

## COURSE OF STUDY: International Relations and European Studies (LM-52)

**ACADEMIC YEAR: 2023/24**

**ACADEMIC SUBJECT: Comparative Capitalism. Critical and Global Perspectives**

General information	
Year of course	Second
Semester	I semester – September 18 2023- December 07 2023
European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS)	8
SSD	SPS/09
Language	English
Attendance	Not compulsory but recommended

Professor	
Name and Surname	Lidia GRECO
E-mail	Lidia.greco@uniba.it
Telephone	080 5718038
Department and address	Corso Italia 23- Ground Floor
Virtual headquarters	Microsoft Teams
Tutoring (time and day)	Wednesday, h.11.30-12.30

Work schedule			
Total			
	Lectures		Out-of-class study hours/ Self-study hours
200	64		136
ECTS			
8			

<b>Learning Objectives</b>	The course aims to provide a solid preparation for the analysis of the capitalist system both as a single system of social relations and in a comparative way. At the end students will need to master theoretical concepts and their concrete application.
<b>Course prerequisites</b>	There are no pre-requisites to the course, although previous knowledge of the sociological discipline and of socio-economic specifically is recommended.

<b>Teaching strategies</b>	The main contents of the course will be delivered through lectures, presentations based on specific readings, group activities, peer interaction. Online lectures are also possible.
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<b>Expected learning outcomes</b>	
<b>Knowledge and understanding on:</b>	The course aims to provide a solid knowledge on 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 concerning the key dimensions of capitalism as a social order.

<p><b>Applying knowledge and understanding on:</b></p> <p><b>Soft skills</b></p>	<p>Students will be encouraged to identify the fields of application of the theoretical and methodological notions learned with respect to the most recurrent phenomena related to contemporary capitalism, such as the ecological problem, the social reproduction, the socio-economic relations in the field of production.</p> <p>During the course students will have to develop an autonomous awareness of the topics object of study and their multidisciplinary linkages. The course aims to provide students with the necessary transversal skills gained:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Through participation in activities that involve the preparation of oral presentations, the participation in groups activities;</li> <li>• through collective interaction and individual learning;</li> </ul>
<p><b>Content knowledge</b></p>	<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 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, state intervention, ecological transition.</p>
<p><b>Texts and readings</b></p>	<p><b>Session 1 -Introduction</b></p> <p>Streeck, Wolfgang (2012) How to Study Contemporary Capitalism? European Journal of Sociology/Archives Européennes de Sociologie 53(1), pp. 1-28.</p> <p><b>Session 2 – Varieties of Capitalism</b></p> <p>Hall Peter, Soskice David (2001) Introduction. In Hall, Peter A. and David Soskice, eds. Varieties of Capitalism: The Institutional Foundations of Comparative Advantage. Oxford, Oxford University Press, pp. 1-44.</p> <p><b>Session 3 – Peripheral and Eastern Capitalisms</b></p> <p>Nölke, A., Vliegthart A. (2007) Enlarging the Varieties of Capitalism: The Emergence of Dependent Market Economies in East Central Europe. World Politics, 61 (4), pp. 670-702.</p> <p>Triglia, Carlo, Burrioni, Luigi (2009) Italy: Rise, Decline and Restructuring of a Regionalized Capitalism. Economy and Society 38 (4), pp. 630-653.</p> <p><b>Session 4 - Capitalisms and Capitalism</b></p> <p>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. <a href="https://papers.ssrn.com/abstract=1805522">https://papers.ssrn.com/abstract=1805522</a>.</p> <p><b>Session 5 – Global Perspectives</b></p> <p>Gereffi, Gary. (2020) "What does the COVID-19 pandemic teach us about global value chains? The case of medical supplies." Journal of International Business Policy 3: 287-301.</p>

	<p>Werner Marion (2021) Geographies of production II: Thinking through the state, <i>Progress in Human Geography</i>, 45(1) 178–189.</p> <p><b>Session 6 – Critical Perspectives</b> 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><b>Session 7 – Greening Capitalism</b> Stavis Dimitris, Felli Romain (2020) Planetary just transition? How inclusive and how just? <i>Earth System Governance</i>, n. 6</p> <p>Newell Peter Mulvaney Dustin (2013) The political economy of the ‘just transition’. <i>The Geographical Journal</i>, pp. 1-10</p> <p><b>Session 8 – State Capitalism</b> Alami, Ilias, et al. (2022) "Special issue introduction: what is the new state capitalism?." <i>Contemporary politics</i> 28.3, pp. 245-263.</p> <p>Alami, Ilias, et al.(2023) "Making space for the new state capitalism, part II: Relationality, spatiotemporality and uneven development." <i>Environment and Planning A: Economy and Space</i> 55.3, pp. 621-635.</p> <p><b>Session 9 – Labour and Capitalism</b></p> <p>Evans, B., Fanelli, C., Panitch, L., &amp; Swartz, D. (2023). <i>From Consent to Coercion: The Continuing Assault on Labour</i>. University of Toronto Press. (a chapter)</p> <p>Coin, Francesca, (2019) Your data or your life: on demonetisation, cashlessness and the digital panopticon in India." <i>Your data or your life: on demonetisation, cashlessness and the digital panopticon in India</i>: 44-59.</p>
Note ai testi di riferimento	
Materiali didattici	
<b>Assessment</b>	
Assessment methods	<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 specific research and present relevant results in class will be also assessed.</p> <p>During the final examination students should prove their familiarity with the contents of the course, by demonstrating their knowledge and competencies of the main trends in contemporary capitalist development.</p>
Assessment criteria	The final score is based on: knowledge of the content of the course; critical and analytical capacities; written and oral accuracy.
Final exam and grading criteria	Knowledge and skills will be tested through a <b>written exam</b> which includes at the

	<p>least three open-ended questions. The final evaluation will be expressed on a scale of 30 (minimum 18/30 – maximum 30/30 cum laude).</p> <p>The evaluation criteria for the learning outcomes are as follows:</p> <p><b>Insufficient: 0-17</b> Indicates a lack of knowledge, gaps, and inadequacy in understanding the fundamental topics covered in the program. Candidates exhibit the use of inappropriate vocabulary.</p> <p><b>Pass: 18-20</b> Reflects a sufficient understanding of the fundamental topics covered in the program. Candidates demonstrate an overall appropriate use of vocabulary throughout their responses.</p> <p><b>Fair: 21-23</b> Reflects a satisfactory understanding of the fundamental topics covered in the program. Candidates demonstrate a reasonable ability to present arguments and establish connections between different subjects, utilising vocabulary appropriate to the context.</p> <p><b>Good: 24-26</b> Indicates a good understanding of the fundamental topics covered in the program. Candidates demonstrate a commendable ability for in-depth analysis and critical thinking, utilising vocabulary appropriate to the context.</p> <p><b>Excellent: 27-28</b> Denotes knowledge of all the topics covered in the program. Candidates exhibit good skills in analysis, effectively linking diverse subjects, displaying critical thinking abilities, and a good level of vocabulary proficiency.</p> <p><b>Outstanding: 29-30</b> Denotes full knowledge of all the topics covered in the program. Candidates exhibit remarkable skills in analysis, effectively linking diverse subjects, displaying advanced critical thinking abilities, and a full mastery of vocabulary.</p> <p><b>Excellent with honours: 30L</b> Reflects an exceptional understanding of all the topics covered in the program. Candidates exhibit outstanding skills in analysis, effectively linking diverse subjects, displaying exceptional critical thinking abilities, and a full mastery of vocabulary.</p>
<b>Further information</b>	