

## COMPARATIVE WELFARE SYSTEMS

2019-20 L-39 6 ECTS

Prof. Matteo Villa

### Course title

*Social Policy Systems in a comparative perspective: development, crisis, transformation and new challenges.*

**Programme (contents of the course).** Syllabus and examination program are divided into three parts, connected to each other:

The first part, "*Getting Started: The Livelihood of man, the social question and the origins of welfare state*", presents an historical and socio-economic analysis of the development of welfare systems from the earliest forms of livelihood organization, of social assistance, and of social construction of poverty and of the poor.

The second part, "*Institutional: Systems and welfare policies in a comparative perspective*," provides an analysis of the current policies and welfare systems, of their operations, and the factors of crisis and transformations underway. It is aimed at comparing the European countries and highlighting the peculiarity of the Italian case.

The third part, "*Research: Problems and prospects for the welfare of the XXI Century*", offers an in-depth study and elaboration on some important topics. There are three options among which the student must choose one:

- *Option 1*: "Ecological crisis, social policy and social work: toward a sustainable welfare?"
- *Option 2*: "Migration, integration, multiculturalism and social work"
- *Option 3*: "Tackling poverty between minimum income schemes and activation policies"

### Bibliography (Required texts):

I PART – *Getting Started: The Livelihood of man, the social question and the origins of welfare state*

- K. Polanyi, *La sussistenza dell'uomo*, Einaudi, Torino 1983. Preparare solo Introduzione e capitoli I, II, III, IV.. EN Edition: *The Livelihood of Man*. Academic Press, New York. Only the Introduction and the Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4.
- G. Simmel, *Il povero*, Qualsiasi edizione (Es.: Armando, Bollati Boringhieri, Comunità, Mimesis). EN Edition: *The Poor*, Social Problems, Vol. 13, No. 2 (Autumn, 1965), pp. 118-140.
- E. Morlicchio, *Sociologia della povertà*, Bologna, Il Mulino, 2012. Only the Chapter 1 "Le origini della povertà come questione sociale".

II PART – *Institutional: Systems and welfare policies in a comparative perspective*

- C. Ranci, E. Pavolini, *Le politiche di welfare*, Bologna, Il Mulino, 2015.  
(Contact the lecturer for a possible alternative English text)

III PART – *Research: Problems and prospects for the welfare of the XXI Century*. Chose one option between the following:

Option 1: "Social Policy, Social Work and the Ecological issue: towards a sustainable welfare?"

- G. Bateson, *Verso un'ecologia della mente*, Adelphi, Milano, 2000 (o edizione più recente). Solo i saggi della Parte VI: "Le radici della crisi ecologica", "Ecologia e flessibilità nella civiltà urbana". EN Edition: *Steps to an Ecology of Mind*, Chandler Pub. Co., 1972, Only the essays: "The Roots of Ecological Crisis" and "Ecology and Flexibility"

in Urban Civilization”.

- I. Gough, *Heat, Greed and Human Need. Climate Change, Capitalism and Sustainable Wellbeing*, Edward Elgar, Cheltenham, 2017. Only the Chapter 5 "From welfare states to climate mitigation states?".
- M. Villa. *The transformative role of the social investment welfare state towards sustainability. Criticisms and potentialities in fragile areas*, Sociologia e Politiche Sociali, N. 3/2016, DOI: [10.3280/SP2016-003003](https://doi.org/10.3280/SP2016-003003) (paper journal)

Option 2: "Migration Processes, integration and multiculturalism in Europe"

- P. Kennet, N.Lendvai-Baiton, *Handbook of European Social Policy*, Edward Elgar, Cheltenham, 2017. Only the Chapter 23: T. Modood, "Integration and Multiculturalism in Western Europe".
- F. Campomori, T. Caponio, *Immigration and Social Inequalities: Italian Integration Policies Revisited*, Politiche Sociali / Social Policies, n. 1/2015, pp. 43-58. <https://www.rivisteweb.it/doi/10.7389/79534>
- E. Barberis, P. Boccagni, *Il lavoro sociale con le persone immigrate*, Maggioli Editore, Santarcangelo di Romagna, 2017. Only Chapter 1, pages 17-30 (excluding section 4).
- Choice of one of the following summaries of immigration statistics: (1) di F. Campomori oppure (2) di IDOS, entrambe scaricabili da qui: [https://people.unipi.it/matteo\\_villa/sistemi-di-welfare-comparati/#D-title](https://people.unipi.it/matteo_villa/sistemi-di-welfare-comparati/#D-title)

Option 3: "Policies against poverty between activation programmes and minimum income schemes"

- L. Leone, F. Mazzeo Rinaldi, G. Tomei, *Misure di contrasto alla povertà e condizionalità. Una sintesi realista delle evidenze*, FrancoAngeli, Milano 2017. Only the Chapters 2 and 3.
- H. Frazer, E. Marlier, *Enhancing the potential contribution of minimum income schemes to a more Social Europe*, Politiche Sociali / Social policies • n. 3/2016, pp. 519-536. <https://www.rivisteweb.it/doi/10.7389/84851>
- M. Villa, V.F. Johansen, *What difference does the context of activation make? Challenges and innovations in the Italian and Norwegian local welfare*. International Journal of Sociology and Social Policy, Vol. 39 Issue: 5/6, 2019. <https://doi.org/10.1108/IJSSP-11-2018-0196>

**Methodological indications.** Lectures are based on theoretical-active teaching methods, mainly based on Action-Research methods for learning and integrated use of Theory, Experience, Reflection. Lessons include mixes of oral presentations, practical exercises, discussion and comparison.

**Exam mode.** Exams are based on oral test according to the art. 23 of University Regulations on Teaching Activity. The third part of the program can be addressed in a different way, consisting of Practical Exam, that is a group oral presentation (2 or 3 people) to be performed in the classroom based on the contents of the texts of the chosen option. Those who choose this way will not be asked to answer questions on the third part of the program during the individual exam. Group presentations can be made in one of the three planned dates per year. Dates and other informations can be found on Lecturer's Institutional website.

Based on the student's choice exams can be carried out in English.

**Indications for non-attendants.** All the Students, particularly Non-attending students, Not Italian Native Speakers and Erasmus Students, are encouraged to get as soon as possible all the informations about courses, exams and other teaching issues from the Lecture's Institutional website (below). To clarify any possible doubt, getting further information about courses, lectures and examinations held by the lecturer, or to discuss the syllabuses you can write an e-mail or access to the Office Hour (see below).

**Where to find more information:**

Students are encouraged to carefully check the institutional Professor's web site to find additional information on programs and on their validity for courses of previous Academic Years and information on where to find the required texts

E-mail lecturer: [matteo.villa@unipi.it](mailto:matteo.villa@unipi.it)

Lecturer institutional website: [https://people.unipi.it/matteo\\_villa/](https://people.unipi.it/matteo_villa/)

Course Web Page: [https://people.unipi.it/matteo\\_villa/sistemi-di-welfare-comparati/](https://people.unipi.it/matteo_villa/sistemi-di-welfare-comparati/)

Other students' info: [https://people.unipi.it/matteo\\_villa/studenti/](https://people.unipi.it/matteo_villa/studenti/)

**Where to find texts:**

- The texts of the first and second parts are sections of volumes or entire volumes available at the Political Science library.
- The texts of the third part can be downloaded directly from the Internet where indicated, or they are *chapters of volumes* available at the Library of Political Sciences or *journal articles* (paper or on-line) accessible through the University Library System (see the Lecturer's Website for information about the library).
- Texts are also generally purchasable through bookshops, on-line shops and magazine sites.

**Attention:** Students are not authorized to use unofficial handouts or photocopies beyond legal limits for preparing exams.