## **Workshop: Social Media and Informal Educational Contexts**

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### **Text under revision. Not yet approved by academic staff.**

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

The Workshop aims to introduce students to a selection of case studies, and experiment with them operational activities that can encourage, from the perspective of Media Education and health promotion, a critical and conscious approach towards our everyday ability ‘to be’ in digital social environments. In a context where the *onlife* represents an integral part of the experiential horizon of everyone of us, the social network dimension is characterised by a constellation of platforms, technologies, market logics, and social uses that define a changeable media space, where emotions, relationships, and identities are reconfigured and negotiated.

The workshop aims to offer educational and didactic proposals focused on some specific dimensions of the critical reflection upon social media, such as the emotional, the social, and the identity-related ones.

The intended learning outcome is the students’ acquisition of the skills required to design, implement, and assess educational activities in the field of social media and, more in general, the relational digital spaces, from messaging to online gaming.

***DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTIVITIES***

The synchronous lectures and the relative asynchronous activities will be focused on the following topics:

– Living in the digital world: theoretical perspectives and food for thought

– Working methodology, between media education and experiential learning

– Emojis. The emotional dimension in digital environments

– Stories. Consumption, narration, and digital identity

– Performers. Digital sociability and market logics

Students will be asked to actively work in small groups in order to discuss and develop some projects of didactic units starting from the activities experimented and the case studies proposed.

***TEACHING METHOD***

The working methodology is based on a constructivist and metacognitive perspective, consisting in the presentation of operational insights and case studies, the practical experimentation of illustrative activities, and the request to develop collaborative projects in small groups (4-5 people). Each project will be then presented, discussed with peers, and be subject to a reinterpretation carried out with the help of the lecturer. At the end of the course, all students will be asked to develop a short report analysing the weaknesses and the strengths of their work, highlighting the repeatability of the methodology in educational contexts, such as the different school systems and the extracurricular dimension.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

The final assessment will consist in the writing of a project report to be presented and discussed in front of the class.

The participation to the workshop, the activities proposed, and the group work will provide further elements to assess the students’ achievement of the intended learning outcomes and therefore their ability to pass the workshop.

In order to pass the workshop, students will have to attend classes and take part to the activities for the whole duration of the workshop.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

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.