



UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

SYLLABUS DEL CORSO

Metodi di Ricerca Qualitativa

1920-1-E4001N076

Learning objectives

Knowledge of the distinctive features of qualitative research in sociology as well as of its specific techniques.

Acquisition of the basic skills to design and carry out a qualitative research project on a relevant topic for contemporary societies.

Contents

The course provides a history of qualitative research in social sciences, together with an overview of its epistemological assumptions, basic characteristics and main techniques for data collection and analysis.

Detailed program

The course will start with an historical introduction of qualitative research in sociology and a critical discussion of its main epistemological features.

Then, ethnography will be presented as the most important method for qualitative research. An overview of the central issues in qualitative sociology will be provided and the main data-collection and analysis techniques – participant observation, unstructured interview and focus group – will be elucidated.

As far as research competences are concerned, students will learn how:

to elaborate a qualitative research project,

to observe social settings and processes ,
to generate and analyse ethnographic notes,
to work out an interview outline,
to build a theoretical sample,
to manage, transcribe and analyse unstructured interviews using a software for qualitative data analysis.

Prerequisites

There are no preliminary requirements for the course.

Teaching methods

The course consists of lectures, group projects, lab sessions, and presentations.

Assessment methods

Attending students: a project work (a collective paper based on a qualitative research experience).

Non-attending students: written examination with open questions.

Textbooks and Reading Materials

Attending students

Non-attending students:

Texts will be announced at the beginning of the course.

Erasmus students:

- 1) Nagy Hesse-Biber S., Leavy P., "The practice of qualitative research (2nd edition)", Sage Publications (2011);
- 2) Duneier M., "Sidewalk", New York, Farrar, Straus and Giroux.

