

SYLLABUS

course description

Course title	Cooperatives - Funding and running a democratic and social-ecological business Area: Seminar
Course code	96116
Scientific sector	
Degree	Master in Eco-Social Design (LM-12)
Semester	I
Year	1 st and 2 nd
Credits	2
Modular	No
Lecturer	Klaudia Resch
Scientific sector of the lecturer	-
Teaching language	English
Teaching assistant (if any)	-
Office hours	6
Teaching language	English
Total lecturing hours	18
Total hours of self-study and/or other individual educational activities	
Attendance	mandatory
Prerequisites	-
Course page	

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Educational objectives

Students will be able to:

- Understand the differences between cooperatives and other forms of businesses
- evaluate the pros and cons of the cooperative form for their business idea
- Simulate the founding and running of a cooperative

Knowledge will be acquired in the following fields:

- Legal requirements of founding and running a cooperative
- Understanding and drafting a business plan

List of topics covered

- International Cooperatives: definition, values, principles, facts and figures
- The Mediterranean model and the Central European model of cooperatives: differences and similarities
- Cooperatives in Italy: legal form, different types, differentiation from other types of companies, history, market shares, cooperative associations
- Founding a cooperative: purpose and aim, members, legal requirements, statutes, organization chart, start-up capital, business-plan
- Help and support: assistance and subsidies for cooperatives

Teaching format

Frontal lectures combined with hands-on workshop exercises, group work and group presentations.

Learning outcomes

This course shows the opportunities and limits of cooperatives. Students should be able to decide whether a cooperative is suitable for implementing their business idea.

Knowledge and understanding

Knowledge of how to found and run a cooperative, understanding of the cooperative networks in Italy

Applying knowledge and understanding

Acquisition of a range of methods and tools to develop a business idea and a business plan

Making judgments

Ability to assess whether a coop is the right type of company for one's business idea

Communication skills

Being able to develop a project in a team and to present the project in a professional way

Learning skills

Ability to organize and apply the knowledge acquired to a group project

Assessment

Groups will be required to develop, describe and present their hypothetical cooperative: business idea, purpose and aim, members and employees, name, organization chart, start-up capital, business plan.

Assessment language: English

Evaluation criteria and criteria for awarding marks

- Completeness of the developed cooperative and of the business-plan
- Creativity of the idea and the presentation
- Team work

Readings

Materials will be provided during lessons. Additional literature will be announced during the seminar.