



UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Methodologies for Qualitative Social Research (blended)

2324-1-E3901N079

Learning objectives

Knowledge and understanding

Social reality is exposed to incessant changes, especially rapid in recent decades. Sociology is the science that aims to analyse and explain the taken-for-granted reality of social life and to show the processes by which it is changing. The general aim of the course is to provide students with skills on concepts and technical tools (knowledge) belonging to the so-called qualitative approach through which they can analyse and interpret social reality and its changes. Methodological skills will also be implemented through guided exercises. These proficiencies are essential for social workers.

Applying knowledge and understanding

The aim is to provide students with the proficiencies to orient themselves in the panorama of qualitative empirical social research in order to critically and an informed way identify problems and intervention methodologies within various organizational structures.

Contents

The Course is organized on six thematic issues developed in four units:

1. introduction to social research;
2. the planning of qualitative research and the ethics of social research;
3. the carrying out of qualitative research;
4. qualitative social research and its impact on society;

5. collaborative and participatory research;
6. gender sensitive research.

Detailed program

1? Module: introduction to social research

Scientific research

Qualitative and Quantitative research

2? Module: the planning of qualitative research and the ethics of social research

The planning of research

The phases of research

Ethics of/in research

3? Module: the carrying out of qualitative research

Choice of issue (relevance)

Literature review

Conceptualization

Proposing the research planning (unit of analysis, selection of cases, contact method, collection of data)

Data gathering techniques

Data analysis

4? Module: qualitative social research and its impact on society

Reporting

Dissemination

Impact on society

Prerequisites

Basic educational skills in logic, social culture, and reasonable ability in learning, writing and communication.

Teaching methods

The course will be conducted in blended e-learning (18 hours provided by remote platform and 38 by traditional face to face lessons and guided exercises - individual and in groups exercises).

Assessment methods

Blended elearning intermediate tests (individual and in group exercises), written and (discretionary) oral examinations.

Evaluation criteria:

Written examination

- Relevancy of the answer towards the subject of question;
- Ability to grasp the essential elements of the proposed issue;
- Ability to present the proposed issue in a coherent and consequential manner;
- Completeness of the elements that constitute the answer;
- Spelling and syntactic accuracy.

Oral examination

- Knowledge related to the topics analyzed in the bibliography and discussed in classroom;
- Ability to expose the proposed issue in an orderly and complete manner;
- Understanding and appropriate use of specific concepts relating to complex sociological phenomena;
- Ability of a critical thinking and reflection.

Each intermediate and final exam will receive a mark:

Textbooks and Reading Materials

1) Corbetta P. (2014), *Metodologia e tecniche della ricerca sociale - Parte prima. I paradigmi di riferimento*, Bologna, il Mulino.

2) Fasanella A., Mauceri M., Nobile S. (in course of publication), *Metodologia della ricerca sociale: approcci, strategie e tecniche di indagine* (Capp. 1, 2, 3, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23 e 24), Milano, FrancoAngeli Open Access Platform.

3) Decataldo A., Russo C. (2022), *Metodologie partecipative per la ricerca sociologica*, Torino, Pearson.

4) Decataldo A., Ruspini E. (2014), *La ricerca di genere*, Roma, Carocci.

Specific indications will be provided to students during the course.

Erasmus students may ask for an alternative bibliography in English language.

Sustainable Development Goals

GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING | GENDER EQUALITY | REDUCED INEQUALITIES
