

# Syllabus

## Course description

<b>Course title</b>	Project Development and Sustainability - Strategies for Sustainable Solutions: Design Thinking in Public Services
<b>Course code</b>	47217
<b>Scientific sector</b>	ECON-07/A (ex SECS-P/07)
<b>Degree</b>	Master in Critical Creative Practices (LM-65) Loaned from LM-63
<b>Semester</b>	Winter Semester 2025/26
<b>Year</b>	1st
<b>Credits</b>	6
<b>Modular</b>	no

<b>Total lecturing hours</b>	36
<b>Total hours of self-study and/ or other individual educational activities</b>	114
<b>Attendance</b>	Attendance is recommended but not mandatory
<b>Prerequisites</b>	None

<b>Specific educational objectives</b>	<p>The course refers to a "caratterizzante" educational activity and is a mandatory course in the first study year.</p> <p><b>Course description</b></p> <p>The course is designed for acquiring professional skills and knowledge. This course on design thinking in public administration teaches participants to innovate and implement effective policies. It covers the fundamentals of design thinking, empathy for user needs, ideation and prototyping skills, and testing solutions in real-world contexts. Participants will also learn about sustainability considerations and study case studies of design thinking in government. The goal is to equip learners with the skills to tackle public sector challenges using a comprehensive and empathetic approach. These objectives align with the goal of preparing students to be competent project managers and innovative thinkers in the public sector, capable of leading initiatives that contribute positively to society and the environment.</p> <p><b>Educational objectives</b></p> <p>The course promotes critical and analytical thinking, allowing students to evaluate and interpret artistic and design practices in the context of the current sociocultural dynamics. Advanced training will enable individuals to explore not only new possibilities for innovation in artistic and design production, but also, and</p>
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	<p>more importantly, the opportunities for synergy between contemporary culture and societal progress, fostering a mutual exchange of ideas and advancements.</p> <p>Advanced research skills will be developed to explore emerging frontiers in the field of art and design and new opportunities for innovation in the creative sector. This will equip the students to engage in interdisciplinary projects and generate original knowledge.</p>
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<b>Lecturer</b>	TBA
<b>Scientific sector of the lecturer</b>	TBA
<b>Teaching language</b>	ENGLISH
<b>Office hours</b>	TBA
<b>List of topics covered</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Introduction to Design Thinking</li> <li>2. Empathy: Understanding User Needs in Public Services</li> <li>3. Ideation: Generating Innovative Policy Solutions</li> <li>4. Prototyping: Developing Tangible Policy Models</li> <li>5. Testing: Assessing Solutions in Real-World Public Sector Contexts</li> <li>6. Implementing Design Thinking in Public Administration</li> <li>7. Sustainability in Design: Environmental and Social Considerations</li> <li>8. Case Studies: Design Thinking Applications in Government</li> </ol>
<b>Teaching format</b>	Frontal lectures, labs, projects

<b>Learning outcomes</b>	<p><i>The learning outcomes need to refer to the Dublin Descriptors:</i></p> <p><b><i>Knowledge and understanding</i></b></p> <p>Students of the course will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- know the basics in Development and Sustainability and will be able to connect them with ecocritical theories and their applications in visual arts and design</li> <li>- have specific knowledge of artistic and design techniques that promote environmental sustainability connected to the Development and Sustainability - Strategies for Sustainable Solutions</li> <li>- understand the relevance of Development and Sustainability strategies with the processes of interaction between artistic practices and natural contexts, analyzing them while considering the connections with other fields of knowledge, such as philosophy, sociology and environmental sciences.</li> </ul> <p><b><i>Applying knowledge and understanding</i></b></p>
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	<p>Students of the course will acquire the capability to apply knowledge in the field of Design and Production in order to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- conceive and implement artistic and design projects that respond to contemporary environmental challenges, using sustainable materials and ecological techniques;</li> <li>- develop initiatives that involve local and global communities, promoting greater awareness and action towards environmental sustainability;</li> <li>- collaborate with scientists, activists and other professionals to integrate interdisciplinary knowledge into artistic and design projects;</li> </ul> <p><b><i>Making judgements</i></b></p> <p>Students of the course will acquire the capability to make judgments in the field of Development and Sustainability - Strategies for Sustainable Solutions in order to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- apply the knowledge acquired in the professional context.</li> <li>- reflect and express an independent judgement, including on social, ethical and political-cultural issues.</li> </ul> <p><b><i>Communication skills</i></b></p> <p>Students of the course will acquire communication skills in the field of Development and Sustainability - Strategies for Sustainable Solutions in order to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- write scientific and technical articles and reports with clarity and effectiveness</li> <li>- present projects and ideas verbally in a professional and convincing manner</li> </ul> <p><b><i>Learning skills</i></b></p> <p>The course is aimed at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the strengthening of the critical and operational autonomy of students.</li> <li>- the development of their ability to choose, compare and adapt to new knowledge and technologies.</li> </ul>
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<b>Assessment</b>	<p><b>For attending and non-attending students</b></p> <p>Group Design Sustainability Project (50%)</p> <p>Final Exam assessing comprehensive understanding of the</p>
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	course contents (50%)
<b>Assessment language</b>	English
<b>Evaluation criteria and criteria for awarding marks</b>	<p><b>Project Report:</b> Creativity and innovation in the project concept and design. Application of design thinking principles and sustainability concepts. Effectiveness of the solution in addressing a real-world public service challenge. Quality of the final report, including clarity, organization, and use of evidence.</p> <p><b>Exam:</b> Comprehensive understanding of course content, including design thinking, sustainability in public services, and project management; Ability to critically analyze and apply concepts to hypothetical scenarios or case studies; Clarity, logic, and coherence in responses. Correct use of technical language and integration of course material.</p>
<b>Required readings</b>	TBA
<b>Supplementary readings</b>	Supplementary readings may be distributed and recommended to the students.