UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Methods in Educational Research - M-Z

2627-3-G8501R041-G8501R066M-MZ

Course title

Research Methodologies in Education

Topics and course structure

The course focuses on approaches, methods and tools of qualitative and quantitative research in education, meaningful and useful for educational practice in school. In particular, it will be deepened the perspective of reflexivity in the teaching profession, and several research tools will be offered to foster and support processes of analysis and reflexivity of educators and teachers on the educational practices and on the interpretation of their meanings. The course aims to promote knowledge and develop the ability to use these tools within school contexts .

Topics:

- the meaning of doing research for the educational practice and teacher professional development;
- qualitative and quantitative research in education: approaches, methods and instruments;
- presentation and critical discussion of some examples of in-the-field educational research;
- analysis and discussion of practical exercises.

Objectives

As per the regulations and the Tuning framework of the degree program, the course aims to achieve the following learning objectives:

- developing attitudes and skills in reflecting and critically analyzing educational practices;
- mastering research models and instruments;
- being able to define research projects aimed at improving educational practices;
- developing competences in constructing and implementing research instruments

Methodologies

The lessons are delivered in person and held in Italian, and include:

- Lectures
- Exercises
- Group discussions
- Individual and group work
- Analyses and discussions of research instruments, data and materials

(proportion between lectures and interactive activities: 65% - 35%)

Online and offline teaching materials

Slides and other materials will be provided along the lessons.

The professor provides additional and alternative materials to support non-traditional students in their study and exam preparation (partial recordings of in-person lectures, lecture slides, and supplementary in-depth videos), available on the course's Classroom page.

Programme and references

Students will be offered the possibility to participate to practical exercises, to discuss examples of researches implemented in educational contexts, aimed at learning to reflect and make research on the experience, contexts, practices and relationships, as a key competence of the teaching profession.

References:

- One of the following textbooks: Pastori, G. (2017). In ricerca. Prospettive e strumenti per educatori e insegnanti. Parma: Junior-Spaggiari (esclusi i capitoli 2, 9); 9); b) Domenici, G., Lucisano, P., & Biasi, V. (a cura di) (2021). Ricerca sperimentale e processi valutativi in educazione. McGraw-Hill Education
- Pagani, V. (2020). Dare voce ai dati. L'analisi dei dati testuali nella ricerca educativa. Reggio Emilia: Edizioni Junior-Bambini Srl (unicamente i capitoli 1, 2, 3 e 7)
- Course lecture notes and materials provided by the professor.

Although this course is held in Italian, **Erasmus students** may take the exam in either Italian or English. An alternative bibliography in English can be arranged upon request.

Students who intend to extend the exam over two years must agree with the professor on a revised and updated bibliography to take the assessment.

Assessment methods

The exam is structured as an oral test, during which the student will present and discuss the practical exercises carried out and the research project they have developed. There are no midterm exams.
Before accessing the oral exam, students must deliver the practical exercises through the course's Classroom page.
The choice of the oral examination as the assessment method is consistent with the objectives of the course, as it allows, through a dialogic communicative setting, for interaction with the student in order to evaluate their critical understanding of the course topics and their ability to connect theory with practice.

Students can take the exam in English if they wish to do so.

Evaluation Criteria:

In order to ensure a transparent evaluation, the criteria adopted and shared with students for the assessment of the exam are the following:

- speaking accuracy and clarity;
- correctness in referring to theoretical contents (perspectives, methods and instruments);
- exhaustiveness and synthesis skills;
- transferability and practicability in school and education contexts;
- originality of the design concept or the constructed instruments.

You can access the assessment rubric by clicking HERE

Office hours

The professor is available by appointment. Please contact valentina.pagani@unimib.it to schedule a meeting.

Programme validity

The programme is valid for a period of two years.

Course tutors and assistants

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Sustainable Development Goals

QUALITY EDUCATION