**Sociology of Tourism**

## Prof. Valerio Corradi

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

***Course aims***

The course aims to provide students with the essential sociological theory and methods for studying of the diffusion and transformations of tourism in the post-modern era and the key knowledge and skills for interpreting and understanding the social, cultural and subjective shifts under way in contemporary tourism. There will be a particular focus on the study of changes in the way tourism is offered and practices in a global society characterised by the coexistence of risks (e.g. environmental criticalities, health emergencies, geopolitical tensions), new mobility tools and new sensitivities that radically change the tourist experience.

The first part will present the basic concepts and interpretative schemes of the sociology of tourism, reflecting on the latest trends in tourism. The second part will reflect on the many links between tourism, territorial development and sustainability research, encouraging students to take an individual approach to exploring one or more emerging issues.

***Intended learning outcomes***

*Knowledge and understanding*

By the end of the course, students will:

- know some specific concepts of the discipline applied to tourism;

- be able to use contemporary tourist analysis schemes and models;

- have a firm grasp of the main ways of interpreting tourism in the sociological field.

*Ability to apply knowledge and understanding*

By the end of the course, students will:

- understand the specific sociological focus of the main types of tourism;

- be able to set up case studies and research projects in simplified form to collect data and information useful for capturing trends in the sector;

- be able to contribute to projects monitoring tourism demand, and help set up projects to develop territorial supply.

***COURSE CONTENT***

SEMESTER 1:

The first part of the course will discuss some fundamental themes in the sociology of tourism against the background of the most important socio-cultural shifts shaping the tourist experience and its development:

- sociology as a scientific discipline: features and main issues;

- the social and cultural transformations of global society;

- the social dimensions of space, time and places and their transformations;

- the characteristics of contemporary subjective experience;

- the rise and downsizing of mass tourism;

- the main tourist classification schemes;

- social stratification and inequality in relation to tourism;

- authenticity and inauthenticity of the tourist experience;

- tourism in the global risk society and the emergence of post-tourism;

SEMESTER 2:

In the second part of the course, some emerging forms of tourism will be analysed from a sociological perspective, with a particular focus on their territorial dimension and links with wider sociocultural processes. Some of the main themes include:

- the pursuit of sustainability and accessible tourism;

- postmodern sensibilities and experiential tourism;

- rediscovery of the countryside and rural tourism;

- the promotion of typical products and food and wine tourism;

- territorial regeneration and rural-urban tourism.

***READING LIST***

1st part (Semester 1). Theories and basic concepts of the Sociology of Tourism:

N. Costa, *Lo sviluppo turistico. Teorie, strategie e gestione della conoscenza*, Wolters Kluwer, Milano 2021

Texts for reading:

V. Corradi, *Metamorfosi del turismo 4.0: tra razionalizzazione tecnologica e vacanze no-tech*, in G. Gregorini, R. Semeraro (eds.), *Turismo 4.0: storia, digitalizzazione, territorio*, Vita e Pensiero, Milano, 2021, pp. 165-181

V. Corradi, *Le sfide del turismo glocale*, in M. Caselli, V. Cesareo, V. Corradi, M. Taccolini (eds.), *Brescia e la sfida glocale*, Vita e Pensiero, Milano, 2021, pp. 135-143.

Z. Bauman, *La società dell’incertezza*, Il Mulino, Bologna, 1999 (Cap. 1 *Da pellegrino a turista*).

Further reading instructions will be provided by the lecturer during the course.

2nd part (Semester 2). Tourism, cultures and territories:

F. Corbisiero, *Manuale di ricerca sociale sul turismo*, Utet, Torino 2022 (the chapters under examination will be indicated during lectures)

One text to be chosen from among:

S. Baldin, M. Zago (eds.), *Luoghi dell'anima, anime in cammino. Riflessioni su eredità culturale e turismo religioso,* Franco Angeli, Milano 2017

V. Corradi, M. Zane (eds.), *Futurismi del Garda. Ambiente, cultura e qualità della vita nel sistema turistico benacense*, Liberedizioni, Brescia 2022

P. Corvo, G. Fassino (eds.), *Viaggi enogastronomici e sostenibilità,* Franco Angeli, Milano 2018

D. De Masi, *L' età dell'erranza. Il turismo del prossimo decennio,* Marsilio, Milano 2018

E. Ercole, *Turismo rurale. Sviluppo locale, sostenibilità, autenticità, emozioni,* Franco Angeli, Milano 2019

R. Galdini, *Palcoscenici urbani. Il turista urbano e le sue architetture*, Liguori, Napoli 2012

M. Gilli, *Turismo e identità*, Liguori, Napoli 2015

N. Krivokapić, I. Jovanović (Eds), *Slow and Fast Tourism: Travellers, Local Communities, Territories, Experiences,* Univerzitet Crne Gore, 2022

A. Maturo, F. Setiffi, *Gli aspetti sociali del wellness,* Franco Angeli, Milano 2021

S. Monaco, *Sociologia del turismo accessibile,* PM Edizioni, Milano 2016

E. Nocifora, P. De Salvo, V. Calzati (eds.), *Territori lenti e turismo di qualità. Prospettive innovative per lo sviluppo di un turismo sostenibile,* Franco Angeli, Milano 2011

R. Salvatore, E. Chiodo, (eds.), *Non più e non ancora.* *Le aree fragili tra conservazione ambientale, cambiamento sociale e sviluppo turistico,* Franco Angeli, Milano 2017

***TEACHING METHOD***

Classroom lectures, individual in-depth studies and group work. In particular, students will be invited, during the year, to analyse individually or in groups several topics indicated by the lecturer and, subsequently, to present their contents in class or in the form of a paper.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

Semester 1: after the end of lectures, students will be able to take an optional interim oral interview on the contents of the text by N. Costa indicated in the Reading List.

Semester 2: Students’ level of preparation will be verified by an oral exam which will include three questions on the content of the text chosen by the student. As an alternative to presenting their chosen text, students can write a paper on a subject and in a manner to be agreed with the lecturer. The paper will be assessed by means of an oral exam.

The assessment, both of the interim and final oral tests, will be based on the relevance and correctness of the answers given with respect to the questions; particular importance will be attributed to students' knowledge of the correct definition and appropriate use of the concepts studied and, more generally, of the specific reference terminology during the tests.

The final mark will be expressed out of thirty. If a student takes the interim oral test, their final mark will be based on the arithmetic average between the mark achieved in this and that of the oral interview on Semester 2 programme. If a student undertakes a single interview on the entire programme, the mark will still take into account the level of preparation on each of the two sections.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

There are no prerequisites for this course in terms of contents. Students with particular requirements can request tailored reading suggestions.

Further information can be found on the lecturer's webpage at http://docenti.unicatt.it/web/searchByName.do?language=ENG, or on the Faculty notice board.