UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Methods in Educational Research

1920-3-G8501R041-G8501R066M

Course title

Research Methodology in Education

Topics and course structure

The course focuses on approaches, methods and tools of qualitative and quantitative research in education, meaningful and useful for educational practice in ECEC services and in school. In particular, it will be deepened the perspective of reflexivity in the teaching profession, and several research tools will be offered to foster and support processes of analysis and reflexivity of educators and teachers on the educational practices and on the interpretation of their meanings. The course aims to promote knowledge and develop the ability to use these tools within school contexts .

Topics:

- The meaning of doing research for the educational practice and teacher professional development;
- Qualitative and quantitative research in education: approaches, methods and instruments
- Presentation and critical discussion of some examples of in-the-field educational research
- Analysis and discussion of practical exercises (planning a research project; constructing an interview, a questionnaire, a case study…).

Objectives

The course is aimed at:

· developing attitudes and skills in reflecting and critically analyzing educational practices

· mastering research models and instruments

· being able to define research projects aimed at improving educational practices

· developing competences in constructing and implementing research instruments

Methodologies

- Lectures

- Practical Exercises;

- Group works;

- Analyses and discussions of research instruments, data and materials

Online and offline teaching materials

Slides and other materials will be published along the lessons.

Programme and references for attending students

Attending students will be offered the possibility to participate to practical exercises , to discuss examples of researches implemented in educational contexts, aimed at learning to reflect and make research on the experience, contexts, practices and relationships, as a key competence of the teaching profession.

Practical exercises will be part of the written exam.

References:

- Pastori G., In ricerca. Prospettive e strumenti per educatori e insegnanti. Junior-Spaggiari, Parma, 2017

The following two articles:

- Mantovani S. Pastori G., Pensare la scuola. La voce dei giovani sulla scuola. In Scuola Democratica. Learning for Democracy. n°1/2017.
- Pastori G. La scuola italiana vista dagli 'altri'. Studenti di altri paesi raccontano la nostra scuola. In Scuola Democratica. Learning for Democracy. n°1/2017.

Programme and references for non-attending students

Non attending students will study the same programme of attending students. The exam will be different

Assessment methods

Exercises are meant to make students understand how to use theories and instruments of research in order to enter into an educational and school context and develop an analysis on it, on its relationships and practices that feature it.

Attending the training session and exercises helps understanding the aim of the course and the more and more growing level of expertise and knowledge of proposed instruments as well as the level of student learning.

The final exam is written and, on demand by the student, also oral.

In case the written exam is not sufficient, it has to be done again.

Attending students:

The exam will be written and it will regard a practical exercise developed during the lessons, which will be described and argued also using the theoretical materials provided within the program.

Non attending students:

The exam will be a questionnaire made of multiple choice questions and open-ended questions .

Evaluation Criteria:

The written exam of attending students will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

- correctness in writing;

- clarity in writing;

- correctness in making reference to theoretical contents (perspectives, methods and instruments);

- exhaustiveness and synthesis skills;

- transferability and practicability in school and education contexts;

- originality of the design concept or of the constructed instruments.

The test of non attending students will be evaluated on the base of the multiple choice questions scoring and also on the quality of the answers provided to the open-ended questions according to the following criteria:

- correctness in writing;

- clarity in writing;

- correctness in making reference to theoretical contents (perspectives, methods and instruments);

- exhaustiveness and synthesis skills.

ATTENTION: students of the **4ys curriculum degree, who have to study the 212/2013 program, will have only an oral interview.**

Office hours

Office hour will be

Programme validity

Two academic years, by law.

If agreed with the professor, programs of previous years will be taken into account, especially for students of the 4ys curriculum degree. Those students must make reference to the 2012/2013 program

Course tutors and assistants

Valentina Pagani: valentina.pagani@unimib.it

Caterina Falcone, c.falcone4@campus.unimib.it

Alice Sophie Sarcinelli, alice.sarcinelli@unimib.it