# Syllabus

## Course Description

| **Course title** | Cooperatives - Funding and running a democratic and social-ecological business  
Area: Seminar |
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<tr>
<td><strong>Course code</strong></td>
<td>96116</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Scientific sector</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Degree</strong></td>
<td>Master in Eco-Social Design (LM-12)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Semester</strong></td>
<td>I</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Year</strong></td>
<td>1\textsuperscript{st} and 2\textsuperscript{nd}</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Credits</strong></td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Modular</strong></td>
<td>No</td>
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</table>
| **Lecturer** | Klaudia Resch, e-mail: Klaudia.Resch@unibz.it  
Webpage: [https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/design-art/academic-staff/person/45845-klaudia-resch](https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/design-art/academic-staff/person/45845-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** | - |
Course description

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, customer segments, channels, customer relationships, members, revenue streams, key partners, key activities, key resources (business model canvas)
● development of a 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
Group work and oral: students have to develop, describe and present their hypothetical cooperative with reference to the content of the classroom lectures and discuss it during the oral exam.

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
-Ability to reflect the pros and cons of the cooperative form for their business idea

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