

ID

TM35_DIP_SSST

Teach Mob – Visiting Professors

Academic year 2016/2017

2 nd Term
<p>COURSE TITLE What is a public issue?</p>
<p>Scientific area SPS/04</p>
<p>Department of Cultures, Politics and Society (for the Scuola di Studi Superiori “Ferdinando Rossi”)</p>
<p>Language used to teach: English</p>
<p>Teaching Commitment: 20 hours</p>
<p>Course summary This course is designed for upper-level Master studies in Comparative Politics, International Relations and International Law, Sociology, Political communication. It intends to analyse the complex entrepreneurial action through which an issue becomes publicly relevant. Several actors are involved in transforming a given problematic situation in an issue which is worth to be treated by public authorities: an issue must be identified, framed, justified, popularized, before becoming the subject of a public policy. <i>Main course topics include:</i> Introduction to Public Policy. The Actors of public policies. The role of journalists, experts, academics, think tanks, civil servants, interest groups, civil society, social movements, political actors, law makers, etc.</p>
<p>Learning objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – To illustrate the various research traditions on the subject, – To provide a coherent definition of the actors which can be involved in raising a public issue, – To consider how actors operate: their aims, means of influence, tactics and strategies, their interactions, struggles, negotiations, deals, – To investigate differences between various national settings, – To compare different policy domains, – To understand what are the stakes of a process of issue building.
<p>Tutorship activities By the end of the course, with the help of tutor, the students are expected to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Know the major concepts involved in a sociological analysis of public issues and policies; – Be able to discuss and reproduce these concepts, be able to find relations between them and analyze them; – Discuss some key issues on the agenda of contemporary democracies; – Be able to recognize public issues and to critically consider their construction process; – Be able to apply those analytical tools to various stages of policy process and to various institutions; – Be able to identify the different actors that are involved in such a process; – Be able to identify and analyze targets, decision-makers, actors involved in decision-making, their motives, strategies and methods.
<p>Lab activities <i>Individual student work & recommendations for effective learning</i> - Because this course is interactive,</p>

including lectures, group work, class discussion, etc. students are expected to be involved in active learning and prepare individual and group presentations. The readings are demanding and require intensive examination of a broad variety of issues and modes of thought. Students are encouraged to express diverse perspectives. Students are likely to encounter strong opinions and it is inevitable that at least some of these opinions can sound new and uncomfortable. Students are expected to strike a healthy balance between arguing their own position on these issues, listening to others, and helping the class as a collectivity to explore how the authors that you read defend their approaches. They should articulate ideas, concerns, arguments, critical questions and responses without alienating or marginalizing anyone.

Other activities besides the course: i.e. seminars and conferences addressed to PhD students and research fellows, dissemination conferences

Visiting Professor Profile

University Professor. Large research experience.

Teaching areas: Political Science, Philosophy and Theory of Human Rights, Political Sociology, Political Communication,

Research areas: interest and politics, think tanks and knowledge governance, journalism, media and social movements,

An experience as visiting professor in international universities and research institutions will be highly appreciated.

Contact person at the Department

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