

# **Syllabus**

# Descrizione corso

Titolo insegnamento	Sviluppo e gestione di progetti e sostenibilità
Codice insegnamento	27609
Titolo aggiuntivo	
Settore Scientifico- Disciplinare	
Lingua	Inglese
Corso di Studio	Corso di laurea magistrale in Politiche Pubbliche e Governance innovativa
Altri Corsi di Studio (mutuati)	25556 Network Thinking and Agent-based modeling (LM-77 EI) / 47217 Project Development and Sustainability (LM-65, Faculty of Design)
Docenti	dr. Giacomo Buzzao, Giacomo.Buzzao@unibz.it
Assistente	
Semestre	Tutti i semestri
Anno/i di corso	2
CFU	12
Ore didattica frontale	36 + 36
Ore di laboratorio	-
Ore di studio individuale	
Ore di ricevimento previste	18 + 18
Sintesi contenuti	The course "Project Development and Sustainability" equips students with tools, methods, and approaches to design, manage, and innovate public sector projects and policies. Combining project management principles with design thinking, the course addresses key challenges such as budget constraints, stakeholder engagement, and the complexity of public administration. Students learn to plan, implement, monitor, and adapt projects that tackle sustainability and wicked problems, while applying user-centered approaches to develop innovative policy solutions. Practical activities, case studies, and project work strengthen skills in project



	leadership, risk management, and the creation of effective,
	sustainable, and citizen-responsive services.
Argomenti	The first module will address the following topics:
dell'insegnamento	- Key concepts of project management, project characteristics, and
	typologies
	- The project lifecycle and the relevance of projects in the public
	sector
	- Specificities of public sector projects: budgetary constraints and
	administrative complexity
	- Alternative development paradigms: complex issues in
	sustainability, equity, and systemic change
	- Addressing wicked problems and societal challenges through
	projects and programs
	- Project ideation, design, and planning: objective setting, work
	breakdown, and logical frameworks
	- Stakeholder and user engagement: mapping, managing, and
	involving stakeholders and end-users
	- The many roles of the project manager: leadership skills and
	team coordination
	- Risk and change management: identifying risks, managing
	change, and adapting to uncertainty
	- Scope, time, and budget control: managing deliverables,
	timelines, and public resources efficiently
	- Monitoring, evaluation, and learning: tools for tracking, assessing
	and improving project performance
	- Real and simulated project work, with input from local
	stakeholders
	The second module will address the following topics:
	- Introduction to Design Thinking
	- Empathy: Understanding User Needs in Public Services
	- Ideation: Generating Innovative Policy Solutions
	- Prototyping: Developing Tangible Policy Models
	- Testing: Assessing Solutions in Real-World Public Sector Contexts
	- Implementing Design Thinking in Public Administration
	- Sustainability in Design: Environmental and Social Considerations
Parole chiave	Project Management
	Design Thinking
	Sustainability

Insegnamenti propedeutici	
Modalità di insegnamento	The course combines frontal lectures, interactive discussions, case studies, and hands-on group work. Students will work in teams on a real-world challenge provided by local stakeholders, developing solutions that will be presented to stakeholders and policymakers at the end of the course. Guest seminars and workshops with practitioners from the public and Third Sector will enrich the learning experience.
Obbligo di frequenza	Attendance is recommended, but not mandatory.
Obiettivi formativi specifici e risultati di apprendimento attesi	
Obiettivi formativi specifici e risultati di apprendimento attesi (ulteriori info.)	
Modalità di esame	For Attending Students  1. Group Project Work and Presentation (50%) Students will collaborate in small groups to design a project based on a real or simulated challenge proposed by local stakeholders. Each group will present its work during a scheduled class session, including a session with the main stakeholders.  Deliverables include: A slide presentation and a summary report (both based on provided templates that will be available on OLE). These materials must be submitted 15 days before the final presentation.  The project grade reflects the collective effort of the group. To discourage free-riding, each group is encouraged to submit a shared statement confirming that all members actively contributed to the final deliverables.  The project work grade is valid for one academic year only and cannot be carried over beyond that period.



This exam will consist of multiple-choice questions and open-ended questions. The content will cover lectures, guest lectures, and assigned readings.

For Non-Attending Students

Written Exam (100%)

The exam will include:

- Questions covering course content
- An additional short essay question designed to critically reflect on and compensate for the practical experience gained by attending students through project work.

## **Important Notes:**

The assessment structure is the same for both Module 1 and Module 2. This means that students who attend lectures in both modules are required to complete a group project and sit a final written exam for each module. Students who do not attend either module will instead take two written exams—one for each module—and will not participate in any group project work. In cases where a student attends one module but not the other, they will complete the group project for the module they attended and take written exams for both modules.

#### Criteri di valutazione

Evaluation will be based on the following criteria:

**Group Project Work** 

#### Module 1

Clarity and Originality of the proposed solutions and project objectives

Feasibility of the project plan, including objectives and implementation strategies

Stakeholder Analysis and Engagement: Identification of key stakeholders and effectiveness of engagement strategies Project Scheduling: Logical and achievable timeline for project activities

Budget Planning: Appropriateness and accuracy of the financial



plan

Risk Management: Identification of potential risks and proposed mitigation strategies

### Module 2

Empathy and User Understanding: Depth of research and insight into user needs, especially in public service contexts

Ideation: Creativity and relevance of proposed policy or service innovations

Prototyping: Development of tangible models or frameworks to test ideas

Testing and Feedback: Use of real-world or simulated environments to assess solution effectiveness

Sustainability Considerations: Integration of environmental and

social sustainability into the project design

Implementation Strategy: Practicality and adaptability of applying design thinking in public administration settings

#### Individual Written Exam

The exam will assess each student's understanding and ability to apply concepts from :

### Module 1

Project Management Principles: Knowledge of core methodologies and tools

#### Module 2

Design Thinking Concepts: Understanding of empathy, ideation, prototyping, testing, and implementation

#### Module 1 & Module 2

Application to Public Sector Challenges: Ability to connect theory to real-world policy and service design

Critical Thinking and Reflexivity: Capacity to reflect on learning and evaluate the effectiveness of applied approaches

Integration of Sustainability: Awareness of environmental and social impacts in project and policy design

### Bibliografia obbligatoria

A list of required readings will be made available online.



Bibliografia facoltativa	
Altre informazioni	
Obiettivi di Sviluppo	Innovazione e infrastrutture, Partnership per gli obiettivi, Città e
Sostenibile (SDGs)	comunità sostenibili

# Modulo del corso

Titolo della parte costituente del corso	Progettazione e gestione di progetti
Codice insegnamento	27609A
Settore Scientifico- Disciplinare	SECS-P/08
Lingua	Inglese
Docenti	dr. Giacomo Buzzao, Giacomo.Buzzao@unibz.it
Assistente	
Semestre	
CFU	6
Docente responsabile	
Ore didattica frontale	36
Ore di laboratorio	-
Ore di studio individuale	
Ore di ricevimento previste	18
Sintesi contenuti	This module "Project Design and Management" provides principles, methods, and tools for designing, implementing, and monitoring projects of public interest. It addresses the main challenges of project management, including budget constraints, stakeholder engagement, and administrative complexity. A special focus is placed on managing projects that tackle complex societal issues such as sustainability and wicked problems. Students engage with real or simulated projects, developing practical skills in leadership, risk management, and project design and implementation.
Argomenti dell'insegnamento	The module will address the following topics:  - Key concepts of project management, project characteristics, and typologies  - The project lifecycle and the relevance of projects in the public



	sector - Specificities of public sector projects: budgetary constraints and administrative complexity - Alternative development paradigms: complex issues in sustainability, equity, and systemic change - Addressing wicked problems and societal challenges through projects and programs - Project ideation, design, and planning: objective setting, work breakdown, and logical frameworks - Stakeholder and user engagement: mapping, managing, and involving stakeholders and end-users - The many roles of the project manager: leadership skills and team coordination - Risk and change management: identifying risks, managing change, and adapting to uncertainty - Scope, time, and budget control: managing deliverables, timelines, and public resources efficiently - Monitoring, evaluation, and learning: tools for tracking, assessing, and improving project performance - Real and simulated project work, with input from local stakeholders
Modalità di insegnamento	The course combines frontal lectures, interactive discussions, case studies, and hands-on group work. Students will work in teams on a real-world challenge provided by local stakeholders, developing solutions that will be presented to stakeholders and policymakers at the end of the course. Guest seminars and workshops with practitioners from the public and Third Sector will enrich the learning experience.
Bibliografia obbligatoria	Suggested handbooks are:  Contemporary Project Management: Plan-Driven and Agile Approaches   5th Edition - Timothy Kloppenborg/Vittal S. Anantatmula/Kathryn Wells
Bibliografia facoltativa	Wicked Problems in Public Policy - Understanding and Responding to Complex Challenges



Open access here: https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-030-94580-0
Doughnut Economics: Seven Ways to Think Like a 21st-Century Economist Hardcover – International Edition, 2017 - Kate Raworth
Supplementary readings may be distributed and recommended to the students during class and on the course platforms.

# Modulo del corso

Titolo della parte costituente del corso	Strategie per soluzioni sostenibili: Design Thinking nei servizi pubblici
Costituente del Corso	pubblici
Codice insegnamento	27609B
Settore Scientifico-	SECS-P/08
Disciplinare	
Lingua	Inglese
Docenti	dr. Giacomo Buzzao,
	Giacomo.Buzzao@unibz.it
Assistente	
Semestre	
CFU	6
Docente responsabile	
Ore didattica frontale	36
Ore di laboratorio	-
Ore di studio individuale	
Ore di ricevimento previste	18
Sintesi contenuti	This module "Strategies for Sustainable Solutions: Design Thinking in Public Services" explores how design thinking can drive innovation in public services, focusing on user-centered policy solutions. Students learn key phases of design thinking—empathy,

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	ideation, prototyping, and testing—to address public sector challenges. Emphasis is placed on integrating sustainability principles into the design and delivery of public services. Through case studies and project work, participants develop practical skills to design effective, sustainable, and citizen-responsive solutions.
Argomenti	The module will address the following topics:
dell'insegnamento	- Introduction to Design Thinking
	- Empathy: Understanding User Needs in Public Services
	- Ideation: Generating Innovative Policy Solutions
	- Prototyping: Developing Tangible Policy Models
	- Testing: Assessing Solutions in Real-World Public Sector Contexts
	- Implementing Design Thinking in Public Administration
	- Sustainability in Design: Environmental and Social Considerations
Modalità di insegnamento	
	The course combines frontal lectures, interactive discussions, case
	studies, and hands-on group work. Students will work in teams on
	a real-world challenge provided by local stakeholders, developing
	solutions that will be presented to stakeholders and policymakers
	at the end of the course. Guest seminars and workshops with
	practitioners from the public and Third Sector will enrich the
	learning experience.
Bibliografia obbligatoria	A list of required readings will be made available online
Bibliografia facoltativa	Supplementary readings may be distributed and
	recommended to the students.