



UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI PALERMO

DEPARTMENT	Culture e società
ACADEMIC YEAR	2021/2022
MASTER'S DEGREE (MSC)	PUBLIC, CORPORATE AND ADVERTISING COMMUNICATION
SUBJECT	ORGANISED CRIME AND POLITICAL VIOLENCE
TYPE OF EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITY	B
AMBIT	50504-Discipline sociali, informatiche e dei linguaggi
CODE	19080
SCIENTIFIC SECTOR(S)	SPS/12
HEAD PROFESSOR(S)	DINO ALESSANDRA Professore Ordinario Univ. di PALERMO
OTHER PROFESSOR(S)	
CREDITS	9
INDIVIDUAL STUDY (Hrs)	165
COURSE ACTIVITY (Hrs)	60
PROPAEDEUTICAL SUBJECTS	
MUTUALIZATION	
YEAR	1
TERM (SEMESTER)	2° semester
ATTENDANCE	Not mandatory
EVALUATION	Out of 30
TEACHER OFFICE HOURS	DINO ALESSANDRA Wednesday 09:00 - 11:00 Viale delle Scienze - edificio 15 - secondo piano - stanza 201

PREREQUISITES	Disciplinary basic knowledge of sociology: basic concepts, most important theoretical and methodological approaches, such as most relevant investigative tools used to study social phenomena. Knowledge of the concepts of law, social norm, deviance and of the principal theoretical approaches to the scientific debate that this field has developed.
LEARNING OUTCOMES	<p>Knowledge and understanding skills Acquisition of the tools to define the social building of identity and of deviance and to understand the role of dialectic interaction and of communicative exchanges. Comprehension of the importance of symbolic dimension as a legitimacy tool of mafias.</p> <p>Ability to apply knowledge and understanding Ability to identify the turning points and the fractures throughout the processes of the building of identity. Ability to identify stereotypes and prejudices in mafias' public images.</p> <p>Independent judgement Development of critic capacities and practical abilities to identify the approval building processes around mafia criminal organisations. Ability to interpret "common sense" and media discourses on mafia, their influence on public and political choices; ability to judge and evaluate autonomously in front of situations and behavior of individuals and groups, in order to take professional actions.</p> <p>Communication skills Acquisition of linguistic and communicative capacities in order to deconstruct prejudices and commonplaces about mafia.</p> <p>Learning skills Ability to use methodological and conceptual tools as a critical lens during the analysis of one's own cultural background and sense dimensions.</p>
ASSESSMENT METHODS	<p>Final oral exam to test the knowledge and the acquired competence relating to the formerly defined goals. Written or oral mid-term and final tests, with open answer questions, so as to allow the comparison among different answers. Potential written tests do not replace the final oral test. During the final oral test the outcomes of the learning process will be quantified.</p> <p>The final exam will consist of an oral test, with open-ended questions designed to verify the results of learning about:</p> <p>a) Knowledge assessment: ability to establish connections among the contents (theories, models, tools, etc.) of the course.</p> <p>b) Capacities of processing: capacity to provide independent judgments about the subject's content; capacity to understand their applications or implications; ability to place the subject's content within the professional, historical and socio-cultural context.</p> <p>The maximum score will be achieved if the exam will ensure the full possession of judgment capacity to represent emerging issues or little explored aspect of the discipline; strong ability to represent the impact of the subject of the course within the social context; great ability to represent innovative ideas and solutions within the professional or socio-cultural context.</p> <p>c) With regard to communication skills, a minimum score will be achieved if students will demonstrate property of language barely adequate to the professional context reference but not sufficiently articulated, while the maximum rating will be reached by those who will demonstrate full expertise in sectorial sociological language.</p> <p>EVALUATION METHODS The result of the test will be considered: EXCELLENT (30-30 cum laude) if the student will show excellent knowledge of the topics, excellent property of language, good analytical capacity, and the ability to apply the knowledge to solve the problems submitted; VERY GOOD (26-29) if the student shows good mastery of the subject, full property of language and the ability to apply the knowledge to solve the problems submitted; GOOD (24-25) if the student will show to have basic knowledge of the main topics, fairly good property of language, limited ability to independently apply the knowledge for the solution of the problems submitted; MORE THAN SUFFICIENT (20-23) if the student will show not to have full mastery of the main arguments but a good understanding of the same, satisfactory property of language, lack of ability to independently apply the knowledge acquired; SUFFICIENT (18-19) where the student will show minimum basic knowledge of the main teaching and technical language issues, minimum ability to apply the knowledge acquired; INSUFFICIENT if the student does not have an acceptable knowledge of the contents of the topics covered in the teaching.</p>
EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES	<p>The course aims to analyse the role played by symbolic and communicative interactions in processes of construction, negotiation and mutual recognition of the self within mafia contexts.</p> <p>Starting from Vladimir Jankélévitch's model, and examining both the</p>

	<p>communication among the members, and the public image of mafia, the course will deal with the analysis of a double form of misunderstanding in mafia's contexts: the mislead (mainly used to be accredited outside the criminal organization) and the "misunderstanding doubly well-understood" (essential in the interactions among men of honor).</p> <p>The symbolic dimension will be used as a strong epistemological perspective, a favorite field, a filter through which to examine the different aspects of Mafia. An analysis of different social roles in mafia organizational structures will be proposed, such as a diachronic interpretation of their transformations, highlighting the principal elements and the main variables that have primarily produced them.</p> <p>It will be examined the importance that "external" and situational factors (such as political conjunctures, social arrangements, international scenarios, institutional, regulatory, etc.), and internal dynamics have played in determining organizational structures, personal choices and communication strategies in Cosa Nostra. The differences played by social belonging and by the different positions occupied in the criminal organization will be studied, analysing their role in defining, perceiving, communicating in public each personality. Analysis of public images of Mafia will be the subject of further focus, also through the study of film and documentary material, interceptions and court documents.</p> <p>Specific attention will be devoted to the study of Mafia languages, to their rules but, above all, to the study of the strategies used in dialectical interaction (with particular attention to judicial confrontations). Starting from the analysis of a long and complex testimony of an important justice witness, a specific focus will be dedicated to the discharge from Mafia processes, studying the conditions that allow such important biographical fractures and the difficulties, the ambiguities and the dangers that go with them.</p>
TEACHING METHODS	Frontal lessons, in-class practice, audiovisual material use, testimonies
SUGGESTED BIBLIOGRAPHY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bonica L., Cardano M. (a cura di), Punti di svolta. Analisi del mutamento biografico, il Mulino, Bologna 2008 (Introduzione pp. 9-24, Capitolo 1 pp. 27-47, Capitolo 2 pp. 49-96, Capitolo 4 pp. 123-171, Capitolo 8 pp. 279-313, Epilogo pp. 317-324, Appendice pp. 327-352). • Dino A., A colloquio con Gaspare Spatuzza. Un racconto di vita, una storia di stragi, Bologna, il Mulino, 2016. • Dino A., Tra ambiguità e malinteso: schermaglie di "una battaglia per l'identità" in una conversazione tra mafiosi, in «Polis. Ricerche e Studi su Società e Politica in Italia», vol. XXIX, N. 1, aprile 2015, pp. 33-58. • Garfinkel H., La fiducia, Una risorsa per coordinare l'interazione, Roma, Armando Editore, 2005. • Turnaturi G., Tradimenti. L'imprevedibilità nelle relazioni umane, Milano, Feltrinelli, 2014.

SYLLABUS

Hrs	Frontal teaching
4	Presentation of the course, program and goals. Methods and sociological approaches to the study of deviant phenomena with particular focus on mafia's ones.
6	Deviance as a product of social construction. Cultural and identity's dimensions; neutralization processes and rationalization of the crime. "Normality" of deviance.
6	The jurisprudence on 416bis. The Court of Cassation judgments. Prejudices and stereotypes emerging in the world of justice and in television and film depictions of Mafia.
6	Identity construction in the communicative exchanges. Language and misunderstanding spaces. Misunderstanding's classification. Between ambiguity and misunderstanding: the conversation between mafia men as a "battle for identity". Mafia languages. The order of the misunderstanding. "Mafia is the kingdom of incomplete speeches." Case studies and analysis of conversations
6	Biographical paths and everyday life in mafia world. Organizational models and leadership styles in mafia criminal organizations. Mafia and politics. Mafia and economics. Mafia and information. The massacres of the early '90s in Italy. "Negotiations" and "broken promises". The transformations of mafias during time.
6	The role of emotions in Mafia contexts. Relationships and "involvement". The boundaries of "ego" and the attacks against "integrity". Violence and loneliness. Truth and falsehood
6	Trust and betrayal. Function of betrayal in breaking or constructing social bonds. Changes and infidelity. Betrayal and temporality. Betrayal and redefinition of the self. Secrecy and ambiguity. Case analysis.
6	The role of the media in defining the collective imagination about mafia. Success reasons of fiction and films about Mafia.
6	Life course and biographical transitions. Turning point and fractures. The role of the narration in the reconstruction of the self. Mental illness. The imprisonment and the jail. Biographical narrations of religious conversion. The use of biographical interviews.
Hrs	Practice
2	Reading and interpretation of judgments; critical reading of printed articles; analysis of wiretapping and of judicial confrontations.

Hrs	Practice
3	Analysis of video interviews with justice witnesses coming from mafia; identification of the implicit and of the of "practical reasoning logic" through specific analytical grids. Study of film material about mafia and power.
3	Development of data reading instruments relating to surveys and in-depth interviews on issues studied during the course.