Laurea Magistrale LM 56 – SMEs in international markets and Green economy and sustainability

INDUSTRIAL POLICY FOR SMEs

**Prof. Sandrine Labory**

**2019-20 Programme: UPDATED TO THE CIRCUMSTANCES CREATED BY THE CORONAVIRUS**

The main objective of the course is to provide students with the knowledge and competencies necessary to understand industrial dynamics and their implications in terms of industrial policy for SMEs.

**PART I. SMEs IN INDUSTRIAL SECTORS: STRATEGIES AND PERFORMANCE**

1. Introduction

2. Economics of SMEs: definition, characteristics and influence of the business environment

3. Megatrends in markets : the fourth industrial revolution

4. Platform businesses and SMEs

5. Innovation in SMEs and clusters

6. Globalisation and internationalisation of SMEs ; global value chains

7. Italian industry and SMEs

**PART II. INDUSTRIAL POLICY**

8. Industrial policy: general features and return in the 21st Century

9. Industrial Policy for SMEs: why and how

10. Policy for clusters

11. The European context: multilevel industrial policy in the EU

12. Regional industrial policy: case of the Emilia-Romagna Region

13. Sustainability issues

(Note: each topic does not necessarily correspond to a class)

PART III. FURTHER THOUGHTS AND REFLECTIONS BY STUDENTS

Further considerations on specific or general issues, specific cases of industries, policy or firms discussed by students.

Bibliography and course material

Detailed class notes will be made available before each class on the course’s site in the form of Powerpoint files.

Recommended to all students:

Brynjolfsson E., McAfee A. (2017), *Machine, Platform, Crowd. Harnessing our Digital Future*, W.W. Norton, New York.

Complementary reading available at the Library of the Dept of Economic and Management:

R.A. Blackburn and M.T. Schaper (2016), *Government, SMEs and Entrepreneurship Development*

*Policy, Practice and Challenges*, Routledge, London.

Further readings are indicated in the course’s notes.

Exam

When classes can normally take place, the exam is based on continuous assessment with essay-writing and oral presentation as exam for those who follow all classes.

Given teaching interruption and start of distance teaching in March 2020, as well as the uncertainty regarding the return to classrooms at a later stage, continuous assessment is impossible to put in place. Consequently, assessment will be based on normal written exam at the end of the course (on part I and II of the programme), for which preparation will be guaranteed by the teacher (specific classes on exam preparation at the end of the course, as well as clear explanations on the course’s site).

However, continuous assessment might be considered if the situation returns to normal in April 2020 (i.e. not too late).

*For any further information or clarification: contact Prof. Labory at sandrine.labory@unife.it*