COURSE DESCRIPTION

Course title: Integrated intervention in the contemporary territory ("Tools for urban and regional regulation" + "Assessment methods and decision processes")

Pilot domain: Sustainability & Climate Change

ECTS: 6 (3 "Tools for urban and regional regulation" + 3 "Assessment methods and decision processes")

Period of delivery: Second semester (from lesson 15 to lesson 30)

Mode of delivery: Course on campus/on site

Language of instruction: Italian/English

Study cycle: BA

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General information about the course

Learning outcomes

The Laboratory focuses on cities and metropolitan regions' sustainable regeneration, with a specific concern on the climatic turn planning and evaluation are called to respond to support decision-makers in coping with the global challenge of climate change with respect to context-aware social needs, spatial features, and ecological demands. The city on which we are going to learn in practice is Naples, a fragile urban core in which vulnerable communities and unbalanced developed settlements co-exist. Different local policies and practices will be analyzed together with public officials and discussed with representatives of civil society, to categorize opportunities and strategies for a collaborative climatic plan.
The course is divided into two parts: a close part - reserved for students' course Sustainable development and Territorial Network (SRT) - addresses providing them with theoretical lessons, while the second part is open. Aurora students are thus invited to join the course from lesson 15 to lesson 30 to design a collaborative climate plan for a peripheral neighborhood in Naples. At this stage, each of the course's modules will be aimed to interpret, represent, and evaluate quantitative/qualitative data about the socio-spatial and environmental effects of Climate Change. Multiple impacts regarding the choice of specific mitigation and adaptation policies and practices will be considered accordingly. In adopting a learning by doing approach, students will be asked to analyze and deconstruct a local case-study by considering both the decision makers' point of view, and the demands and needs coming from local communities.

Expected learning outcomes (Dublin descriptors)

Knowledge and understanding

Students will deal with the task of deconstructing complex problems and informing choices using evaluation methods and planning tools within a collaborative arena. With the ambition to improve the territorial status quo students will be asked to:
1. Test and represent innovative forms of collaboration between citizens, movements, NGOs, stakeholders, policymakers and decision-makers;
2. Design context-aware strategies and policies to cope with climate change effects;

3. Evaluate alternatives with respect to performance indicators under conditions of possible scenarios to be inferred from site-specific data and local stakeholders' perspectives.

Applying knowledge and understanding
Students need to enhance abilities in observing spatial contexts they are requested to explore. They also have to apply methodological tools to the direct listening of the stakeholders who are involved in transformative territorial processes and in the spatial mapping of social actors' needs, aspirations and stakes. Students are expected to learn abilities to manage impact assessment models to build reliable mitigation and adaptation actions.

Course content/syllabus
Lesson from 15 to 30 will be aimed to plan a collaborative climatic plan for an urban neighborhood in the Metropolitan City of Naples. Social actors and operators will be consulted in order to co-produce and represent a collaborative mapping on actions, rules and strategies for the plan implementation.
Workshop meetings will be planned to coordinate students in producing their final examination papers. These meetings will be useful in enabling students to master and control the operational tools, the decision-making problem structuring processes, the procedures for collecting and processing raw data, and the techniques for representing data and sustainability indicators.

Readings/bibliography
Readings, materials, and websites will be shared during the course.

Teaching methods of the course modules
Tools for urban and regional regulation module: on-field surveying and interaction with local stakeholders will be crucial to represent and communicate the strategic vision of the collaborative project.
Assessment methods and decision processes module: team-works will be organized to put into practice specific in-depth topics concerning the case study implementing different evaluation methods (i.e. multi-criteria decision analysis, scenario planning, indicators-based assessment, spatial decision support systems).

Exam type: Project discussion