

COURSE DETAIL

SOCIOLOGY OF TERRITORY & CULTURE

Country

Italy

Host Institution

University of Bologna

Program(s)

University of Bologna

UCEAP Course Level

Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)

Sociology Communication

UCEAP Course Number

126

UCEAP Course Suffix**UCEAP Official Title**

SOCIOLOGY OF TERRITORY & CULTURE

UCEAP Transcript Title

SOCIOLOGY TERRITORY

UCEAP Quarter Units

6.00

UCEAP Semester Units

4.00

Course Description

This course is part of the Laurea Magistrale degree program and is intended for advanced level students. Enrollment is by permission of the instructor. The objectives include: Critical Analysis: Train students to critically analyze how culture and social structures both shape and are shaped by the physical environment. Spatial Awareness: Help students understand the spatial dimensions of social phenomena, exploring how territories impact social interactions and cultural expressions. Cultural Appreciation: Foster an appreciation for cultural diversity by examining how different cultures manifest within specific territories, and how cultural practices are influenced by geographic locations. Research Skills: Develop research skills by teaching students how to investigate and analyze the relationships between social structures, culture, and territory through empirical studies and literature reviews. Globalization Impact: Explore the effects of globalization on local cultures and identities. Emphasize how global forces interact with and sometimes challenge local customs and territorial boundaries, fostering critical thinking.

This course focuses specifically on the spatial and cultural dimensions of contemporary life. It begins by exploring the historical development of the discipline and its intersections with other social sciences, then moves toward a more focused examination of how territory and culture interact within the context of consumer society. Particular attention is devoted to understanding how consumption shapes and is shaped by both physical and digital environments. Consumer culture is not approached merely as an economic phenomenon, but as a complex system of practices and meanings that contribute to the production of social identities, symbolic landscapes, and territorial imaginaries. From shopping malls and theme parks to social media platforms and algorithmically curated spaces, students investigate how consumption environments function as sites of cultural production and negotiation. Throughout the course, students engage with theoretical perspectives and empirical case studies that highlight the interplay between material culture, globalization, prosumption, and the hybridization of space. The physical and the digital are not treated as separate spheres, but as interconnected and co-constructed domains that define how individuals

navigate, appropriate, and give meaning to their social worlds. By combining lectures, seminar discussions, and multimedia materials, the course fosters a critical understanding of how contemporary spatial practices reflect broader cultural transformations. In doing so, it encourages students to reflect on the ways in which space and culture co-evolve in the context of late modernity, shaping both inclusion and exclusion, identity and belonging.

Language(s) of Instruction

English

Host Institution Course Number

B5668

Host Institution Course Title

SOCIOLOGY OF TERRITORY & CULTURE

Host Institution Course Details

<https://www.unibo.it/en/study/course-units-transferable-skills-moocs/course-uni...>

Host Institution Campus

BOLOGNA

Host Institution Faculty**Host Institution Degree**

LM in INNOVATION AND ORGANIZATION OF CULTURE AND THE ARTS

Host Institution Department

Management

Course Last Reviewed

2025-2026

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