

Programme of “Progettazione e gestione delle reti organizzative” (Management and design of inter-organizational networks)		
Number of ECTS credits: 9 (workload is 225 hours; 1 credit = 25 hours)		
<p>Compulsory 1st Year, 2nd semester of Laurea magistrale in Amministrazione, Economia e Finanza (LM77) Teacher: Lucio Biggiero</p>		
1	Course objectives and Learning outcomes	<p>The purpose of this course is to provide students with the tools of strategic, economic, and organizational analysis of inter-organizational networks, reflecting the way in which structural, economic, relational, and socio-cognitive characteristics impact on the competitiveness of individual organizations and the networks they form. Inter-firm networks are just one type among the many - districts and industrial clusters, networks of various kinds, collaborative networks for research and development, supply chain management, etc.. In order to show a broad overview of the topic, the course traces the peculiarities of the different strands of research that have dealt with inter-organizational networks. Further, through an introduction to social network analysis the course provides a methodology to study inter-organizational networks in a formal and quantitative manner.</p>
2	Dublin descriptors	<p>Topics of the module include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Overview of the theoretical backgrounds on inter-organizational networks in organization science - Fundamental concepts of social network analysis - Individual organizations and inter-organizational networks viewed as cognitive, social and economic networks - Properties of inter-organizational networks: degree of self-organization, learning processes, complexity - Territorial inter-organizational networks, like industrial clusters and districts - Reputation and Supply networks - Collaborative, innovation and knowledge networks - Discussion of scientific papers and case studies <p>On successful completion of this module, the student should</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - have profound knowledge of basic social network analysis, - have ability to frame a typical problem of make-buy-ally, - understand and explain in which sense fundamental concepts and problems of inter-organizational networks break-up standard industrial economics; - outline the main theories dealing with inter-organizational networks, - provide concrete examples of the main aspects of inter-organizational networks.
3	Prerequisites and learning activities	<p>The student must have completed the following courses: Business Administration (Organizzazione Aziendale), Strategy and Operations Management (Economia e Gestione delle Aziende Industriali). It is strongly recommended to follow the course of Industrial Economics (Economia Industriale).</p>
4	Teaching methods and language	<p>Lectures and exercises. Language: Italian / English</p> <p>Ref. Text books John Scott (1991) <i>Social network analysis: a handbook</i>. London: Sage Italian translation: Scott J. (1997) <i>L'analisi delle reti sociali</i>. Roma: Carocci</p> <p>Soda, G. (1998) <i>Reti tra imprese. Modelli e prospettive per una teoria del coordinamento</i>. Roma: Carocci.</p> <p>Alternatively, for visiting students: Nooteboom, B. (2004) <i>Inter-firm collaboration, learning & networks: an integrated</i></p>

		approach. London: Routledge. Suggested text: Barabasi, A.-L. (2002) Link: The new science of networks. Cambridge: Perseus; trad. it. (2004) Link. Milano: Mondadori.
5	Assessment methods	Written exam.