

**Bachelor in SOCIOLOGY**  
**Course of Sociological Theories**  
**2024-25, 1st year, 2nd Semester, ECTS 8, 48 hours**  
**Prof. Umberto Pagano**

<b>Course Information</b>	Course of Sociological Theories, Bachelor in Sociology, 8 ECTS, accademic year 2021/2022, 1st Year, 2nd Semester.
<b>Professor Information</b>	Umberto Pagano, PhD, Researcher at Department of Law, Economic and Sociology. Student reception: after lessons or to be agreed upon request via e-mail: <a href="mailto:umberto.pagano@unicz.it">umberto.pagano@unicz.it</a>
<b>Course Description</b>	The course aims to introduce students to sociological theory, or rather to some fundamental sociological theories, highlighting their possible interconnections. A brief but exhaustive overview of the theoretical systematization of the Discipline will be presented, from its origins up to the most recent developments, from " <i>grand theories</i> " by "classical" Authors to theories of globalization and postmodernity.
<b>Course objectives and expected learning outcomes</b>	<p>The aim of the course is to frame the historical, scientific and social context in which Sociology was born and evolved, so to analyze the relevant features of the main "classical" and contemporary sociological theories.</p> <p><b>Knowledge and understanding:</b> Students acquire knowledge of the fundamental theoretical (microsociological and macrosociological) and historical categories of the Discipline, at appropriate level to understand their specificity and "value".</p> <p><b>Applied knowledge and understanding (i.e., the ability to apply knowledge and understanding):</b> Students are able to interpret and discuss the main sociological theories, to frame them in the historical and social context of reference, to recognize their contribution to the evolution of the Discipline and the links between them. They are also able to consciously argue about them, making appropriate references.</p> <p><b>Autonomy of judgment:</b> Students develop critical knowledge that allows them to critically and consciously read and analyze the main sociological theories.</p> <p><b>Communication skills:</b> Students acquire the specific language of sociological theory, the correct use of the categories and lexicon of the Discipline.</p> <p><b>Learning skills:</b> Students improve their ability to approach sociological reflection and the historical and methodological framework of the most significant exponents of the Discipline.</p>
<b>Program (contents, methods of development);</b>	<p>Main topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Introduction to sociological theory.</li> <li>- Classical theories, through the work of some leading authors of reference: Durkheim, Marx, Weber, Simmel, Veblen, Mead.</li> <li>- Modern and contemporary "<i>Grand Theories</i>": structural-functionalism, the functional theory of stratification and its critics;</li> </ul>

	<p>conflict theory, systems theory, neo-Marxian theory, critical theory.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Theories of daily life</i>: symbolic interactionism, dramaturgical approach, ethnomethodology, social exchange theory, rational choice theory.</li> <li>- Contemporary integrative theories, contemporary feminist theories.</li> <li>- Postmodern approaches and theories of globalization: the transition from industrial society to post-industrial society, growing governmentality, interpretations of postmodernity, dromology.</li> <li>- Some major contemporary theorists: Giddens, Beck, Bauman, Baudrillard.</li> </ul>																				
<b>Estimate of the commitment required for individual study in terms of hours</b>	Approximately 150 ore																				
<b>Teaching methods</b>	Frontal lesson, cooperative learning.																				
<b>Learning resources (recommended textbooks, further recommended reading, other educational material)</b>	<p>George Ritzer, <i>Teoria sociologica. Radici classiche e sfide contemporanee</i>, Apogeo Education - Maggioli Editore, 2012 (Original: <i>Contemporary sociological theory and its classic roots</i>, 3rd edition, McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc.)</p> <p>During the lessons further readings will be recommended in order to deepen some issues.</p>																				
<b>Support Activities</b>	Within reception activities.																				
<b>Modality of Attendance</b>	Attendance is not compulsory but strongly recommended.																				
<b>Modality of Assessment</b>	<p>The final exam will be held orally.</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;">Grade</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Knowledge and understanding of the topic</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Ability to analyze and synthesize</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Use of references</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Fail</td> <td>Severe shortcomings and inaccuracies</td> <td>Irrelevant. Frequent generalizations. Inability to synthesize</td> <td>Completely inappropriate</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">18-20</td> <td>Sufficient. Important shortcomings.</td> <td>Sufficient capabilities</td> <td>Sufficient</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">21-23</td> <td>Basic Knowledge</td> <td>The student is capable of correct analysis and synthesis, argues logically and consistently</td> <td>The student uses standard references</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">24-26</td> <td>Satisfactory.</td> <td>The student</td> <td>The student</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Grade	Knowledge and understanding of the topic	Ability to analyze and synthesize	Use of references	Fail	Severe shortcomings and inaccuracies	Irrelevant. Frequent generalizations. Inability to synthesize	Completely inappropriate	18-20	Sufficient. Important shortcomings.	Sufficient capabilities	Sufficient	21-23	Basic Knowledge	The student is capable of correct analysis and synthesis, argues logically and consistently	The student uses standard references	24-26	Satisfactory.	The student	The student
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			Good knowledge	has good analysis and synthesis skills. The arguments are expressed consistently	uses standard references
		27-29	Very Good	The student has considerable skills in analysis and synthesis	The student deepened the topics of the exam
		30-30L	Excellent	The student has excellent analysis and synthesis skills	Important insights