

General information	
Academic subject	Comparative Capitalism. Critical and Global Perspectives
Degree course	International Relations
Academic Year	Second Year
European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS) 8	
Language	English
Academic calendar (starting and ending date)	I semester – September – December 2022
Attendance	Not Compulsory but recommended

Professor/ Lecturer	
Name and Surname	Lidia Greco
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Department and address	Corso Italia 23- Ground Floor
Virtual headquarters	Microsoft Teams
Tutoring (time and day)	Wednesday h. 11.30-12.30

Syllabus	
Learning Objectives	The course aims to provide a solid preparation for the analysis of the capitalist system both in a comparative way and as a single system of social relations. At the end students will need to master theoretical concepts and their concrete application. They will also need to supply connections among the concepts and the contents of the course.
Course prerequisites	Sociology; Economic Sociology.
Contents	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 the regulation of 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.
Books and bibliography	<p>Session 1 -Introduction 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 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>



Coates David (2015) Varieties of Capitalism and 'the Great Moderation'. In Ebenau, M., Bruff, I. May, C. *New Directions in Comparative Capitalisms Research*. Palgrave McMillan. Chapter 1, pp. 11-27.

Session 3 – Peripheral and Eastern Capitalisms

Andreas Nölke, Arjan Vliegthart (2007) Enlarging the Varieties of Capitalism: The Emergence of Dependent Market Economies in East Central Europe. *World Politics*, 61 (4), pp. 670-702.

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.

Triglia, Carlo, Burrone, Luigi (2009) Italy: Rise, Decline and Restructuring of a Regionalized Capitalism. *Economy and Society* 38 (4), pp. 630-653.

Session 4 - Capitalisms and Capitalism

Streeck, Wolfgang (2010) *E Pluribus Unum? Varieties and Commonalities of Capitalism*. MPIfG Discussion Paper MPIfG Discussion Paper 10/12. Cologne: Max Planck Institut für Gesellschaftsforschung. <https://papers.ssrn.com/abstract=1805522>.

Session 5 – Global Perspectives

Gereffi, Gary (2005) The Global Economy: Organization, Governance, and Development. *The Handbook of Economic Sociology*, pp. 160-182.

Selwyn, Benjamin (2012) Beyond Firm-Centrism: Re-integrating Labour and Capitalism into Global Commodity Chain Analysis. *Journal of Economic Geography* 12(1), pp. 205-226.

Bair, Jennifer, Werner, Marion (2011) *Commodity Chains and the Uneven Geographies of Global Capitalism: A Disarticulations Perspective*. pp. 988-997.

Session 6 – Critical Perspectives

Fraser, Nancy (2014) Behind Marx's Hidden Abode. For an Expanded Conception of Capitalism, *New Left Review*, pp. 55-72

Moore, Jason (2017) World Accumulation and Planetary Life or Why Capitalism Will Not Survive until the 'Last Tree is Cut, *MASYARAKAT Jurnal Sosiologi*, 24(2), 259-285

Session 7 – Greening Capitalism

Stavis Dimitris, Felli Romain (2020) Planetary just transition? How inclusive and how just? *Earth System Governance*, n. 6

	<p>Newell Peter Mulvaney Dustin (2013) The political economy of the ‘just transition’. <i>The Geographical Journal</i>, pp. 1-10</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>
Additional materials	

Work schedule			
Total	Lectures	Hands on (Laboratory, working groups, seminars, field trips)	Out-of-class study hours/ Self-study hours
Hours			
200	64		136
ECTS			
8			
Teaching strategy			
Expected learning outcomes			
Knowledge and understanding on:	<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 • Gain knowledge and experience skills necessary to continue with educational career. 		
Applying knowledge and understanding on:	<p>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</p>		
Soft skills	<p>Through participation in seminar activities and the preparation of papers, students will be stimulated to practice and acquire communication and relational skills</p>		

Assessment and feedback



Methods of assessment	<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>
Evaluation criteria	Knowledge, critical and analytical capacities
Criteria for assessment and attribution of the final mark	<p>Attending students:</p> <p>Class Discussion (15%) Session papers..... (35%) 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 short paper analyzing the weekly readings. Submitted papers will be discussed and students should be prepared to elaborate on what intrigued them about their reading.</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 2022.</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>
Additional information	Prof. Lidia Greco (President), Patrizia Calefato, Roberto Varricchio (Members)