# Sociology

## Prof. Marco Lombardi

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

The aim of the course is to teach students how to understand and analyse basic social processes using the conceptual and empirical tools of sociology. In particular, at the end of the course, students must be able to: demonstrate knowledge of the principal theories of sociology and understanding of the works of the authors studied; and use the data to develop independent interpretations of the phenomena described in a professionalising context and from a perspective of “problem solving".

Intended learning outcomes are as follows:

* knowledge and understanding: students must demonstrate basic knowledge of the theories of sociology and the issues at the heart of their historical and contemporary development;
* applying knowledge and understanding: students must demonstrate their ability to apply theories and sociological methods to minor social issues;
* independent judgement: students must demonstrate that they have acquired a capacity for analysis and original thinking in approaching the issues covered on the course, particularly as regards cases and materials discussed in class;
* communication skills: students must be able to integrate clearly-explained concepts and sociological terminology into well-structured discourse with effective use of language;
* learning: students must demonstrate that they understand the main features of the various sociological approaches, as well as their similarities and differences.

***COURSE CONTENT***

The course will take a systematic look at the development of sociological thinking by studying leading classical and contemporary writers. Lectures will also cover a number of emerging topics in present-day sociology, concentrating on issues like globalization, migration flows etc., which will be examined in greater depth through special bibliographical aids.

***READING LIST***

A. Izzo, *Storia del pensiero sociologico. Volume II - I Classici,* Il Mulino, Bologna, 2005.

A. Izzo, *Storia del pensiero sociologico. Volume III - I Contemporanei,* Il Mulino, Bologna, 2005.

Possible texts to be chosen from those identified by the lecturer during the course and listed on the course *Blackboard* page.

Lecture notes and further reading available on the course *Blackboard* page constitute an integral part of the exam syllabus.

***TEACHING METHOD***

The course will be delivered by means of frontal lectures.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

The exam is carried out in oral form. They will be assessed on their knowledge and skills as follows: 1) learning: verification and assessment of knowledge acquired through a discussion on the main theories and methods studied; 2) analysis: verification of the ability to analyse and critically interpret contents and knowledge acquired; 3) argumentation: use of subject-specific vocabulary and code. The final mark will reflect learning (50% of the mark), analysis (30% of the mark) and argumentation (20%).

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

As it is introductory in nature, this course has no prerequisites.

Attendance is strongly recommended. Syllabus updates, reading material, instructions and other documents will be published on the course *Blackboard* page. Changes to the timetable, information on the exams etc. will be communicated via *Blackboard* and the students’ university email address.

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.