Syllabus

Course Description

Course Title	Social Policy and Services
Course Code	64227
Course Title Additional	
Scientific-Disciplinary Sector	NN
Language	English; Italian
Degree Course	Bachelor for Social Education
Other Degree Courses (Loaned)	
Lecturers	Prof. Kolis Summerer, kolis.summerer@unibz.it https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/education/academic-staff/person/27181 dr. Alessandra Piccoli, Alessandra.Piccoli@unibz.it https://www.unibz.it/en/home/research/competence-centre-management-cooperatives/team/person//38540
Teaching Assistant	
Semester	First semester
Course Year/s	2
CP	8
Teaching Hours	48
Lab Hours	0
Individual Study Hours	152
Planned Office Hours	24
Contents Summary	The course examines welfare systems, the actors and processes that shape social policy, and the organisation of social services, while providing an overview of the legal framework governing the protection of children and families. Particular attention is paid to the interaction between public institutions, social services, and the judicial system in promoting rights, protection, and social inclusion.

Course Topics	- Evolution and models of welfare systems - Actors, governance, and processes in social policy - Organisation, design, and evaluation of social services - Innovation, social inclusion, and transformations of welfare systems - Legal framework governing children and families - Children's rights and family relationships - The role of social services and judicial authorities in child protection - Foster care, adoption, and child protection measures - Civil and criminal protection of children - The juvenile justice system
Keywords	- Welfare - Social policy - Social services - Governance - Child protection - Children's rights - Family - Juvenile justice
Recommended Prerequisites	
Propaedeutic Courses	
Teaching Format	Lectures, guided discussions, analysis of case studies and practical cases, examination of academic literature, legal sources, and policy documents, group work, and student presentations, with particular emphasis on developing critical analysis skills and the ability to apply theoretical knowledge to practical contexts.
Mandatory Attendance	In accordance with the regulation
Specific Educational Objectives and Learning Outcomes	Students will be able to: • understand the principles, evolution, and models of welfare systems and social policies; • analyse the role of the main actors involved in the design, organisation, and delivery of social services; • demonstrate knowledge of the legal framework governing the protection of children and families, as well as the functions of the relevant institutions and social services; • understand the interactions between social policies, welfare services, and legal protection mechanisms;

	• apply the knowledge acquired to the analysis of practical cases, developing critical thinking and problem-solving skills.
Specific Educational Objectives and Learning Outcomes (additional info.)	
Assessment	Oral exam
Evaluation Criteria	The oral examination assesses the following: - the relevance and depth of the knowledge acquired; - clarity of presentation and appropriate use of terminology; - argumentative skills; - critical analysis.
Required Readings	**Greve, B. (Ed.). (2022).** *The Routledge Handbook of the Welfare State* (2nd ed.). Routledge. (selected chapters). **G. Magno (2019).** Elementi di diritto minorile, Giuffrè, Milano.
Supplementary Readings	**Powell, M., Yörük, E., & Bargu, A. (Eds.). (2024).** *The Routledge International Handbook of Welfare State Systems*. Routledge. Borzaga, C., & Galera, G. (Eds.). (2023). *The New Frontiers of the Social Economy in Europe*. Moulaert, F., MacCallum, D., Mehmood, A., & Hamdouch, A. (2013). *The International Handbook on Social Innovation*. Greve, B. (2022). *Welfare and the Welfare State: Central Issues Now and in the Future*. Routledge.
Further Information	
Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	No poverty, Good health and well-being, Peace, justice and strong institutions, Gender equality, Reduced inequalities, Quality education

Course Module

Course Constituent Title	Actors and Processes in Welfare
Course Code	64227A
Scientific-Disciplinary Sector	GSPS-08/A
Language	English
Lecturers	dr. Alessandra Piccoli,

	Alessandra.Piccoli@unibz.it https://www.unibz.it/en/home/research/competence-centre-management-cooperatives/team/person//38540
Teaching Assistant	
Semester	First semester
CP	4
Responsible Lecturer	
Teaching Hours	24
Lab Hours	0
Individual Study Hours	76
Planned Office Hours	12
Contents Summary	This course provides an introduction to welfare systems, their evolution, governance, and contemporary challenges. Students explore the origins of welfare states, comparative welfare models, and key theories of social protection, citizenship, and social rights. The course examines the roles of the state, market, civil society, and social economy organisations in welfare provision, with particular attention to collaborative and multi-level governance. It analyses welfare policy design, service delivery, co-production, community-based approaches, participation, and social innovation. Contemporary transformations, including marketisation, demographic change, migration, digitalisation, and sustainability challenges, are critically discussed. Finally, students learn how to evaluate welfare systems through social impact assessment, equity, accessibility, quality, accountability, and governance frameworks, developing the analytical skills needed to understand future welfare developments.
Course Topics	Module 1. Understanding Welfare Systems - Origins and evolution of welfare states - Main welfare regimes and comparative welfare models - Welfare state theories and contemporary challenges - Social rights, citizenship and social protection Module 2. Welfare Actors and Governance - The state as welfare provider and regulator - Market actors and welfare provision - Civil society organisations and the third sector

	- Social economy and social enterprises in welfare systems - Multi-level and collaborative governance Module 3. Welfare Processes and Service Delivery - Welfare policy design and implementation - Co-production and co-design of public services - Integrated and community-based welfare - Participation, empowerment and social inclusion - Social innovation in welfare services Module 4. Current Transformations of Welfare - Welfare reforms and marketisation - Demographic change and ageing societies - Migration, diversity and welfare inclusion - Digitalisation and technological innovation in welfare - Sustainability and emerging welfare challenges Module 5. Evaluating Welfare Systems - Social impact and outcome measurement - Equity, accessibility and service quality - Welfare governance and accountability - Future perspectives for welfare systems
Teaching Format	Teaching methods will include: - Online lectures introducing key theoretical concepts and debates - Discussion of academic readings and policy documents - Case studies from national and international welfare systems - Group discussions and peer-learning activities - Student presentations on selected welfare topics - Guided analysis of welfare policies and organisational practices
Required Readings	**Greve, B. (Ed.). (2022).** *The Routledge Handbook of the Welfare State* (2nd ed.). Routledge. (selected chapters).
Supplementary Readings	**Powell, M., Yörük, E., & Bargu, A. (Eds.). (2024).** *The Routledge International Handbook of Welfare State Systems*. Routledge. Moulaert, F., MacCallum, D., Mehmood, A., & Hamdouch, A. (2013). *The International Handbook on Social Innovation*. Greve, B. (2022). *Welfare and the Welfare State: Central Issues Now and in the Future*. Routledge.

Course Module

Course Constituent Title	Juvenile Law
Course Code	64227B
Scientific-Disciplinary Sector	GIUR-14/A
Language	Italian
Lecturers	Prof. Kolis Summerer, kolis.summerer@unibz.it https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/education/academic-staff/person/27181
Teaching Assistant	
Semester	First semester
CP	4
Responsible Lecturer	
Teaching Hours	24
Lab Hours	0
Individual Study Hours	76
Planned Office Hours	12
Contents Summary	The course aims to provide an overview of the legal framework for the protection of children and the juvenile justice system. Following an examination of the relevant national, European, and international legal sources, the course analyses the fundamental legal institutions that shape the child protection system in the Italian legal system, with particular attention to emerging issues and the most significant challenges arising in legal practice.
Course Topics	- The legal framework governing children and families - Judicial authorities - The role of social services - The legal status and rights of the child - The family and family relationships - Parent–child relationships - Foster care and adoption - The juvenile justice system
Teaching Format	Lectures, guided classroom discussions, and analysis of practical cases.

Required Readings	G. Magno, Elementi di diritto minorile, Giuffrè, Milano, 2019 (selected chapters)
Supplementary Readings	