**Methodology of Psychological Research 2**

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***COURSE AIMS AND INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES***

The course aims to provide students with a knowledge of the various strategies regarding the planning and carrying out of scientific research in psychology. For each phase of the research cycle, we will discuss the main methodological choices that the researchers have to take.

In particular, we will discuss how to distinguish between the qualitative and quantitative research approaches and, for each approach, different research designs will be presented. Furthermore, details about sampling methods, measurement of variables and constructs, as well as research procedures will be provided. Finally, we will discuss how to report research results according to the research designs adopted.

Upon completion of the course, students will be familiar with the research designs and the procedures for the planning and realization of scientific research. Furthermore, students will be able to identify the methodological elements of scientific research within research articles; they will be able to codify materials of qualitative research; describe results of factorial design; present the results of certain types of research in written form. Lastly, students will be able to read research articles and evaluate the validity of the methodological decisions taken by researchers.

***COURSE CONTENT***

Unit 1: The role of research in psychology

Unit 2: Qualitative and quantitative research approach

Unit 3: Quantitative research and generalisation

Unit 4: Experimental designs

Unit 5: Experimental designs for small samples and case studies

Unit 6: Correlational designs

Unit 7: Longitudinal studies

Unit 8: Investigation and sampling

Unit 9: Validity in quantitative research

Unit 10: Qualitative research and data production

Unit 11: Thematic analysis

Unit 12: Grounded Theory

Unit 13: Phenomenological research

Unit 14: Validity in qualitative research

Unit 15: Writing to communicate research results

Unit 16: Open science

Unit 17: Systematic review

***READING LIST***

Materials proposed during thecourse and available on the Blackboard platform: slides, research articles, videos.

*Reference texts*

D. Howitt - D. Cramer, *Metodologia della ricerca in psicologia,* edizione italiana a cura di M. Lanz - S. Tagliabue, Pearson, Milano-Torino, 2020, chapters: 1 (only 1.3, 1.4), 4 (only 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4., 4.5), 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 (only 12.5, 12.6), 15, 17, 18, 21, 22. Units 15 and 17 will use some of the text's online materials. Specific indications will be given on Blackboard at the beginning of the course.

M. Lanz & A. Sorgente, *Metodologia della ricerca psicologica 2,* EDUCatt.

***TEACHING METHOD***

The course is divided into classroom lectures and practical exercises, and remote workshop teaching. The workshop allows students to put into practice what they've learnt in the theoretical lectures by working on the construction of data, the interpretation of effects, and the writing up of qualitative and quantitative research.

The calendar of workshop dates will be communicated at the beginning of the course.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

Assessment takes place through a written exam divided into two parts: “Part A”, consisting of 30 multiple-choice questions; “Part B”, consisting of 3 research case study analyses.

In "part A" the questions will verified the student's basic knowledge of qualitative and quantitative research; the aspects, methods and validity of scientific research.

In "Part B", students' critical abilities will be assessed through the analysis of research case studies; students will have to be able to identify the methodological elements of the research, with particular attention to the logic of qualitative and quantitative research. Furthermore, one research case study will focus on writing skills, i.e. the ability to report the results of qualitative and quantitative research.

Both parts will focus on the contents presented and learned during lectures and in the workshop. In order to pass the exam, students must receive at least eighteen out of thirty for each part. The final mark is based on the average of the marks obtained in the two parts.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

To adequately study for this exam, students need to already know the content of the Methodology of Research Psychology 1 (stages of the research cycle, variables, measuring, validity, scientific communication, outline of descriptive statistics, tools,…).

Further information can be found on the lecturer's webpage at http://docenti.unicatt.it/web/searchByName.do?language=ENG, or on the Faculty notice board.