# Sociology of development

## Prof. Giancarlo Rovati

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

The course aims to present the contribution of sociological reflection to the debate on human development, through the analysis of the main theoretical paradigms and contemporary transformations connected to the processes of globalization, climate change and international migration. Specific in-depth studies will cover: the problem of relative and absolute poverty in Italian and European context and to law enforcement policies; the relationship between development, freedom and democracy; the comparative analysis of achieved goals in the framework of the *“Sustainable Development Goals*” set by the UN for 2016-2030, both nationally and internationally; the understanding of the indicators used for the analysis of the multidimensional processes.

*Intended learning outcomes*

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

- Know the theoretical paradigms used to understand and explain development in its multidimensional aspects.

- Apply the theoretical paradigms for the comparative analysis of relations between more developed countries and developing countries, as well as between development in modern urban and backward rural contexts.

- Develop a critical and reflective attitude on policies to fight poverty in situations characterized by abundance or scarcity of economic, social and organizational resources.

- Develop a critical and reflective attitude on the collaboration between the political system (state), market (profit-making enterprises) and organized civil society (third sector) considering greater individual and collective well-being.

- Understand and analyse statistical sources and empirical research results related to Sustainable Development Goals.

- Develop tools to measure needs, by processing and analysing collected data in the context of specific exercises carried out in the class.

- Work in group and present their learning path in a final written essay.

***COURSE CONTENT***

General part

1. Development and under-development: problems related to conceptual definitions.

2. Theories of development and theoretical paradigms.

3. Inequality, poverty, social marginalisation.

4. Well-being, freedom, democracy.

5. The social basics of development: enterprise, co-operation, subsidisation.

6. Globalisation and human rights.

Thematic analysis

*Poverty, nutrition, SDG’s.*

1. Food poverty in Italy.

2. Sustainable Development Goals for 2016-2030.

***READING LIST***

General reading:

G. Scidà, *Avventura e disavventura della sociologia dello sviluppo,* F. Angeli, Milano, 2007 (new ed.).

Una Lettera Enciclica a scelta tra:

Papa Paolo Vi, ***Populorum Progressio***,1967, (**All chapters). Text reachable in:**

[http://www.vatican.va/content/paul-vi/it/encyclicals/documents/hf\_p-vi\_enc\_26031967 populorum.html](http://www.vatican.va/content/paul-vi/it/encyclicals/documents/hf_p-vi_enc_26031967%20populorum.html)

Papa Francesco, ***Laudato Si,*** 2015 **(Chapters 1, 3, 4) - Text reacheable in:** <http://www.vatican.va/content/dam/francesco/pdf/encyclicals/documents/papa-francesco_20150524_enciclica-laudato-si_it.pdf>

A. Sen, *Lo sviluppo è libertà. Perché non c’è crescita senza democrazia,* Mondadori, Milano, 2000 (chapters. 1, 3, 4, 6-9, 12).

G. Rovati-L. Pesenti (a cura di), *Food poverty, Food bank. Aiuti alimentari e inclusione sociale*. Vita e Pensiero, Milano, 2015.

Undp, *The Sustainable Development Goals Report* *2021*, United Nations, 2022.

Istat, *Rapporto SDGs* *2022*. *Informazioni statistiche per l’Agenda 2030 in Italia, Roma*

Further reading and documents may be indicated during the course.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

Written and oral exams, with the option of an interim written test for attending students. Admission to the interim written test is reserved for students who have attended at least 60% of the lectures taught in the first semester. The exam focuses on the first of the basic textbooks.

The evaluation of the interim written test is out of thirty and contributes to the final mark.

The written tests include:

- open questions and a short essay to write in a set time on topics covered in the textbooks indicated during the course and studied in-depth during lectures;

- the elaboration (by choice) of individual texts on topics studied during the lectures.

The oral exams include open questions on topics covered in the texts indicated during the course and studied in-depth during lectures.

For those who have successfully passed the interim written test, the final exam will be oral with a final mark (out of thirty) calculated as the average of the marks obtained in the interim written test and oral exam.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

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

The course takes the form of an applied sociology course. Therefore, prior knowledge of fundamental concepts and authors of the discipline is required.

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.