# Sociology of Territorial Systems and Innovation

## Prof. Ilaria Beretta

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

The course aims to introduce students to the study of the socio-economic aspects of the territorial systems in which administrative and government action is carried out, by providing them with the analytical tools necessary for a correct interpretation of the phenomena considered.

At the end of the course, students will be able to understand, analyse and interpret the multidimensionality of the territorial systems.

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING

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

* Recognise the complex and multidimensional dynamics of territorial systems;
* Understand the interconnection between the different components of the territory;
* Understand the qualitative and quantitative analyses of territorial phenomena.

ABILITY TO APPLY KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING

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

* Analyse and interpret the specific social, economic and institutional forms that characterise the territories;
* Interpret reports and studies produced by national and international agencies and research centres, by public and private entities that deal with the development and sustainability of the territory;
* Use social research methodology tools by applying them to the study of the territory.

***COURSE CONTENT***

The course focuses on the analysis of the dynamics, the actors, the processes that characterise the territorial contexts, with particular reference to the European, Italian and Lombardian contexts. The course is aimed at providing students with the knowledge and skills necessary for the correct interpretation of the changing and complex phenomena that occur in the territories.

Main contents: sociological theories of space and territory, sustainable planning of the territory, participatory planning, social innovation practices, safety and resilience of territories, brief overview of methodology of research in the territory.

***READING LIST***

The detailed list of readings and the reading list required for the exam preparation will be illustrated to the students at the start of the course and made available on the Blackboard platform. The Blackboard platform will also be the tool for communicating timetables changes, information on exams, any syllabus changes and more. All students (attending and non-attending, within or out of the university exam prescribed time) are invited to register on the Blackboard page of the course and keep up to date.

***TEACHING METHOD***

Classroom lectures, practical exercises, discussion of current issues, invitation to seminars with external experts.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

The assessment consists of a written test with open-ended questions (definitions, analyses and applications of the topics addressed). Students will have to demonstrate their knowledge and ability to rework the key concepts covered in the course (or in the specified reading list).

The final mark is on a thirty-point scale. The following aspects will be assessed:

* knowledge of the fundamental sociological concepts and categories for the study of territorial phenomena (40%);
* command of the language (25%);
* reasoning skills in relation to the questions asked (35%).

Attending students may take interim tests, the assessment of which will contribute to the final outcome.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

There are no prerequisites for attending the course.

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.