

**SYLLABUS**  
course description

Course title	Cooperatives - Funding and running a democratic and social-ecological business Area: Seminar
Course code	
Scientific sector	
Degree	<b>Master in Eco-Social Design (LM-12)</b>
Semester	<b>I</b>
Year	1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Credits	2
Modular	No
Lecturer	Klaudia Resch, e-mail: <a href="mailto:Klaudia.Resch@unibz.it">Klaudia.Resch@unibz.it</a> Webpage: <a href="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</a>
Scientific sector of the lecturer	-
Teaching language	<b>English</b>
Teaching assistant (if any)	-
Office hours	6
Teaching language	<b>English</b>
Total lecturing hours	18
Total hours of self-study and/or other individual educational activities	
Attendance	<b>mandatory</b>
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, revenue streams, key partners, key activities, key resources (business model canvas)
- development of a business-plan
- Help and support: assistance and subsidies for cooperatives
- example of a social cooperative for better understanding

### 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.