Course title

RESEARCH METHODS IN EDUCATION (M-Z)

Topics and course structure

The course will explore the main theoretical and methodological issues/problems of field research in education. It will discuss, in particular, the possibilities and limits of qualitative research in education.

Examples of research in education will be presented and discussed during the course.

During the course-workshops, some qualitative research tools will be analyzed and discussed thanks to practical experiences.

Each workshop will be focused on a specific research tool.

Objectives
Main learning objects are:

- to provide students with a deep knowledge of the main issues and problems of research in education and of its relationship with the other human and social sciences;
- to encourage the development of critical thinking on the main issues, problems, and methods of educational research;
- to stimulate students to use the logic of inquiry to connect theory and practice, to understand the complexity of the diverse educational contexts, to develop projects and interventions in educational settings.

Methodologies

Class lectures, case analyses, group discussions, work in small groups.

Online and offline teaching materials

Programme and references for attending students

- The main themes and issues in educational research
- Qualitative research in education (methods and tools)
- Research design
- Data analyses
- Mixed methods
- Analysis and discussion of examples of observations (visual and narrative), interviews and focus groups
transcriptions.
- Analysis and discussion of some examples of research.


3) G. Pastori (2017), *In ricerca. Prospettive e strumenti per educatori e insegnanti (parte II e parte III)*, Junior/Spaggiari, Parma


5) One among the following texts:


- L. Mortari (2009) , L. *La ricerca per i bambini*. Mondadori, Milano

- C. Pontecorvo, F. Arcidiacono (2007), *Famiglie all'italiana. Parlare a tavola*, Raffaello Cortina, Milano


- M. Sclavi (2005), *A una spanna da terra. Una giornata di scuola negli Stati Uniti e in Italia e i fondamenti di una metodologia umoristica*, Bruno Mondadori, Milano


- F.L. Zaninelli (a cura di) (in corso di stampa), *Sperimentando servizi educativi zerosei anni: ricerca e formazione*, Junior, Spaggiari, Parma

- Contents of the booklet:
Erasmus students will be provided with texts in English.

**Programme and references for non-attending students**

Same as attending students.

**Assessment methods**

Oral exam.

It will consist in an oral-interview based on the texts indicated by the program. Attending students will be required to know how to connect the theoretical knowledge of the texts with the issues, the themes and the exercises carried out during the course.

The course workshop will be evaluated by the workshop leader (approved/not approved)

Assessment criteria:

- Theoretical knowledge (clear understanding of the subject)
- Clarity of explanation and depth in critically reflect on the main subjects of the course
- Capacity to connect issues and theories to the educational problems;
- Linguistic accuracy
Office hours

Programme validity

Course tutors and assistants

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