Sociology of Cultural Processes

## Prof. Carla Lunghi

COURSE AIMS AND INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES

The course aims to provide students with:

* knowledge to observe and interpret today's society and organisational realities;
* tools to understand the complex cultural dynamics of social relations;
* theoretical and practical skills for interacting in complex cultural contexts such as organisational realities, in order to perform their professional psychological tasks with greater awareness.

The course will introduce the concepts, research and most significant issues in the contemporary sociological debate with particular reference to the sociology of culture.

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

1. use the specific lexicon of cultural sociology;
2. identify the cultural characteristics of social relationships, groups, networks and organisations;
3. analyse in detail, from the cultural perspective, a number of phenomena such as inequality, power, prison and poverty.

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

* *know and understand* the contents presented in their complexity, the interrelationship with the social context, and the culture of the various players involved;
* *apply their knowledge and understanding* by identifying the cultural drivers underlying the different identity practices (of individuals and groups);
* *make autonomous judgements* that allow them to look at emerging issues and challenges in social relations;
* *acquire communication skills* through the working group tool.

COURSE CONTENT

The following topics will be addressed:

* The specificity of the sociological approach
* Social relationships: groups, networks and organisations
* The decoding of culture
* Inequalities and power
* Social change
* The collaborative economy
* Poverty
* Prison.

READING LIST

Study of the materials uploaded on Blackboard (slides used in lectures)

* D. S. Hachen Jr., *La sociologia in azione. Come leggere i fenomeni sociali,* Carocci, Roma, 2015.
* M. Rahnema, *Quando la povertà diventa miseria*, Einaudi, Torino, 2005.

Un testo a scelta fra:

* C. Lunghi, *Creative Evasioni. Manifatture di moda in carcere*, Franco Angeli, Milano, 2012.
* C. Lunghi e M.A. Trasforini, *La precarietà degli oggetti. Estetica e povertà*, Donzelli, Roma, 2010.
* L. Bovone e C. Lunghi, *Italia creativa. Condivisione, Sostenibilità, Innovazione,* Donzelli, Roma, 2020.

TEACHING METHOD

Classes will take the form of frontal lectures, demonstrations and guided practical work.

During lectures, use will be made of explanatory slides. All material will be placed on Blackboard.

ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA

An oral exam.

Students will be assessed on their level of knowledge, their re-elaboration skills, and their ability to draw critical connections between the programme topics.

The following aspects will be subject to specific assessment during the oral interviews:

* the specific vocabulary used;
* the logical presentation of the topics;
* the correctness of conceptual connections;
* the ability to critically rework the topics.

NOTES AND PREREQUISITES

There are no prerequisites for attending the course. However, a degree of interest and intellectual curiosity regarding the study of society, social relations and cultural and organisational dynamics is assumed.

Students are advised to regularly consult the Blackboard platform (which each student must update with their usual e-mail address) for notices and updates.

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.