

SCUOLA	Scienze giuridiche ed economico sociali
ANNO ACCADEMICO	2014/2015
CORSO DI LAUREA MAGISTRALE	Scienze delle amministrazioni e delle organizzazioni complesse Curriculum: Public management
INSEGNAMENTO	The Economics of Organization
TIPO DI ATTIVITÀ	Caratterizzante
AMBITO DISCIPLINARE	Economico-organizzativo
CODICE INSEGNAMENTO	16848
ARTICOLAZIONE IN MODULI	NO
NUMERO MODULI	
SETTORI SCIENTIFICO DISCIPLINARI	SECS-p/01
DOCENTE RESPONSABILE	Cognata Antonio PA Università di Palermo
CFU	6
NUMERO DI ORE RISERVATE ALLO STUDIO PERSONALE	108
NUMERO DI ORE RISERVATE ALLE ATTIVITÀ DIDATTICHE ASSISTITE	42
PROPEDEUTICITÀ	Nessuna
ANNO DI CORSO	Primo
SEDE DI SVOLGIMENTO DELLE LEZIONI	<a href="http://portale.unipa.it/dipartimenti/dems/cds/scienzedelleamm
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ni">http://portale.unipa.it/dipartimenti/dems/cds/scienzedelleamm inistrazioniedelleorganizzazionicomplesse2163/?pagina=lezio ni
ORGANIZZAZIONE DELLA DIDATTICA	Lezioni frontali
MODALITÀ DI FREQUENZA	Facoltativa
METODI DI VALUTAZIONE	Prova Orale
TIPO DI VALUTAZIONE	Voto in trentesimi During the course, each student will be responsible for developing a presentation on one of week's readings. The presentation should not be a summary of the assigned material. Rather, the student should outline the analytical approaches evident in the readings, critically review the major findings, and assess primary strengths and weaknesses in the week's literature. At the end of the course, there is a written final examination. Grades will be determined as following: Class partecipazione 25% Presentation during class 25% Final 50% An ECTS grade is provided to the student at the end of the course according to the A–F scale. Students not successfully fulfilling all the course requirements within the regular time

	frame have the option of a re-sit the following semester.
PERIODO DELLE LEZIONI	Primo semestre
CALENDARIO DELLE ATTIVITÀ DIDATTICHE	http://portale.unipa.it/dipartimenti/dems/cds/scienzedelleammnistrazioniedelleorganizzazionicomplesse2163/?pagina=lezioni
ORARIO DI RICEVIMENTO DEGLI STUDENTI	Gli studenti si ricevono dopo la lezione http://portale.unipa.it/persone/docenti/c/antonio.cognata

Learning Outcomes

Knowledge and understanding

The course delivers an introduction to theories of organizations and strategic interaction that rely on economic thinking. Students familiarize with these theoretical approaches, to guide them to the research frontier in selected topics, and to let them explore open and interesting research questions, both theoretical and empirical, on their own. We will study relationships within firms (authority, incentives, delegation), between firms (formal and informal contracting, vertical and horizontal integration, strategic alliances, firm networks and groups), and beyond firms (organizations and institutions, economic governance). We will review the main economic theories that explain the existence, scale, and scope of firms (transaction costs economics, property rights theory, agency theory, and adaption theory) and study the impact of an organization's form (for-profit, nonprofit, public or cooperative) on its decisions.

The virtue of the economics approach is in establishing a framework for thinking about what might be possible for the organization and in producing well-reasoned conclusions about what efficient structures look like. This framework is the focus of the course.

However, economists are not the only ones who think hard about organizational issues. Indeed, these questions are often thought to be what gives management its purpose and sometimes the same issues are addressed by the leadership of organizations members. Thus organization issues are part and parcel of management education and quite often are part of leadership training as well.

Applying knowledge and understanding

The readings are drawn from the scientific literature in economics. In some cases, only part of the book/article will be assigned. Simple example may be provided to illustrate the concepts and results that are presented. In general, it is likely to be difficult to understand the readings without attending the lectures and taking good notes. This is why Students are required to attend each class session and participate fully in class discussions. As Woody Allen goes: "Eighty percent of success is showing up." Readings must be completed prior to each class.

Some of the readings involve calculus. However, knowledge of calculus is not a prerequisite for this course. However, students are expected to be able to reformulate the problem as an informal, graphical argument.

Making judgements

Students should be able to reflect on the method to use while adopting planning and control systems as a viable means to foster empowerment, accountability, communication and learning, particularly in organizations operating in a complex and dynamic environment.

Communication

Students can present and discuss relevant literature sources as well as the result of their case studies in class.

Learning skills

Students will acquire skills that are required for self-studies of the literature on the subject and to investigate the economics of organizations.

OBIETTIVI FORMATIVI DEL CORSO

The success of firms hinge critically on how well they are organized. Likewise, the wealth of nations probably depend more on institutional quality than on physical resources. In this course, we

want to explain the institutions that we observe and the roles they play. We will discuss questions such as:
 How can we explain the variety of contractual practices that we observe in markets?
 How can we understand the many different organizational forms that exist?
 When should there be high-powered incentives, and when not?
 What are the costs and benefits of public ownership?
 What is the role of legal institutions in creating prosperity?
 What is *trust* and why it is so important?

CORSO	The Economics of Organization
ORE FRONTALI	LEZIONI FRONTALI
10	<p>The course is divided into three parts:</p> <p>a) Introduction and Background</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Comparative Development - Culture and Economic Outcome - The Quality of Government - Law and Property Rights - Institutions - Rich and Poor Countries
10	<p>b) Incentive and Coordination</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Commitment Problem - Economic Governance - Promises, Threats, Fairness and Retaliation - Bargaining - Self-Command - Social Institutions - Corporate Culture - Trust and Growth - Power
10	<p>c) Asymmetric Information and Firm Boundaries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Disorganization - Hierarchies - Common Pool Problem - Principals and Agents - Make vs Buy - Ownership and Control - Contract Duration - Teams
	ESERCITAZIONI
12	The course is comprised of lectures, seminars, group discussions and students' presentations.
TESTI CONSIGLIATI	Paul Milgrom and John Roberts <i>Economics, Organization & Management</i> Prentice Hall