UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Scrittura

2324-2-F0101R051-SC

Course title

Ethnographic Writing

Topics and course structure

Through the direct involvement of the students, the laboratory aims to experiment with the forms, functions and methods of ethnographic writing – understood not only as a form of "restitution" or data display, but as an integral and constitutive part of the research process (and of the "production" of ethnographic data).
Starting from the definition of the various phases in which research is articulated, we will focus on those which foresee writing, from bibliographic documentation to field notes, from research planning to the transcription of the interviews, from data analysis to the writing of the ethnographic text. We will especially focus on the definition, structure and forms of scientific/academic writing, e.g.: use of writing programs; citations and bibliographic references; text styles and formatting; footnote structure; indication and organization of sources; transparency and plagiarism; rights; data protection; etc.
Practical exercises are previewed, which will help participants to become familiar with the tools, techniques, software and resources available.
Invited guests will present their research experiences, focusing on the theoretical and concrete aspects of ethnographic writing, and will answer students' questions and doubts.

Objectives

The laboratory aims to develop the following skills and abilities:

- Methods of organization, management and use of bibliographic references.

- Methods of producing written ethnographic data (field notes, interview transcripts…).
- Ability to set up and compile research projects.
- Knowledge of scientific/academic ethnographic writing.

Methodologies

The laboratory focuses on the direct involvement and participation of the students. Writing methods, techniques and instruments will be briefly introduced and then concretely experimented by the students with exercises, writing activities and active research. Activities will be discussed collectively in the classroom.

Online and offline teaching materials

Specific material will be given to the students when needed.

Programme and references

Specific bibliographic references will be identified and proposed to the students during the lessons. The following are some of the references that will be used during the Lab:

- Agar, Michael. 1980. *The Professional Stranger: An Informal Introduction to Ethnography*. New York: Academic Press.
- Bianco, Carla. 1994. *Dall'evento al documento: orientamenti etnografici*. Roma: CISU.
- Clifford, James e George E. Marcus. 2005. *Scrivere le culture. Poetiche e politiche dell'etnografia*. Milano: Meltemi.
- Eco, Umberto. 2017. *Come si fa una tesi di laurea*. Milano: La nave di Teseo.
- Fabietti, Ugo, e Vincenzo Matera. 1998. *Etnografia. Scritture e rappresentazioni dell'antropologia*. Roma: Carocci.
- Malighetti, Roberto, e Angela Molinari. 2016. *Il metodo e l'antropologia. Il contributo di una scienza inquieta*. Milano: Cortina Raffaello.
- Matera, Vincenzo. 2004. *La scrittura etnografica*. Milano: Meltemi
- Piasere, Leonardo. 2002. *L'etnografo imperfetto: esperienza e cognizione in antropologia*. Roma ; Bari: Laterza.

Assessment methods

4 credits will be recognized to the attending students.
Students unable to acquire the 4 credits through active participation in the Laboratory for at least 75% of the 40 hours foreseen (or through the other channels foreseen by the degree course) can contact the Professor BEFORE THE START of the Laboratory to report their specific situations. The methods of acquiring the 4 credits by exempt students will be explained during the first meeting of the laboratory.

Office hours

The hour before or after the Laboratory lessons

Programme validity

Two academic years

Course tutors and assistants

Sustainable Development Goals

REDUCED INEQUALITIES | PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS