UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

# COURSE SYLLABUS

## Sociologia dell'Educazione - M-Z

**1819-1-G8501R009-MZ**

### Course title

**Sociology of Education (M-Z)**

### Topics and course structure

The course aims at introducing students to the sociological analysis and interpretation of educational processes. Lessons will provide theoretical and methodological tools for understanding the social and organizational dynamics, structure, and daily life of the school and classroom. A particular attention will be devoted to the school-family relationship, the relationship between school and social context, and the challenges facing the teaching profession. The course will explore the ambivalent relationship between meritocratic ideals and social equity and the ways through which school institutions cope with gender, ethnic and social class inequalities. The general objective of the course is to provide future teachers tools to critically reflect on their professional role, the most common teaching practices and the organizational assets of contemporary schooling.

The following main issues will be developed:

- Introduction to sociology: theories and research methods
- Key transformations of school and educational systems in Italy and at global level
- Socialization processes
- The formation of educational and social identity
- Sociology of childhood
- School and inequalities
- School and social conflict

- Labelling theories and classroom interaction
- School-family relationship
- Teaching-led research
- Challenges in contemporary schooling between equity and the paradigm of efficiency

## Objectives

The course aims at enhancing the acquisition of:

- theoretical and methodological disciplinary competences
- Capacity of critical analysis and assessment thanks to specific didactic methodologies (oral presentations; applied research activities)
- Ability to analyze teaching practices and school organizations
- Applied methodological competences through fieldwork research, in order to enhance professional training and development
- Communication skills through active participation and oral presentations

## Methodologies

Frontal lessons; lessons with the support of audiovisual and documentary material; seminars on specific topics held by researchers and students.

Attending students will carry out research activities on one of the themes discussed during the lessons, by using specific research methods and techniques (either interviews or participant observation). In this way students will acquire specific applied competences which will allow them to reflect more concretely on the theoretical questions discussed during the course.

## Online and offline teaching materials

Other information and documents, including slides and additional teaching materials, will be published on the e-learning platform of the Sociology of Education M-Z website page.

## Programme and references for attending students

- Fele G. e Paoletti I. (2003) L'interazione in classe. Bologna: Il Mulino. (Chaptera: I and II)
- Dubar C. (2004) La socializzazione. Come si costruisce l'identità sociale. Bologna: Il Mulino. (Chapters: III

and V)
- Romito M. (2016) Una scuola di classe. Orientamento scolastico e disuguaglianza. Milano: Guerini e Associati (Chapters: II and III).
- Bertaux D. (2008) Racconti di vita. La prospettiva etnosociologica, Milano: Franco Angeli (Chapters: II and III)
- Schizzerotto A. e Barone C. (2006) Sociologia dell'istruzione. Bologna: Il Mulino. (Chapters: I, II, III, IV, V)
- Satta C. (2012) Bambini e adulti. La nuova sociologia dell'infanzia. Roma: Carocci
- One essay among those proposed during the course

## Programme and references for non-attending students

- Fele G. e Paoletti I. (2003) L'interazione in classe. Bologna: Il Mulino. (Chapters: I and II)
- Dubar C. (2004) La socializzazione. Come si costruisce l'identità sociale. Bologna: Il Mulino.
- Romito M. (2016) Una scuola di classe. Orientamento scolastico e disuguaglianza. Milano: Guerini e Associati (Chapters: I, II and III).
- Schizzerotto A. e Barone C. (2006) Sociologia dell'istruzione. Bologna: Il Mulino. (Chapters: I, II, III, IV, V)
- Satta C. (2012) Bambini e adulti. La nuova sociologia dell'infanzia. Roma: Carocci

## Assessment methods

For attending students (having attended at least 80% of the lessons) the verification of the degree of learning will be achieved by: a) oral group presentations on specific subjects; b) a report of max. four pages on their research activity; c) intermediate written exam on the subjects discussed during the first part of the course (also for non attending students); d) oral exam based on the discussion of the research report and on the subjects dealt with in the second part of the course. Final mark will be based on the average of the marks students have obtained in the different verification methods.

For non-attending students, the verification of the degree of learning will be achieved by an oral exam. Students should demonstrate to have understood the theoretical and methodological aspects of the reading materials, their argumentative structure, and cultural and scientific objectives.

Both attending and non attending students should demonstrate:

- Conceptual precisions and clarity of exposition
- Analytical skills
- Capacity of critical analysis of the reading materials and the topics dealt with during the course
- Autonomy assessments
- Synthesis capacity

Final evaluation is expressed on a scale 0-30

From 18 to 22: basic understanding of the knowledges provided during the course, low analytical skills and synthesis capacity, poor argumentative skills

From 23-26: adequate understanding of the contents and methods discussed during the course, adequate analytical skills and synthesis capacity, poor argumentative skills

From 27-30: good or excellent knowledge of contents and methods, good or excellence analytical skills and synthesis capacity, poor argumentative skills

## Office hours

During the course: Monday, from 11 a.m. to 13 p.m.

## Programme validity

Programme and references will be worth one academic year.

## Course tutors and assistants