

SCHEDA INSEGNAMENTO DI

COMPARATIVE CAPITALISM. CRITICAL AND GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES

CdS LM- 52- International Relations – academic year 2021-2022

Course Title	Comparative Capitalism. Critical and Global Perspectives
Course Programme	International Relations
ECT	8
Class Attendance	Not compulsory
Language	English

Professor	Lidia Greco
Email Address	Lidia.greco@uniba.it

ETC Details	Disciplinary field	Sub-Field	ETC
	Sociology	SPS/09	8

Course Organization	
Semester	I Semester
Programme year	II year
Teaching method	Taught class (Lecture) Possible on-Line lecture

Teaching Organization	
Total number of hours	200
Class hours	64
Individual studying hours	136

Course Schedule	
Course Start	September 2021
Course End	December 2021

Syllabus	<p>The course introduces comparative research and debates on contemporary capitalism. It focuses on approaches that conceptualize different models of capitalism in advanced and peripheral capitalist countries; it also examines the relative and dynamic role of institutions and interest groups as well as historical path dependence dynamics that constitute, reproduce and change these models. The course presents additionally global and critical approaches to comparative capitalism which pay attention, among others, to economic and institutional interdependencies, to asymmetric power relations, to the distribution of resources, inequalities, and dependency relationships. It will appreciate therefore the contribution of a variety of perspectives which, from different angles, conceive capitalism as a unitary, globally integrated system, whose dynamics necessarily transcend national borders and whose institutionalization is "heterogeneous" rather than contained in discrete models of national capitalisms.</p> <p>The first part of the course analyses the influential "Varieties of Capitalism" approach, its critics and attempts to include experiences beyond advanced capitalist countries. The second part is devoted to critical and global perspectives on capitalism, focusing on specific themes of investigation, such as global production networks, feminist studies platform and finance capitalism.</p>
Prerequisites	Sociology; Economic Sociology.
Learning Outcomes	<p>This course introduces students to the key concepts, theories and issues in the study of capitalism. It surveys the interplay between economics and societies especially in the advanced industrial democracies by providing students with concrete knowledge of existing variations in key areas of economic policy making and their different economic, political and social outcomes. Through the review of classical theories of capitalism, students will be also able to discuss the fixed elements in the development of modern capitalism and what makes peculiar its contemporary forms. They will also acquire specific awareness of some of the critical issues influencing the present intellectual and political debate, such as inequality, globalization, financialization, etc.</p> <p>By the end of the course the students will be able to demonstrate intellectual, transferable and practical skills. In particular they will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate the knowledge of key concepts, theories and issues in the study of capitalism • Critically engage with theoretical stances by assessing the strengths and limitations of their analytical insights • Utilise the skills involved in scholarly enquiry to develop analytical and critical thinking and creative problem solving. • Develop autonomous critical and analytical skills for the resolution of concrete problems • Through participation in seminar activities and the preparation of papers, students will be stimulated to practice and acquire communication and relational skills • Finally, the course aims to provide students with knowledge and experience skills necessary to continue with educational path.

Course Content	The first part of the course includes sessions 1 to 4, while the second one includes sessions 5 to 8.
Course Subjects and Readings	<p>Session 1 -Introduction</p> <p>Streeck, Wolfgang (2012) How to Study Contemporary Capitalism? <i>European Journal of Sociology/Archives Européennes de Sociologie</i> 53(1), pp. 1-28.</p> <p>Session 2 – Varieties of Capitalism</p> <p>Hall Peter, Soskice David (2001) Introduction. In Hall, Peter A. and David Soskice, eds. <i>Varieties of Capitalism: The Institutional Foundations of Comparative Advantage</i>. Oxford, Oxford University Press, pp. 1-44.</p> <p>Coates David (2015) Varieties of Capitalism and ‘the Great Moderation’. In Ebenau, M., Bruff, I. May, C. <i>New Directions in Comparative Capitalisms Research</i>. Palgrave McMillan. Chapter 1, pp. 11-27.</p> <p>Session 3 – Peripheral and Eastern Capitalisms</p> <p>Andreas Nölke, Arjan Vliegthart (2007) Enlarging the Varieties of Capitalism: The Emergence of Dependent Market Economies in East Central Europe. <i>World Politics</i>, 61 (4), pp. 670-702.</p> <p>Featherstone, Kevin (2008) “Varieties of capitalism” and the Greek case: Explaining the Constraints on Domestic Reform? GreeSE Paper No 11, Hellenic Observatory Papers on Greece and Southeast Europe, LSE.</p> <p>Triglia, Carlo, Burroni, Luigi (2009) Italy: Rise, Decline and Restructuring of a Regionalized Capitalism. <i>Economy and Society</i> 38 (4), pp. 630-653.</p> <p>Session 4 - Capitalisms and Capitalism</p> <p>Streeck, Wolfgang (2010) <i>E Pluribus Unum? Varieties and Commonalities of Capitalism</i>. MPIfG Discussion Paper MPIfG Discussion Paper 10/12. Cologne: Max Planck Institut für Gesellschaftsforschung. https://papers.ssrn.com/abstract=1805522.</p> <p>Session 5 – Global Perspectives</p> <p>Gereffi, Gary (2005) The Global Economy: Organization, Governance, and Development. <i>The Handbook of Economic Sociology</i>, pp. 160-182.</p> <p>Selwyn, Benjamin (2012) Beyond Firm-Centrism: Re-integrating Labour and Capitalism into Global Commodity Chain Analysis. <i>Journal of Economic Geography</i> 12(1), pp. 205-226.</p> <p>Bair, Jennifer, Werner, Marion (2011) <i>Commodity Chains and the Uneven Geographies of Global Capitalism: A Disarticulations Perspective</i>. pp. 988-997.</p>

	<p>Session 6 – Critical Perspectives</p> <p>Fraser, Nancy (2014) Behind Marx's Hidden Abode. For an Expanded Conception of Capitalism, <i>New Left Review</i>, pp. 55-72</p> <p>Moore, Jason (2017) World Accumulation and Planetary Life or Why Capitalism Will Not Survive until the 'Last Tree is Cut, <i>MASYARAKAT Jurnal Sosiologi</i> , 24(2), 259-285</p> <p>Session 7 - Finance Capitalism</p> <p>Milberg William (2008) Shifting sources and uses of profits: sustaining US financialization with global value chains. <i>Economy and Society</i> 37(3), pp. 420-451</p> <p>Lazonick Walter, O' Sullivan Mary (2000) Maximising Shareholder Value: a new Ideology for Corporate Governance. <i>Economy and Society</i>, 29(1), pp. 13-35.</p> <p>Session 8 – Platform Capitalism</p> <p>Langley, Paul, Leyshon, Andrew (2017) Platform Capitalism: the Intermediation and Capitalisation of Digital Economic Circulation. <i>Finance and Society</i>. 3(1), pp. 11-31.</p> <p>Vallas S. (2019) Platform Capitalism: What's at Stake for Workers? <i>New Labor Forum</i>, 28(1), pp. 48–59.</p>
Note ai testi di riferimento	The detailed class schedule will be delivered during the introductory session and then published on the course web-page. Required readings will be made available to students in PDF format (c/o Library of Political Sciences, 6 th floor, Mrs. Malerba; mariagiuseppa.malerba@uniba.it).
Teaching Methods	Lectures, paper presentations, class tutorship, case studies analyses
Assessment methods	<p>Attending students:</p> <p>Class Discussion (25%)</p> <p>Weekly Quote Selection from Readings ... (25%)</p> <p>Final Paper (50%)</p> <p>Students are expected to engage actively in class discussions. In addition, one day before each session (24 hours prior), students will email lidia.greco@uniba.it a quote from one of the readings and a brief question or comment prompted by the quote. Submitted quotes and questions/comments will be discussed and students should be prepared to elaborate on what intrigued them about their selection.</p> <p>For the final paper (3000 words), students will analyse a particular aspect or a phenomenon that interests them and formulate a specific research question. They will then give an explanatory argument addressing the research question, applying the course readings together with additional bibliographical references. Research questions will be approved by professor Greco</p> <p>Final papers are due by Mid-December 2021.</p>

	<p>Non Attending students:</p> <p>Written exam.</p> <p>Students will be required to answer a number of questions on the course programme in an extended form.</p>
<p>Assessment criteria</p>	<p>During the course, students' active participation to the discussion and attitude to critically engage with the topics presented will be constantly assessed. Their ability to carry out small researches and present the relevant results in class will be also assessed during specifically dedicated 'class discussion' sessions.</p> <p>During the final examination, students should prove their familiarity with the course contents, showing in particular their knowledge of the main trends in contemporary capitalist development.</p>
<p>Assessment committee</p>	<p>Prof. Lidia Greco (President), Patrizia Calefato, Roberto Varricchio (Members)</p>