RMS Winter School 2025 – Approaches

Policy analysis in territorial governance

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The workshop familiarizes students with a set of selected core concepts of public policy analysis, referred to specifically to territorial governance, an interdisciplinary approach that can be strategic to go deeper into the understanding of contemporary urban issues, and the decision-making processes that seek to tackle them. It aims at providing students with insights into such a theoretical and methodological approach, suggesting how to frame research projects that use policy analysis as a way to investigate urban and territorial issues and their governance.

Through different activities to be carried out both individually and in small groups (the viewing and discussion of a movie, the reading and interpretation of a paper, the reflection on the ongoing Ph.D. research), students will be encouraged to explore:

i) how *public problems* are collectively defined (and constantly re-defined) in territorial governance decision-making processes;

ii) who are the main *actors* of a policy/planning process, their stakes, resources, and networks of interaction;

iii) the different *models* and *forms of rationality* used in territorial governance policymaking (rational-comprehensive models, incrementalism, garbage-can models, etc.); iv) the intentional and/or non-intentional *outcomes* of a policy.

Suggested Readings

Dente B. (2013), Understanding policy decisions, Springer.

Fareri P. (2009), a cura di Marianna Giraudi (2009) Rallentare, il disegno delle politiche pubbliche, FrancoAngeli

Janin Rivolin U. (2012), Planning systems as institutional technologies: a proposed conceptualization and the implications for comparison, *Planning Practice and Research*, 27(1), pp. 63-85.

Janin Rivolin U. (2017), Global crisis and the systems of spatial governance and planning: a European comparison, *European Planning Studies*, 25(6), pp. 994-1012.