

SYLLABUS DEL CORSO

La Misurazione in Ambito Psicosociale

2021-2-E2004P040

Learning area

Study of the Psychological Aspects Underlying Communication

Learning objectives

Knowledge and understanding

Research methods in the psycho social field

Research instruments: questionnaires, indirect measures,

Reliability and validity of measurement

Simple Statistical techniques for results testing

Applying knowledge and understanding

How to develop a research question

How to operationalize a psychological construct

Construction of a measure

Evaluation of a measure

Use of statistics within a research project

Contents

The course aims at helping students acquire useful knowledge for the conduction of a research in the field of social psychology. First, the issue of measurement in psychology will be introduced. Then some measures will be analyzed in detail (questionnaires, tests, indirect measures). Information will be provided on how to evaluate their psychometric characteristics. Moreover, a measure for a specific research question will be constructed and evaluated, as well as the test of research hypotheses with simple statistical techniques. Various examples of different kinds of measurement instruments and scientific research will be provided throughout the course.

Detailed program

Identifying the research question

The design of the research

Operationalizing psychological constructs: manipulation and measurement

Measurement instruments

Questionnaire

Measures of implicit and explicit constructs

Evaluating the psychometric qualities of a measure

Reliability

Validity

Construction of a measure

Analysis of results of a research project

Basic notions and applications of simple statistical techniques for testing research questions and hypotheses

Prerequisites

Nothing specific.

Teaching methods

Lectures and practical exercises during which students will be guided in constructing a research project, working in small groups.

Materials (lecture notes and scientific papers) will be made available on the e-learning site of the course, accessible to both attending students and non-attending students.

Assessment methods

The verification of the learning will be carried out through a written exam (multiple-choice and open questions) and a facultative oral exam.

The written exam aims at ascertaining the specific knowledge of the main theoretical aspects of the course and the ability to construct, evaluate measurement instruments and answer simple research questions with basic statistical technique. Mid term examinations will take place mid-course and at the end of the course.

The facultative oral exam deals with the whole program of the course. Attending students (required attendance: 66% of the lessons) can replace it with a presentation and discussion of the research project that they have developed during the course, through the use of PowerPoint slides. The oral exam allows to increase or decrease by 2 points the score obtained through the written exam.

The modality of such exam will be updated in accordance with the rules for COVID-19 emergency.

Textbooks and Reading Materials

The bibliography will be provided by the teacher at the beginning of the course and published on the page of the e-learning website.
