

## Theory of the Firm

(Coordinator and Main Lecturer: [Professor M. La Rocca](#))

The course aims at i) introducing key theories of the firm and economic organization that have been strongly influential in management research, and ii) at training students to use these theories in their own research. The course discusses the role of the firm in management research. It covers basic economic concepts that are central to the theory of the firm such as incentives, transaction costs, and property rights, jointly with resource-based view and evolutionary theory. Then the course covers main theories, comparing differences, similarities and potentialities. Finally, it analyzes organizational design, governance, finance, and marketing issues to provide young researchers with the tools to work on their dissertations and papers.

The final grade will be determined by the scores on the class presentations and discussion (30%) given routinely, on a final assignment (30%) and on the final examination (40%).

Seminar lectures will be given by: Marc Deloof, University of Antwerp (Belgio); Eugenio Proto, University of Warwick (UK); Giambattista Dagnino, Università di Catania; Raffaele Staglianò, GSCM-Montpellier Business School (France); Lia Palermo, University of Nottingham (UK);

There will also be contributions from Rosanna Nisticò, Daniele Monteforte, Nino Miceli, Gaetano Luberto, Andrea Lanza, Stefania Veltri, Fabio Piluso, University of Calabria.

Suggested Textbooks and Readings:

Main textbook: *Handbook On The Economics and Theory of The Firm*, Michael Dietrich, Jackie Krafft, Edward Elgar Publishing

Additional readings:

La Rocca Maurizio, 2001, *Teorie sull'impresa*, working paper n.14 Dip.To Organizzazione Aziendale – Unical.

Mahoney Joseph, 2005, *Economic Foundations of Strategy*, London: Sage.

Sciarelli S., L. Solima e G. Maggiore (1994), *Evoluzione degli studi di economia d'impresa in una prospettiva interdisciplinare in "Finanza Marketing e Produzione"*, supplemento dedicato alla Economia dell'impresa negli anni '90.

David Kreps, 1997, "Economics: The Current Position," *Daedalus* 126: 59-86

Moreover, each unit requires specific papers to be read and provided one week before the class.