UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Laboratory 1

2526-3-E3901N057

Learning objectives

Social services, whether embedded within public or private social institutions, are a key junction in the lives of people with disabilities who need intensive support. The day-to-day work in these facilities seems to be defined a priori by economic, regulatory and political constraints, leaving the social worker to take care of the bureaucratic aspects and manage the technical ones. Is this really the case? The goal of the workshop is to foster a critical reading of the role and function of social services with respect to interventions for people with disability, bringing out constraints and potentialities of the social worker's activity. In particular, it is intended to bring out the questions and demands that the human rights-based approach to disability poses to the network of social and health services.

**- Knowledge and understanding
Understand the human rights-based approach to disability and its implications for social work
**- Applying knowledge and understanding
Recognise and interpret concrete situations in which social work can promote or hinder the emancipation of persons with disabilities

- Independent judgement (making judgements)
  The workshop values students' intention and ability to develop and communicate their own competent point of view on the role of professional social services in supporting the emancipation of people with disabilities
  Communication skills
  The workshop requires and encourages students to express their ideas, doubts and considerations through a variety of opportunities and communication tools
  **- Learning skills
  Through differentiated teaching methods (testimonials, field visits, group work, exercises and lectures), the workshop allows students to explore the content in depth and develop their skills in a variety of ways that can be adapted to the characteristics and preferences of the participants.

Contents

The workshop will develop its training proposals by exploring, in a mainly active way, some key topics such as:

- Approaches to disability in history and in the present
- International, national and regional (Lombardy) legislation inherent to social policies for disability, with specific references to professional social service
- Knowledge of the service network
- Personalized planning
- The risk of discrimination and segregation

Detailed program

Meeting 1 Is a handicapped a handicapped?
Meeting 3 Encounters and confrontations with services (visits and interviews with social workers)
Meeting 4 The map of norms
Meeting 5 Meetings and clashes with services (visits to social welfare or social work supply units)
Meeting 6 Planning personally

Prerequisites

Sufficient logic and general culture skills and reasonable learning, writing and oral communication skills

Teaching methods

The Workshop aims to foster students' direct acquaintance with the approach of social services specific of associations of people with disability and the knowledge that flows from it. Students will therefore be invited, through a series of classroom proposals (exercises, debates, readings and video viewings), added with meetings with competent significant people and visits to social services, to compare own approach to disability with that developed by associationism in Milan and Lombardy . There will be some informative and theoretical contributions on sector legislation, the organization of national and regional social welfare, and the social approach to disability. Between meetings, students will receive bibliographical recommendations for possible further study (literature of both artistic and scientific nature, articles, websites, videos of different nature, ...).

Assessment methods

The success of the Workshop is linked to the active participation of students in the various proposed activities. The verification of learning, will take place mainly through discussion in the classroom and through the evaluation of the writing some typical products of the Workshop and in particular:

- reports of interviews with social workers, visits to services and participation in the workshop
- an article, on an agreed topic, in which to bring out the student's point of view on a specific issue, to be agreed, inherent in the relationship between disability and social services.

Textbooks and Reading Materials

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (2006)
Le contraddizioni dell'inclusione, a cura di Matteo Schianchi (ed. Carocci, 2024)
Disabilità, il peso delle parole, di Giovanni Merlo (ed. ITL 2024)

Sustainable Development Goals

GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING | QUALITY EDUCATION | GENDER EQUALITY | REDUCED INEQUALITIES | SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES | PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS