UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

SYLLABUS DEL CORSO

Turno F - Metodologia della ricerca - Gli strumenti della ricerca per le tesi

2122-2-F8701N033-TF

Learning objectives

SOCIAL RESEARCH METHODOLOGY LABORATORY - RESEARCH INSTRUMENTS FOR THESIS

Following a Social Research Methodology Laboratory is an opportunity for students to learn and deepen, mainly through exercises, elements of Social Research Methodology, with particular attention to some aspects useful for professional activity in the social field (programming, design , evaluation) and the final thesis work. The PROGEST theses, in fact, provide for a large majority, whatever the chosen topic, the use of techniques and tools of empirical research and data analysis.

Two laboratories have been designed, each corresponding to 3 CFU, in a path logic. You can follow both laboratories, or the laboratory that best matches your training needs, anticipating it, at your discretion, already in the first year

- In the first laboratory (**Reading and interpreting the data**), the objective is to provide the methodological tools to correctly read and interpret the statistical data and research results, both in view of the thesis and for a better understanding of the contents of the individual courses of the plan of studies, where statistical sources or research data are used

- In the second (**Research tools for theses**), the objective is both to facilitate the construction of the thesis

structure, and in particular the design of the empirical part, and to offer tools for the analysis of the data used, or collected on the field, and the presentation of the results.

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PROGEST THESIS- RESEARCH INSTRUMENTS AND DRAWINGS - Analyzing theses discussed in rec ent years by PROGEST

students, the most relevant methodological aspects will be presented and some recurr ing critical issues

will be discussed, and at the same time practical solutions will be proposed togethe r with advice and

warnings (including aspects such as construction of the index, presentation of result s, notes and

citations, bibliography). The interaction with the participants will allow to take in to account any

specific requests from students, both relating to their thesis projects, and for the resumption

of more general methodological aspects.

• DATA PROCESSING AND ANALYSIS (statistics, field research conducted with quantitativ e or

qualitative approaches). Students will have at their disposal matrices of standard re search data

and integral transcripts of some interviews to set up and carry out their own seconda ry analysis projects

, as well as proposals for analysis paths that use institutional data and / or servic es.

Calendar of meetings:

30 aprile sabato 9,30-13,30 U7 laboratorio informatico 714

7 maggio sabato 9,30-13,30 U9 laboratorio informatico 909

14 maggio sabato 9,30-13,30 U7 laboratorio informatico 716

21 maggio sabato 9,30-13,30 U7 laboratorio informatico 714

26 maggio giovedì 9,30-13,30 U7 laboratorio informatico 714

27 maggio venerdì 9,30-13,30 U9 laboratorio informatico 910

Detailed program

PROGEST THESIS- RESEARCH INSTRUMENTS AND DRAWINGS - Analyzing theses discussed in recent years by PROGEST students, the most relevant methodological aspects will be presented and some recurring critical issues will be discussed, and at the same time practical solutions will be proposed together with advice and warnings (including aspects such as construction of the index, presentation of results, notes and citations, bibliography). The interaction with the participants will allow to take into account any specific requests from students, both relating to their thesis projects, and for the resumption of more general methodological aspects.

• DATA PROCESSING AND ANALYSIS (statistics, field research conducted with quantitative or qualitative approaches). Students will have at their disposal matrices of standard research data and integral transcripts of some interviews to set up and carry out their own secondary analysis projects, as well as proposals for analysis paths that use institutional data and / or services.

Prerequisites

A basic knowledge of the fundamental elements of Methodology of social research acquired on previous occasions is supposed.

For those who have never followed courses in Methodology of social research, or even have never analyzed under the methodological profile of empirical research, we refer to what is reported in the section: "Conoscenze preliminari", in the platform.

In particular, we recommend, for those who have not already done so in the past, the reading / filing of a quantitative and qualitative research, both as regards the contents and from the methodological point of view: always in the "Conoscenze preliminari" section you can find a list of searches and a guide-book for reading.

Teaching methods

The program is carried out through voice presentations by the teachers, supported by an organic series of schemes that represent the sequence of contents presented in each meeting (slides), and by references to constantly updated materials (mainly accessible on websites).

The exercises are introduced, and followed, by the teachers.

- The Laboratory, designed and organized to be attended by students, has always provided for the possibility of being followed also by non-attending students.

- In the event of maintaining a distance teaching, in addition to the slides, materials, instructions for the exercises, which have always been present on the platform, video recordings of the meetings will also be made available to students

The materials will therefore include:

- the recorded presentation of the topics of the day, accompanied by the related slides (which constitute the framework of the meeting), and the instructions (also recorded) relating to the exercises to be carried out on those topics

- the links or documents necessary for the exercises

- bibliographical indications, links and in-depth documents on the different topics covered

Starting from the first meeting, and progressively on each of the other days, the students will have available on the platform the materials relating to the topics covered, which will remain accessible until after the end of the Laboratory: you will be able to access the materials made available on the website at any time platform.

Both teachers are available for clarification on the Laboratory, on the different topics covered, on the execution of the exercises.

Assessment methods

The acquisition of skills is verified through the execution of the exercises proposed during the meetings. The suitability assessment is based on participation, even remotely, and on the production of written exercises relating to the different parts of the laboratory

The teachers are expected to return the commentary on the exercises to each student.

A certificate of suitability will be issued with the specification of the competences achieved and the 3 corresponding ECTS.

Textbooks and Reading Materials

On the individual topics, the bibliography and especially the sitography - given the laboratory and practical nature of the meetings which widely uses databases, reports, documentation - is gradually indicated in the "slides" in relation to the individual articulations of the topics addressed

Considering that the assessment is essentially based on the exercises, the following are recommended to students above all useful texts as support or consultation for the performance of the exercises required during the Laboratory:

The methodological topics presented in the Laboratory are generally dealt with in the manuals

Corbetta Piergiorgio, Metodologia e tecniche della ricerca sociale, Il Mulino Bologna 2014 (II ed),

Amaturo Enrica, Metodologia della ricerca sociale, Utet Novara 2012

They also constitute in-depth texts on various methodological contents:

- on qualitative research: Cardano Mario, La ricerca qualitativa, Il Mulino Bologna 2011

- on statistics from institutional sources: Pintaldi Federica, Come si analizzano i dati territoriali, Franco Angeli Milano, 2009

- on classifications and typologies: Faggiano Maria Paola, Gli usi della tipologia nella ricerca sociale empirica, Franco Angeli Milano 2011

- on secondary analysis: Biolcati Rinaldi F., Vezzoni C., L'analisi secondaria nella ricerca sociale. Come rispondere a nuove domande con dati già raccolti, Il Mulino Bologna 2013

As for the recommended texts as they report research results on various topics and can be good examples both from the point of view of the applied methodologies and from the point of view of the results, please refer to the Conoscenze preliminari section on the platform and -learning