

Corporate Change and the Rise of Modern Management

Carlo Brambilla

Dep. of Economics - Insubria University

Seminar course
Summer Semester 2025
Chair Innovation Economics

Aims and Topics I

The course aims at studying **organizational change** in historical perspective:

- changes in productive structures (typologies of firm)
- their organization (management)

Focus is on big business enterprise, for its relevant role in:

- adoption/spread of new technological paradigms
- emergence of new forms of organization

Changes in organizations had relevant role in the evolution and growth of the enterprise and therefore in the process of **modern economic growth**

Aims and Topics II

The course focuses on

- the rise and evolution of **modern management** as related with
- the emergence and growth of the (big) **business enterprise** during the 20th century

Main topics addressed:

- the theory of the firm; of its growth
- the rise and development of big business, end-19th onward
- the evolution of management theory and practice in the 20th century

Layout and Assessment

The course consists of 5 meetings of 4 hours each, divided into 2 periods:

- First part: 3 classes = introductory lectures
- Interval: about 10 week off \Rightarrow students prepare their papers
- Second part: 2 classes = students' presentations

Assessment is based on:

- 20% = attendance, participation to discussion in class
- 15% = discussion of a classmate's paper
- 65% = individual paper and presentation