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, 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 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 policy-making (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