**Social Policy and Organisation of the Social Services**

## Prof. Giovanni Maria Gillini

**Module I Social Policy**

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

The aim of this module is to present various characteristics which define Social Policy, besides the building blocks and the main problems for carrying out reforms inherent in the Italian context, albeit without disregarding what is happening in other countries. Furthermore, the module intends to highlight the main limits of the Italian welfare system, also analysing in depth some specific proposals for change.

*Intended learning outcomes*

The purpose of the module is to propose contents which integrate the knowledge which students have acquired in other professional courses, beginning with the development of a legal framework for labour, health and social issues. This will help students understand social actions linked to the main sectoral policies.

At the end of the course, students should have acquired an adequate theoretical knowledge of Social Policy issues and related fields of application, together with a critical understanding of the present situation in our country, of the obstacles to the implementation of social rights, and of the possible reform paths capable of removing the most significant constraints.

***COURSE CONTENT***

The course will cover fundamental concepts on the subject of Social Policy, briefly going through the development stages of modern welfare systems in Europe and in Italy. Subsequently, the course will tackle the following three classic Social Policy areas, focusing on Social Risk Management response and the challenges posed by the present context: labour policies, health policies, social welfare policies.

Furthermore, the module will cover an innovative welfare perspective centred on the responsibility of the involved social parties. In the context of setting aside past models of welfare, due to their aid-based and bureaucratic approach, the course proposes a perspective in which the plurality of the involved social parties, networking, subsidiarity and the centrality of the individual, seen as an active and responsible stakeholder, prevail.

***READING LIST***

The reference texts for following lectures and for exam preparation are:

M. Ferrera, Le politiche sociali, Il Mulino, Bologna, 2019 (Chaps. I, III, IV, V and Glossary).

V. Cesareo, N. Pavesi (a cura di), Il welfare responsabile alla prova. Una proposta per la società italiana, Vita e Pensiero, Milan, 2020 (indicated parts).

Summary slides will be used during lectures which will be made available on the Blackboard platform.

***TEACHING METHOD***

The course adopts a participatory mode which aims at the direct involvement of students: students’ questions and remarks will be particularly appreciated as an opportunity for personal and group development.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

The course is divided into two (six-month) teaching modules, with a first module on “Social Policy” and a second module on the “Organisation of Social Services”. The final assessment will consist in a single mark, which will be the average of the marks of the two modules.

Students must take a written exam with multiple choice questions and open-ended questions. The maximum mark which is given for the written exam is 30/30. The best students will pass with honours. In order to pass the exam, students must get at least 18/30.

Students’ competences are assessed on the basis of the following criteria: knowledge of the topics presented during the course (from 0 to 15 points), clarity of presentation (0-8), relevance in argumentation (0-7).

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

In order to attend the course fruitfully, students should already have a basic knowledge of sociology, economics and law, in order to be able to put social policies into the context of the closest interdisciplinary relationships in which they are inserted.

### **Module II Organisation of Social Services**

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

The aim of this module, proposed jointly with the Social Policy module in the second year of the degree, is to provide future social workers with the basic tools to acquire and understand the organisational approaches and paradigms of social services.

The purpose of the course is to propose contents which integrate the knowledge which students have acquired in other professional courses, in order to facilitate the understanding of the organisation of social services, with specific reference to the competencies of the reference bodies and to the social services and social and healthcare services structures. It is considered that this will facilitate students’ understanding of the possible modes of responding to social needs and to requests from individuals and families.

Disciplinary knowledge includes the programming, organisation and assessment of social services. The first part of the module, designed to illustrate the sociocultural and social-institutional scenario within which the social services structures operate, will be complemented by a more in-depth analysis of Lombardy’s model of welfare.

*Intended learning outcomes*

At the end of the course, students will have acquired the awareness of the various interdependencies between needs, requests and response at community level. Moreover, students will be capable of applying the main interpretative paradigms to the social services and social and healthcare services structures that they will come across when they will operate as social workers.

***COURSE CONTENT***

1. Organisation of the social services:
   1. the postmodern sociocultural scenario;
   2. the social-institutional scenario.
2. Relationship between need- request-response.
3. Organisational models for social services
4. Interpretative paradigms of the social services structure.
5. Organisation, planning and assessment.
6. Brief outline on the organisation of social and healthcare services and of social services in Italy.
7. Lombardy’s organisational model of welfare and its reform paths:
   1. Development of Lombardy’s social and healthcare system (Regional Law. 22/21 and Consolidated Regional Law on the subject of health, Regional Law 33/09 and subsequent amendments and additions);
   2. management of the operational network and of personal services in the social services field (Regional Law 3/08 and subsequent amendments and additions).

***READING LIST***

Summary slides and study material will be used during lectures which will be made available on the Blackboard platform.

Adopted texts.

C.M. MOZZANICA, Servizi alla persona. Un’organizzazione (in) compiuta, Saronno, Monti 2000, 2nd revised and expanded ed. (for the exam: Part two pp. 157 -282)

C.M. MOZZANICA, Prendersi cura di tutta la vita e della vita di tutti. Itinerari socioeducativi e percorsi normativi, Monti Saronno 2010, pp. 680 (part one)

C. GORI (A CURA DI), l welfare delle riforme? Le politiche lombarde tra norme ed attuazione, Maggioli Editore 2018 (for the exam: Part one pp. 23 – 77).

Other recommended texts.

F. FOLGHERAITER, “Sorella crisi – La ricchezza di un welfare povero”, Trento, Erickson, 2012.

Non-attending students must also study the material provided during the course.

***TEACHING METHOD***

The course adopts a participatory mode which aims at the direct involvement of students: students’ questions and remarks will be particularly appreciated as an opportunity for personal and group development.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

The course is divided into two (six-month) teaching modules, with a first module on “Social Policy” and a second module on the “Organisation of Social Services”. The final assessment will consist in a single mark, which will be the average of the marks of the two modules.

The course includes possible interventions by experts.

In the oral exam, the students:

* will have to show that they have acquired the main keys to interpreting and are familiar with Lombardy’s regional organisation of Social Services;
* will have to submit, one week before the exam date, a brief paper on an organisation structure of social services of their choice, so that the lecturer may assess their ability to analyse its organisation, according to the model outline provided during the course; the purpose of this task is the practical application of the models and interpretative paradigms, on an organisation structure of social services that is known to students.

The short paper will not be marked separately, but, given its cross-cutting nature, with respect to the module’s topics, it is the starting point for the oral exam.

The final mark will be out of thirty; students’ competences are assessed on the basis of the following criteria: knowledge of the topics presented during the course (from 0 to 15 points), their correct application to an organisation structure of social services (0-8), relevance in argumentation (0-7).

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

As it is introductory, there are no knowledge prerequisites for students to attend the course, other than those related to first year lectures. Nevertheless, it is assumed that students have an interest in structured and organised responses to the needs of individuals and families.

More detailed information on the parts of the recommended texts of specific interest for the course, bibliographic and additional study material, will be provided by the teacher during the lessons and on the Blackboard platform.

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.