Research and Training

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COURSE AIMS AND INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES

Knowing how to build a research process in synergy with the educational dimension is a qualifying professional skill of the operator. The course aims to provide essential knowledge on the subject and initiate an initial maturation of methodological skill in designing research paths in the educational and training fields.

Knowledge and understanding

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

* know how the research process is structured;
* know the main research designs and sampling techniques;
* know the tools of detection and data analysis techniques (with particular attention to methods of a qualitative nature).

Apply knowledge and understanding

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

* correctly use the fundamental concepts and specific language of the discipline;
* articulate relevant research questions and know how to coherently define a sample (with particular reference to childcare services);
* appropriately choose the tools for data collection and analysis (with particular reference to qualitative data);
* read and critically understand research reports.

COURSE CONTENT

The course examines the main questions that move the debate in education and training research, starting from the criteria of external and applied relevance. Research is presented as a central aspect of the operator's professional profile, being an essential activity for the evaluation and planning of their training practice.

The fundamental structure of the research process will be considered by integrating the methodological framework of the phases with the presentation of examples and concrete cases, drawn in particular from childcare services. The survey forms consistent with the questions from which the research originates will be presented, with particular reference to the sampling and data collection phase. Specific attention will be devoted to the analysis of qualitative data.

***READING LIST[[1]](#footnote-1)***

1. K. Montalbetti - C. Lisimberti, *Ricerca e professionalità educativa. Risorse e strumenti,* Pensa, Lecce, 2015. [*Purchase from VP*](https://librerie.unicatt.it/scheda-libro/katia-montalbetti-cristina-lisimberti/ricerca-e-professionalita-educativa-risorse-e-strumenti-9788867602698-223446.html)

2. MV Raso - PA Lampugnani - E. Marone - C. Lichene, *Innovazione, continuità e ricerca nei servizi 0-6,* Zeroseiup, Italy, 2020.

1. The teaching material will be available on the *Blackboard* platform.

TEACHING METHOD

The course includes frontal lectures, in which the main topics will be introduced, as well as guided practical activities. Through the latter, students will be helped to learn operational skills for the design and implementation of detection tools and for the coding/analysis of data, directly experiencing their implementation by working on real contexts and scenarios.

ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA

The final oral exam is aimed at ascertaining students' knowledge, application skills and initial methodological skills; students will have to demonstrate critical and argumentative competence in re-reading, re-working and presenting the proposed contents.

Specifically, the oral interview will focus on verifying the contents of the reading list through a series of general questions and reasoning questions, beginning with the cases reported in the volumes and with the products created during the practical guided activities; the final mark will consider the correctness and quality of the answers given, the command of the language, the ability to rework the methodological contents in a critical way, and the ability to argue and motivate the methodological choices.

NOTES AND PREREQUISITES

Being introductory in nature, there are no prerequisites for attending the course.

Students are required to regularly consult the Blackboard IT platform, where notices and updates will be communicated from time to time.

Should the current Covid-19 health emergency not allow face-to-face teaching, remote teaching will be guaranteed using methods that will be communicated in good time to students.

Information on office hours available on the teacher's personal page at http://docenti.unicatt.it/.

1. The texts indicated in the reading list may be purchased at the University bookstores; they may also be bought from other outlets. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)