



UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Quantitative Research Methods (blended)

2021-1-E4001N077

Learning objectives

The main objective of the course is to transmit the preliminary knowledge of the logic of the sociological reasoning. In particular, the intent is to make known the social research, the epistemological principles, the rules underlying the scientific research and the different techniques available to a social researcher to achieve the desired cognitive objectives.

Contents

The course is aimed at students who are approaching social research methodology for the first time. It introduces the main theoretical and methodological approaches in the analysis of social phenomena and shows the link between the epistemological principles of sociological knowledge and empirical research. In particular, issues related to the methodological aspects of the research process are addressed: the nature of scientific problems, the different perspectives in the way social sciences are conceived (the definition of the nature of reality, the relationship between the researcher and the object of the study, the type of scientific language used and the assumptions which to start the research process from), the phases of the research design, the introduction to the main methods and techniques of data collection, such as the sample survey, and, finally, the national and international data sources available today for social research and the logic of the secondary analysis.

Detailed program

The course is divided into four parts:

Prerequisites

There are no preliminary requirements for the course.

Teaching methods

During the Covid-19 emergency period the lessons will take place completely remotely asynchronously with some events in physical presence. In particular, the course consists of 30 hours of lessons and 33 hours of training in blended learning mode. The blended learning didactics includes a series of activities such as web conferences, guided exercises, self-assessment tests, online office hours.

Assessment methods

The course includes a series of **exercises** (marked with the letter E) and **tests** (T) to allow the student to assess the degree of learning of the topics addressed during the course.

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- The **final score** for all the tests will be equal to the **average of the scores** obtained in each test.

Depending on the final score the student will get a bonus from 1 to 3 points which will be added to the written test score. The bonus is calculated as follows:

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- Final score = 55-69 - 1 point
- Final score = 70-84 - 2 points
- Final score = 85-100 - 3 points

The evaluation at the end of the course will take place with a **written examination**.

Textbooks and Reading Materials

1. Stefanizzi, S., *Il ragionamento sociologico. Questioni metodologiche ed esempi di ricerca*, McGrawHill, Milano, 2019. Second edition (cap. 6 excluded)

Except for the book, other texts will be available in electronic format within the blended platform.

Students enrolled in academic years before 2017/2018:

1. Stefanizzi, S., *Il ragionamento sociologico. Questioni metodologiche ed esempi di ricerca*, McGrawHill, Milano, 2019. Second edition (cap. 6 excluded)
 2. Bailey K. D., *Metodi della ricerca sociale. Vol.II. L'inchiesta*, il Mulino, Bologna, 2006
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