**.- Research and Training**

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

***Course aims***

The course aims to:

* provide basic knowledge;
* start the initial development of methodological skills;
* promote the development of application skills necessary to design research paths in educational and training fields.

***Intended learning outcomes***

*Knowledge and understanding*

At the end of the course, students will know:

* the internal organisation of the research process;
* the main research designs and sampling techniques;
* the survey tools and data analysis techniques (with particular attention to qualitative methods).

*Apply knowledge and understanding*

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

* correctly use the fundamental concepts and the specific language of the discipline;
* articulate relevant research questions and define consistent sampling (with particular reference to children's services);
* appropriately choose data collection and analysis tools (with particular reference to qualitative data);
* critically read and understand research reports.

*Independent judgement, Communication skills and Learning ability*

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

* interpret and critically evaluate the results of empirical research in educational and training contexts;
* communicate and argue the methodological and technical choices made in research contexts and in educational-training work;
* learn from their own experience through reflective critical thinking.

***COURSE CONTENT***

The course programme examines the following topics:

1. the role of research in the professional profile of the educator;
2. types and phases of research;
3. data collection tools (interview, questionnaire, observation);
4. data encoding;
5. examples of research in the various educational services and training fields, with particular attention to childcare services.

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

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

2. M. V. RASO - P. A. LAMPUGNANI - E. MARONE - C. LICHENE, *Innovazione, continuità e ricerca nei servizi 0-6,* Zeroseiup, Italy, 2020.

1. The teaching material is made available on the *Blackboard* platform.

***TEACHING METHOD***

The course includes lectures to introduce the main topics and guided practical activities. Through these, students will be guided in the acquisition of operational skills for the design of collection tools, directly experimenting with their implementation starting from educational and training contexts and scenarios.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

***Assessment method***

The final exam is oral and is aimed at verifying the students’ knowledge, application skills and initial methodological skills; students will have to demonstrate critical and argumentative skills in rereading, reworking and presenting the proposed contents.

To access the oral interview, students must submit (at least 10 days before the exam date) a paper created starting from the guided practical activities presented in class. This paper must be drawn up according to the format made available on the Blackboard platform and constitutes the starting point of the oral exam.

Specifically, the oral interview will focus on the discussion of the essay and on verifying the contents included in the reading list through the use of general and reasoning questions. The mark of the essay, communicated during the oral exam, will account for 50% of the definition of the final mark.

***Assessment criteria***

The overall assessment will take into account the paper work being discussed, with attention to the following aspects: completeness and relevance of the information included; clarity of the contents presented; argumentation of the methodological choices made; feasibility and sustainability of the developed proposal; originality of the contents.

Furthermore, the exam will assess the students’ correctness and quality of knowledge of the textbooks indicated in the reading list and of the notions presented in class, the command of language as well as the ability to critically rework the methodological contents.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

Since the course is introductory, there are no content-related prerequisites for attending it.

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

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

1. The textbooks indicated in the reading list can be purchased from University bookstores; they can also be purchased at other retailers. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)