family, and other actors in welfare provision; • identify key areas of social policy and explain their main objectives, instruments, and institutional characteristics; • recognise and discuss major contemporary challenges and transformations affecting welfare states and social policies; • apply basic concepts and analytical perspectives of social policy to the analysis of social problems and policy responses in different contexts; • use relevant social policy concepts and terminology appropriately when discussing and analysing social policy issues.
Obiettivi formativi specifici e risultati di apprendimento attesi (ulteriori info.)	Knowledge and understanding: Basic knowledge and understanding of social work as a profession and discipline, its mandates, theories, and scientific as well as ethical foundations. Basic understanding of fundamental social policy fields and issues; knowledge of welfare arrangements, traditions, and models; main current developments and challenges.

	Applying knowledge and understanding: Application of the acquired knowledge when dealing with social issues and policy challenges, as well as concerning the practice of social work. Making judgments: Development of professional analysis and reflection skills, as well as the ability to critically assess how social (policy) issues are dealt with and managed in social work. Communication skills: Development of language and skills for professional and academic communication and argumentation. Learning skills: Systematic acquisition of the fundamentals in social work and social policy; and their utilization in reflexivity and discussion. Ability to address new themes in these fields, using reference resources.
Modalità di esame	SOCIAL POLICY Two different assessment routes are offered for the module Social Policy: 1. Standard assessment (all students), in two steps: 1.1. Individual project work (50% of the final marks): 3-4 pages mini-essay, with critical reflections, to be delivered not later than 7 days before the exam. The theme can be selected by the students from a list of subjects prepared by the instructor (with a couple of short related readings). The list will be available in the Reserve Collection at the start of the course; 1.2. Final written test (50% of the final marks): 30-40 minutes test that includes closed-ended multiple choice questions and a few short open-ended questions. 2. Attending students (who has attended 50% of the lectures at least), may choose the following 3 steps assessment procedure: 2.1. Individual project work (50% of the final marks), as specified for the standard assessment; 2.2. Final written test (25% of the final marks): 30-40 minutes test as specified for the standard assessment; 2.3. Active participation in class (25% of the final marks). It includes the discussion of a few preparatory readings and case studies.

	Important notes both the assessment routes: A positive evaluation of both the individual project and the final written test is needed in order to pass the exam, irrespective of the overall weighted average marks attained. Please also note that – given the mentioned educational objectives and the simple tasks required in the development of the final project work – the use of generative artificial intelligence tools is not allowed. The lecturer reserves the right to complement the assessment procedure with an oral discussion in order to assess the real contribution of the student to the materials submitted for assessment.
Criteri di valutazione	SOCIAL POLICY In general, what is evaluated is the acquisition of the module contents as well as their understanding and reflexive application in relation to current questions and problems. Evaluation criteria are as follows: 1. In the individual project's mini essay, attention is paid to: 1.1 proper reference to specialist literature and the module contents, and to the ability to summarise the texts considered in the project and other contents (40% of the evaluation); 1.2. the ability to offer a critical discussion of the texts considered – and of possible other reference literature - and to link the latter to other contents of the module (40% of the evaluation). 1.3. the ability to write with a logical structure and clear argumentation (20% of the evaluation). 2. In the written test (closed-ended and open-ended questions) attention is paid to knowledge of the module key themes and concepts, on the accuracy and the ability to evaluate alternative understanding of concepts, as shown in the ability to correctly answer the test questions (100% of the evaluation). 3. Attendance is a prerequisite for participation in class. In active participation, attention is paid to: 3.1. contribution to the critical discussion in class of a few preparatory readings (25% of the evaluation); 3.2. contribution to the critical discussion in class of a few case

	studies (25% of the evaluation); 3.3. contribution to the critical discussion in class on the module topics and key concepts, in general (25% of the evaluation); 3.4. the ability to make connections between themes and concepts discussed in the module (25% of the evaluation). 4. An oral discussion, may complement the assessment of the project's mini essay. The evaluation would be driven by the criteria discussed at point 1 and would be focused on assessing the authorship and originality of the miny essay submitted.
Bibliografia obbligatoria	see module descriptions
Bibliografia facoltativa	
Altre informazioni	
Obiettivi di Sviluppo Sostenibile (SDGs)	Sconfiggere la povertà, Buona salute, Pace e giustizia, Buona occupazione e crescita economica, Ridurre le disuguaglianze, Parità di genere

Modulo del corso

Titolo della parte costituente del corso	Fondamenti del Servizio Sociale
Codice insegnamento	51121A
Settore Scientifico-Disciplinare	GSPS-05/A
Lingua	Tedesco
Docenti	prof. dr. Urban Nothdurfter, Urban.Nothdurfter2@unibz.it https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/education/academic-staff/person/17145
Assistente	
Semestre	Primo semestre
CFU	6
Docente responsabile	
Ore didattica frontale	36
Ore di laboratorio	0
Ore di studio individuale	114

Ore di ricevimento previste	18
Sintesi contenuti	FONDAMENTI DEL SERVIZIO SOCIALE: Questo modulo introduce i concetti chiave, le teorie e i fondamenti etici del servizio sociale. Si concentra sul servizio sociale come professione e disciplina accademica, sulle sue funzioni, sui mandati e sugli ambiti di intervento, nonché sulle questioni legate alla professionalizzazione e alla dimensione socio-politica della pratica del servizio sociale.
Argomenti dell'insegnamento	Il corso introduce i fondamenti del servizio sociale come professione e disciplina, mirando a trasmettere conoscenze e competenze per una riflessione critica e teoricamente fondata su temi e tensioni centrali. In un primo momento, l'attenzione si concentra su definizioni e concetti centrali, sviluppi, funzioni e mandati del servizio sociale, evidenziando sfide e tensioni ricorrenti. I partecipanti acquisiranno una panoramica delle linee di sviluppo, dei processi di professionalizzazione e degli ambiti di intervento, imparando a comprendere il servizio sociale sia come attività professionale sia come campo scientifico. Il corso affronta poi le basi teoriche e scientifiche del servizio sociale, trattando le teorie del servizio sociale, il ruolo delle discipline di riferimento, nonché le questioni relative alle forme di sapere e alla produzione e applicazione critica e partecipativa delle conoscenze nei contesti professionali. L'insegnamento introduce anche all'etica del servizio sociale, trasmettendo i fondamenti normativi e i principi etico-deontologici, presentando diversi approcci etici e tematizzando in modo coerente la competenza di riflessione e decisione etica come dimensione essenziale della professionalità del servizio sociale. Un'attenzione particolare sarà dedicata allo sviluppo di una consapevolezza della dimensione politica del servizio sociale. I contenuti trattati verranno costantemente collocati nel contesto delle questioni sociali e delle dinamiche di politica sociale, mettendo a fuoco le sfide dell'agire professionale tra scelte politiche e obiettivi di giustizia sociale.

Modalità di insegnamento	Lezioni, esercizi, discussioni
Bibliografia obbligatoria	Graßhoff, G., Renker, A. & Schröer, W. (Hrsg.) (2018). <i>Soziale Arbeit: Eine elementare Einführung</i>. Springer VS. Thole, W. (Hrsg.) (2012). <i>Grundriss Soziale Arbeit: Ein einführendes Handbuch</i>. Springer VS, 4. Auflage. Fargion S. (2009). <i>Il servizio sociale. Storia, temi e dibattiti</i>. Laterza. Gray, M., Midgley, J., Webb, St. A. (eds.) (2012). <i>The SAGE Handbook of Social Work</i>. SAGE.
Bibliografia facoltativa	Kessl, F., Kruse, E., Stövesand, S., & Thole, W. (2017). <i>Soziale Arbeit: Kernthemen und Problemfelder</i>. UTB. Cloos, P., Lochner, B. & Schoneville, H. (2020). <i>Soziale Arbeit als Projekt: Konturierungen von Disziplin und Profession</i>. Springer VS. Lambers, H. (2023). <i>Theorien Sozialer Arbeit. Ein Kompendium und Vergleich</i>. UTB. Hammerschmidt, P. & Stecklina, G. (2022). <i>Klassische Theorien Sozialer Arbeit</i>. Beltz Juventa. Hammerschmidt, P., Aner, K. & Weber, S. (2019). <i>Zeitgenössische Theorien Sozialer Arbeit</i>. Beltz Juventa. Hölscher, D., Hugman, R. & McAuliffe, D. (2023). <i>Social Work Theory and Ethics</i>. Springer. Healy, K. (2022). <i>Social work theories in context: creating frameworks for practice</i>. Bloomsbury. Sansfaçon, A. P., & Cowden, S. (2025). <i>The ethical foundations of social work</i>. Routledge. Fazzi, L. (2017). <i>Teoria e pratica del servizio sociale: un'introduzione</i>. Franco Angeli. Sanfelici, M. (2024). <i>Fondamenti del servizio sociale anti-oppressivo</i>. Carocci. Informazioni dettagliate sulla selezione bibliografica e sui materiali di studio relativi ai singoli ambiti tematici e alle diverse unità didattiche saranno fornite all'inizio del corso e rese disponibili sulla piattaforma di apprendimento OLE.

--	--

Modulo del corso

Titolo della parte costituente del corso	Politica Sociale
Codice insegnamento	51121B
Settore Scientifico-Disciplinare	GSPS-05/A
Lingua	Inglese
Docenti	dr. Maria Chiara Pedroni, MariaChiara.Pedroni@unibz.it https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/education/academic-staff/person/48833
Assistente	
Semestre	Primo semestre
CFU	5
Docente responsabile	
Ore didattica frontale	30
Ore di laboratorio	0
Ore di studio individuale	95
Ore di ricevimento previste	15
Sintesi contenuti	This course provides an introduction to the main concepts and theoretical perspectives of social policy, examining its historical development, normative foundations, and role in promoting well-being, social citizenship, and social justice. Particular attention is devoted to the emergence and development of the welfare state, the different configurations of welfare systems, and the major transformations that have shaped social policy in recent decades, with reference to processes of globalization, demographic, economic, and political change, as well as the challenges posed by growing social inequalities. The course also explores some of the main areas of social policy intervention, including poverty reduction, social protection, health, long-term care, and social assistance systems.

	By the end of the course, students will have acquired the conceptual tools necessary to understand the functioning of welfare systems, interpret their transformations, and critically analyse social policies in different national and international contexts.
Argomenti dell'insegnamento	- Introduction to social policy: concepts, definitions, and theoretical perspectives - Historical development of social policy and the welfare state - Welfare state models and welfare regimes - Contemporary transformations of welfare systems - Social inequalities and poverty - Pension systems - Health and long-term care policies - Social assistance and personal social services
Modalità di insegnamento	Lectures, discussions
Bibliografia obbligatoria	Alcock, P., Haux, T. McCall, V. & May, M. (2022). <i>The Student's Companion to Social Policy 6th edition</i>. Hoboken (NJ): Wiley & Sons. ISBN: 9781119744870 Béland, D., Leibfried S., Morgan, K.J., Obinger, H. & Pierson C. (2021). <i>The Oxford Handbook of the Welfare State</i> 2nd edition. Oxford: Oxford University Press. ISBN: 9780198828389.
Bibliografia facoltativa	Further information and literature can be provided at the beginning of the course.