

**Syllabus**  
**Course description**

<b>Course title</b>	<b>Sociology of social change</b>
<b>Course code</b>	97132
<b>Scientific sector</b>	SPS/08
<b>Degree</b>	Bachelor in Design and Art (L-4)
<b>Semester</b>	Summer semester 2022/2023
<b>Year</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup>
<b>Credits</b>	8
<b>Modular</b>	No

<b>Total lecturing hours</b>	30
<b>Total hours of self-study and/ or other individual educational activities</b>	about 170
<b>Attendance</b>	Not compulsory but recommended (Please note: The program of the course will be additionally presented and explained in detail during the first day of class.)
<b>Prerequisites</b>	none
<b>Maximum number of students per class</b>	/

<b>Course description</b>	<p><i>The course belongs to the class "caratterizzante in the curriculum in Design.</i></p> <p>The course provides a systemic introduction to social change</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) in a global overview over the main contemporary and imminent big picture topics of humanity;</li> <li>2) in an inter- and trans-disciplinary approach comprising the six typological fields of economics, politics, culture, religion/spirituality, demography and technology, as well as their interrelation and interaction (system-action theory);</li> <li>3) in a glocal translation that applies these topics to the life environment of the participants.</li> </ol> <p>The course is based on the grand contemporary analyses of the United Nations, UNESCO, OECD, World Bank, WEF, EU, the "Future Circle" of the German government, the U.S. and Chinese governments, and various Academies of Sciences on the state of the world and the main challenges and transformations underway. In approaching the complex and multi-dimensional reality of change through key examples and cases - such as the impact of recent global systemic crises like Russia's</p>
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	<p>Ukraine war and the Coronavirus crisis, as well as by introducing avant-garde topics like the upcoming interrelation of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Climate Change, we discuss of how to come to a clear and practical methodology to systemically "read" contemporary social change, as well as its single phenomena and manifestations, and what proven approaches are available both in theory and in practice. As one option, in addition to system-action theory the methodology of UNESCO "Futures Literacy" is presented.</p>
<b>Specific educational objectives</b>	<p><b>Knowledge and understanding</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- have acquired a solid cultural heritage in which technical and media skills are combined with theoretical reflection, a necessary prerequisite for approaching the complex phenomena of today's society with awareness and being prepared to act as active participants.</li> <li>- have acquired the ability to grasp and analyse contemporary cultural and social phenomena that characterise design and art.</li> </ul>

<b>Lecturer</b>	<p>Roland Benedikter  e-mail <a href="mailto:roland.benedikter@unibz.it">roland.benedikter@unibz.it</a>  Webpage <a href="https://www.eurac.edu/en/people/roland-benedikter">https://www.eurac.edu/en/people/roland-benedikter</a></p>
<b>Scientific sector of the lecturer</b>	SPS/08
<b>Teaching language</b>	English
<b>Office hours</b>	After the lectures
<b>List of topics covered</b>	Globalization, Glocalization, Contemporary Social Change, Multidimensional Methodology, System-Action Theory, Futures Literacy
<b>Teaching format</b>	Lectures with discussion

<b>Expected learning outcomes</b>	<p><b>Disciplinary competence</b></p> <p><i>Knowledge and understanding</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- have acquired the basic knowledge to be able to turn a critical eye to their own work and to deal with contemporary complexity</li> <li>- have acquired the basic knowledge necessary for further Master's studies in all components of project culture as well as in technical, scientific and theoretical subjects.</li> </ul> <p><i>Applying knowledge and understanding</i></p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- recognise the main phenomena of contemporary society, to observe them critically, also from an ethical and social point of view, and to elaborate appropriate solutions at the level of a design proposal/response.</li> <li>- make use of the skills acquired during the course of study in the event of continuing studies in a Master's degree programme in the field of design and to develop them further.</li> </ul> <p><b>Transversal competence and soft skills</b></p> <p><i>Making judgements</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Be able to make independent judgements, both in the critical evaluation of their own work and in their ability to use the right interpretative tools in those contexts in which they will work professionally in design and/or continue their studies, also considering ethical and social aspects.</li> </ul> <p><i>Communication skills</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- to professionally communicate and substantiate their own decisions and justify them from a formal, technical and scientific point of view.</li> </ul> <p><i>Learning skills</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- have developed a creative attitude and learned how to enhance it and develop it according to their own inclinations.</li> <li>- have acquired basic knowledge in theoretical, technical and scientific subjects as well as a study methodology suitable for continuing studies with a Master's degree programme.</li> </ul>
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<b>Assessment</b>	Oral examination and discussion of selected key points. Exercise in system-action theory and futures literacy on a case example
<b>Assessment language</b>	The same as the teaching language
<b>Evaluation criteria and criteria for awarding marks</b>	The final assessment is based on the content of all the exercises according to the following criteria: Knowledge of all content presented in the lecture, capacity of handling system-action theory and UNESCO futures literacy
<b>Required readings</b>	Will be provided during the course
<b>Supplementary readings</b>	Will be provided during the course