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di studi superiori



**UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI
DI PADOVA**

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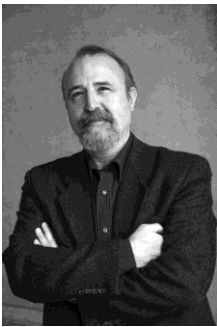
CLASSE DI SCIENZE SOCIALI

A.A. 2014-2015

UNIVERSITY OF PADUA
GALILEAN SCHOOL OF HIGHER EDUCATION
SOCIAL SCIENCES PROGRAMS 2014-15

INTRODUCTION TO THE GENERAL THEORY OF THE SOCIAL SYSTEMS

(Prof. Vincenzo Pace)



Title: *Introduction to the General Theory of the Social Systems*

Lecturer: Enzo Pace, Chair Sociology of Religion at the Department of Philosophy, Sociology, Education and Applied Psychology, University of Padua

Subject: Sociology (SPS/07)

Period: 1st. Semester, 32h.

Language: English

Syllabus

Goals: Achieving basic tools of the sociological language concerning the theoretical and methodological approaches to the relationship between economics and religious ethics in the social systems.

Content: Reading Max Weber, *The Protestant Ethics and the Spirit of Capitalism*, and questioning the relations between systems of religious belief (Christianity, Islam, Hinduism and Sikh Panth) and economics

Class lectures and seminars

Textbooks:

E. Pace, *Introduzione alla sociologia delle religioni*, Roma: Carocci, 2013

E. Pace, *Religion as Communication*, Farnham: Ashgate, 2011.

Max Weber, *The Protestant Ethics and the Spirit of Capitalism*, New York: Routledge, 2008

(in Italian: *L'etica protestante e lo spirito del capitalismo*, Milano: Rizzoli, 1991; in Original: *Die protestantische Ethik und der Geist des Kapitalismus*, 1904-1905, online or in paperback. Beltz Athenäum Verlag, 2000 or Area Verlag, 2005).

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PRINCIPLES OF MICROECONOMICS: STRATEGIC BEHAVIOUR

(Prof. Lorenzo Rocco)



Title: Principles of Microeconomics: Strategic Behaviour

Lecturer: Lorenzo Rocco, Assistant Professor of Economics at the Department of Economics and Management, University of Padua

Subject: Economics (SECS-P/01)

Period: 2nd. Semester, 16h.

Language: English

Syllabus

Goals:

Provide complements in Game Theory and Contract Theory to students at the beginning of their education in economics and social sciences more in general. Although at a rather introductory level, students will be exposed to advanced concepts and methods in microeconomic theory.

- 1) Complements of Game Theory (8 hours)
 - a. Games with incomplete information
 - b. Correlated equilibria
 - c. Bayesian Nash equilibria
 - d. Perfect Bayesian Nash equilibria – signalling games
 - e. Refinements
- 2) Contract Theory – The principal-agent model (8 hours)
 - a. Fundamentals of mechanism design
 - b. Adverse selection
 - i. the basic two-types model
 - ii. extension to limited liability
 - c. Moral Hazard
 - i. the risk-neutral-agent case
 - ii. the risk-averse-agent case

Class lectures

References:

Rasmusen, E. (2007) "Games and Information" Blackwell Publishing

- chapters 2,3,6

Laffont, JJ and Martimort, D. (2002) "The theory of incentives – the principal-agent model", Princeton University Press

- chapters 2, 3.5, 4

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PRINCIPLES OF MICROECONOMICS: ECONOMIC DECISIONS, RISK AND INFORMATION VALUE

(Prof. Michele Moretto)



Title: Principles of Microeconomics: Economic Decisions, Risk and Information Value

Lecturer: Michele Moretto, Professor of Economics at the Department of Economics and Management, University of Padua

Subject: Economics (SECS-P/01)

Period: 2nd. Semester, 16h.

Language: English

Syllabus

Goals:

Introducing the basic concepts of risk and risk aversion and achieving the basic tools to recognize and quantify risks, and incorporate them into the personal decision-making process.

Content:

1. Risk Aversion
 - a. Definition and characterization of risk aversion
 - b. Risk premium and certainty equivalence
 - c. Degree of risk aversion
 - d. Decreasing absolute risk aversion and prudence
2. Risk and Information
 - a. The value of information
 - b. Value of information and risk aversion
 - c. Value of information and agent behaviour
 - i. Real option value and irreversibility
 - ii. Saving and early resolution of uncertainty
 - d. The Hirshleifer effect
3. Alternative Decision Criteria
 - a. The independence axiom and the Allais paradox
 - b. Rank-dependent expected utility
 - c. Ambiguity aversion
 - d. Prospect theory and loss aversion

Class lectures

Textbooks: Eeckhoudt L., Gollier, C., Schlesinger H., (2005), “Economic and Financial Decisions under Risk”, Princeton University Press, Princeton. Chapters 1,8,13.

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FUNDAMENTALS AND SYSTEMS OF POSITIVE LAW

(Prof.ssa Federica Giardini)

Title: Fundamentals and systems of Positive Law

Lecturer: Federica Giardini, Professor at the Department of Private Law and Critique of Law, University of Padua

Subject: Law (IUS/02)

Period: 2nd. Semester, 22h

Language: English

Syllabus

Goals: to provide an understanding of comparative law as a method and as a body of knowledge. This course is designed to examine a range of legal institutions from a comparative and interdisciplinary perspective. It is not only a traditional course in comparative law. It focuses as on particular rules of substantive law as on the structure of different legal systems and the consequences of those structural differences for law and society.

In the first part of the course, students will learn how to compare legal institutions through a theoretical inquiry in traditional, as well as innovative, comparative law methods and how to apply these methods to some of the most controversial topics in the current legal debate.

The course is divided into two components:

- Part I gives a basis in comparative law theory method;
- Part II includes presentations of different legal systems.

After having completed this course, the students are expected to be able to demonstrate:

- Knowledge as to the fundamentals of comparative law theory and method as well as the ability to critically reason around choice of method and different method problems with the execution of comparative law studies;
- Knowledge as to the fundamental characteristics in different foreign legal systems and legal families that are studied within the course;
- The ability to independently plan and complete a comparative law investigation and present the results both in writing and orally in English;
- The ability to independently and in a professional manner criticize and oppose in English another student's academic work.

Textbooks: Mathias Siems, "Comparative Law (Law in Context)", Cambridge University Press (June 5, 2014). ISBN-10: 0521171170; ISBN-13: 978-0521177177.

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