



UNIVERSITÀ
CATTOLICA
del Sacro Cuore

Research on Sociology of Diversities and Intersectional Inequalities

PROF. MARIAGRAZIA SANTAGATI

COURSE DESCRIPTION

At the crossroads between Sociology of Inequality & Sociology of Education, the course aims to reflect on diversities (such as gender, race, age, disability, etc.) and their connection with the broader processes of unequal treatment of these qualities and the consequent creation of social inequalities.

1. Attention is given, on the one hand, on the ambivalence of diversities and their social construction, as they are analysed in the research tradition of sociology from classic to contemporary literature. We will focus on the contribution of Women's Studies (from Harriet Martineau to bell hooks) to introduce concepts, perspectives, approaches useful to analyze in depth the sources of inequalities, and to comprehend the processes of genderization, racialization, disabilization, pauperization, criminalization as socially and culturally constructed. We will examine the intersection between diverse axes of diversities and the intersectional inequalities deriving from this crossing.
2. On the other hand, the course focuses on some areas of inequalities, considering environments with educational and learning functions: we will discuss the results of empirical research on the Italian case, highlighting forms and types of inequalities and the role of sexism, racism, and ableism, and other similar phenomena enforcing unequal and unfair functioning of the sociocultural system. Finally, again on the basis of social research tradition, the emancipatory paths and the resistance strategies implemented by diverse and disadvantaged subjects are presented and discussed with the students.

Subtopics: Diversity and inequality in the contribution of Early Women Sociologists (Chiara Ferrari); Origins and development of intersectionality (Marta Visioli); Unaccompanied Foreign Minors, frontiers, knowledge from the margins (Alessandra Barzaghi); Sex Trafficking and empowerment of migrant women (Chiara Ferrari); Diaspora from the Horn of Africa in Italy and experience of activism (Marta Visioli)

PREREQUISITES

Prerequisite of the course is a basic knowledge of sociology.

METHOD OF TEACHING

Lectures with the support of ppt slides and texts; Critical Reading, Workshops, and Seminars.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Students have to comply with the following requirements:

- Students are expected to regularly attend class sessions and actively contribute to in-class debate.
- Students are expected to study the course materials (slides, readings, etc.) for the final exam.
- Students will have to take a written exam, at the end of the teaching period (open questions).
- Students are required to do a written assignment on a course-related subtopic, before the final exam, according to given guidelines.

CREDITS

5 ECTS (30 CONTACT HOURS)

GRADING

Attendance and Class participation
Individual assignment

20% of final grade
30% of final grade



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Final exam test

50% of final grade

COURSE READINGS AND MATERIALS

All the papers and lecturer's slides will be available on the platform BlackBoard. Additional scientific articles will also be provided throughout the course.

INSTRUCTOR BIO

Mariagrazia Santagati is Associate Professor in Cultural Sociology at the Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Milan. Her research focuses on education, migration, women's studies and biographical approach. See her profile: <https://docenti.unicatt.it/ppd2/en/docenti/15636/mariagrazia-santagati/profilo> and her publications' list:

https://scholar.google.com/citations?hl=it&user=1IN7YhkAAAAJ&view_op=list_works&sortby=pubdate

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