UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

The Art of Case Studies

2223-1-F8802N006

Learning objectives

This course aims to provide students key definitions and concepts about case studies. Student will learn how to design and implement a case study. More precisely, students will be supported in: a. identifying and defining their object of study; b designing a case of study based on the use of the appropriate mix of quantitative and qualitative research techniques. In addition, the course compares the logic of causal inference developed in case stuies with the one pursued in randomized controlled trials.

Contents

Knwoledge about the *case study* research tool and the fields where it is usually applied. Development of skills in designing and implementing a *case study*. Developing considerations about causal inference in studies bades on a case study.

Detailed program

Definition of case study and reasons behind the use of this research approach.

Criteria for selection, choice and demarcation.

Types of case studies and fields of application.

Case study design, techniques for data collection and analysis.

Reporting a case study.

Examples of case studies from different fields of application.

Comparison of casual inference in case studies towards randomized controlled trials.

Prerequisites

Basic knowledge of quantitative and qualitative research tecniques and on the mixed methods approach.

Teaching methods

Theoretical lectures, empirical examples of case of studies in different fields of application.

Hands on experience of a case study’s design and implementation.

Students attending the lessons will be invited to design, implement and report a randomized controlled trial.

Assessment methods

Students must present and discuss a case study designed and developed during the course.

At the final oral exam, students will be required to answer questions regarding the course contents.

Textbooks and Reading Materials

Sena B. (2021) Il case study nella ricerca sociale, Roma: Carocci.

Flyvbjerg B. (2011) Case Study. In Denzin N.K. & Lincoln Y.S. (eds.) *The Sage Handbook of Qualitative Research* (4th Edition). Thousand Oaks (CA): Sage, Chapter 17 (pp. 301-316).

http://www.consort-statement.org/

Additional papers on empirical cases will be provided.

Sustainable Development Goals