# Sociology of Inter-Ethnic Cohabitation

## Prof. Veronica Riniolo

***Text under revision. Not yet approved by academic staff.***

***COURSE AIMS AND INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES***

The aim of the course is to provide students with the historical, theoretical and conceptual knowledge for the sociological study of migration processes and inter-ethnic cohabitation, with a specific focus on the Italian and European contexts.

The Sociology of Inter-Ethnic Cohabitation course has the following teaching objectives:

1. Students acquire the basic theoretical, conceptual and categorical knowledge of the sociological study of migration processes, with particular reference to the contemporary context
2. Students acquire a broad and structured understanding of the topics, issues and problems connected with inter-ethnic cohabitation, with particular reference to the European and Italian contexts
3. Students are aware of the main differences, both theoretical and methodological, between the different sociological approaches to the phenomenon of migration and inter-ethnic cohabitation
4. Students acquire the ability to interpret migration and inter-ethnic cohabitation phenomena as complex and multidimensional processes.

Intended learning outcomes

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING

At the end of the course, students will have acquired the knowledge/understanding of:

1. The fundamental conceptual categories for the analysis of migration processes, linking them to theoretical frameworks and reference paradigms;
2. The main characteristics of immigration in Europe and Italy;
3. The role of migration in the broader social transformation process at local, national and transnational level;
4. The role of the institutional, political, legal framework in shaping inter-ethnic cohabitation, as well as its critical issues.

ABILITY TO APPLY KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING

At the end of the course, students will be capable of :

1. Interpreting and illustrating the complexity and multidimensionality of migration processes and inter-ethnic cohabitation;
2. Understanding the “social construction” of migrants and their identity;
3. Recognising in public, media and common discourse elements of ethnic prejudice, ethnocentrism, discrimination and racism;
4. Critical analysis of the issues at the heart of political debate regarding the arrival and presence of migrants;
5. Identifying the main sources of information and of data on the migration phenomenon;
6. Working in intercultural contexts, in particular with Unaccompanied Foreign Minors (UFMs), refugees, asylum seekers.

***COURSE CONTENT***

After having introduced the main conceptual categories for the study of migration and of inter-ethnic cohabitation, the course will go in depth into the following issues, paying particular attention to the integration of theoretical approaches with the most recent empirical evidence.

* Sociological perspective on contemporary migration: causes and types of migration; the different “categories” of migrants
* Migration policies and national models for the management of inter-ethnic cohabitation
* Integration or assimilation: an open debate
* The integration of migrants in Italy (education and employment)
* Ethnocentrism, stereotypes, prejudice, discrimination and racism
* In-depth study of selected topics: female migration, family reunification, Unaccompanied Foreign Minors (UFMs), second generations

***READING LIST***

Students will have to prepare the following materials

* L. Zanfrini, *Introduzione alla sociologia delle migrazioni,* Laterza, Rome-Bari, 2016. [*Purchase from VP*](about:blank)
* M. AMBROSINI, *Famiglie nonostante. Come gli affetti sfidano i confini*, Il Mulino, Bologna, 2019 (Chaps. 1, 2, 4)
* Lecture notes

***TEACHING METHOD***

Different teaching methods will be used during the course: frontal lectures, participatory lessons, in-depth group work to be presented during the course, both orally and in writing. Moreover, audio-visual projections are scheduled, to be followed by discussions.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

The exam will consist in a written test. The test will be structured as follows; 9 close-ended questions, for each of which students will get a maximum mark of 2/30 for a total of 18/30 and three open-ended questions, two of which are marked from 0/30 to 4/30 and the other from 0/30 to 5/30. Students will have 50 minutes to answer the exam questions.

Closed-ended questions are aimed at assessing the extent to which the study has been carried out in depth, while open-ended questions are designed to assess students’ accuracy in reporting content, their argumentative and reasoning skills and proficiency in the use of the technical-disciplinary lexicon.

Both closed- and open-ended questions will be based on the above-mentioned reading list.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

In order to attend the course, students are not required to have taken any preparatory exam or to have specific prerequisites.

*In case the current Covid-19 health emergency does not allow frontal teaching, remote teaching will be carried out following procedures that will be promptly notified to students.*

*Further information can be found on the lecturer’s webpage at http://docenti.unicatt.it/web/searchByName.do?language=ENGor on the Faculty notice board.*