

COURSE OF STUDY: Social Innovation and Inclusion Policies- LM/87
ACADEMIC YEAR: 2023-2024
ACADEMIC SUBJECT: Methods and techniques of social research

General information	
Year of the course	I
Academic calendar (starting and ending date)	18 september 2023- 7 december 2023
Credits (CFU/ETCS):	7
SSD	SPS/07
Language	Italian
Mode of attendance	Suggested

Professor/ Lecturer	
Name and Surname	Caterina Balenzano
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Telephone	
Department and address	Department of Political Sciences, Palazzo F. Cassano, Room 4th Ground Floor
Virtual room	
Office Hours (and modalities: e.g., by appointment, on line, etc.)	Students' tutoring will take place, generally, on Friday from 14.30 to 16.30 at the teacher's office, or, in particular cases, on the team's channel (code: qju7qwy). To facilitate the planning of tutoring meetings, students must book by email, writing to caterina.balenzano@uniba.it Consult the web page www.uniba.it/it/ricerca/dipartimenti/scienze-politiche/docenti

Work schedule			
Hours			
Total	Lectures	Hands-on (laboratory, workshops, working groups, seminars, field trips)	Out-of-class study hours/ Self-study hours
175	40	16	119
ECTS			
7	5	2	

Learning Objectives	<p>The course is aimed at giving students the essential knowledge to critically interpret empirical studies and discuss their results from a technical standpoint.</p> <p>Likewise, it aims at promoting competences in planning studies and researches, that is facilitating students' competence in using the main research's methods and techniques.</p> <p>Finally, thanks to the group's activities, the course will stimulate the</p>
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	development of students' social, communicative and teamworking competences.
Course prerequisites	Essential knowledges of general sociology Knowledges of elements of mathematics and statistic
Teaching strategies	<p>Frontal lessons, thematic workshops, individual and interactive group activities.</p> <p>The course includes interactive lectures supported by power point presentations to facilitate students' learning about models, concepts and tools for social research. Some research, case studies and or project experiences will be presented and discussed in the classroom, to support students' ability to apply methodological knowledge to work in the field. Group activities were used to promote students' ability to plan a research deign.</p>
Expected learning outcomes in terms of	
Knowledge and understanding on:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Appropriate knowledge of the main approaches and methods for social research. ○ Appropriate knowledge and ability to understand in a critical way the main social research's techniques.
Applying knowledge and understanding on:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ability to understand the ways and strategies for planning a research's design, considering the learned theoretical knowledges. ● Ability to knowledge and apply the different data collection techniques applicable in social research. ● Ability to understand and apply the different strategies to clect data useful to examine the social phenomena. ● Ability to understand and apply the different strategies of analysis in the light of the objectives of the research. ● Ability to plan empirical studies ensuring the internal coherence of the project (from the identification of the aim to the definition of expected results)
Soft skills	<p><i>Making informed judgments and choices</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ability to examine in a critical way some findings of empirical studies; ○ Make and express appropriate subjective judgments regarding the methodological appropriateness of some empirical studies. <p><i>Communicating knowledge and understanding</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ability to appropriately communicate a research project using the specialist vocabulary of the discipline. ● Ability to discuss clearly with the group and the teacher and express specific arguments in a coherent way. ● Ability to present a research project planned in group. <p><i>Capacities to continue learning</i></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ability to learn and contextualize research's approaches and methods in the light of the context and the specific thematic area which is explored. ○ Ability to identify and use correct methods of research to analyze specific research's objects.
Syllabus	
Content knowledge	<p>The course aims to introduce students to the understanding of the main social research's methods and the related epistemological aspects. Specific issues will be presented with reference to the most recent scientific evidence in the field.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The measurement in social sciences. ● Methodological problems in social research ● Quantitative and qualitative methods ● The planning of the research design; <p>Data collection and data analysis techniques.</p>
Texts and readings	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. E. AMATURO, <i>METODOLOGIA DELLA RICERCA SOCIALE</i>, UTET, 2011. 2. CARDANO, M., VENTURINI G.L., MANOCCHI M., <i>Ricerche. Un'introduzione alla metodologia delle scienze sociali</i>, CAROCCI, 2011.
Notes, additional materials	
Repository	Useful materials for studying the textbook and handouts for the in-depth parts will be available on the teacher's page on department site.

Assessment	
Assessment methods	<p>Written intermediate tests could be scheduled during the course to assess the expected knowledge and competences. The final assessment will consist of an oral examination where a research project will be discussed and-or planned. Both the tests are mixed and include both thematic questions and requests for brief answers and definitions.</p> <p>They will verify the level of the student's mastery with respect to the contents proposed during the course, that is the level of acquisition of learning objectives.</p>
Assessment criteria	<p>Students will be assessed, with a specific consideration for:</p> <p>Knowledge and understanding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Degree of knowledge of the topics: the student has learned the main models and methodological tools of social research addressed during the course; ○ Capacity for critical understanding: the student is able to critically read some papers;

	<p>o Mastery of models: the student understands and identifies the different approaches, methods and techniques for social research;</p> <p>Applying knowledge and understanding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Applying quantitative and qualitative methods in the light of the researchers' aims; - Using data collection research to study social phenomena; - Planning a research design; - Presenting essential points both of a research project and of a published paper Working in team; <p>Autonomy of judgment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Capacity for analysis and critical reasoning: the student is able to interpret findings of empirical studies and express a critical judgment about the methodological aspects <p>Communication skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Communication skills: the student is able to express in a clear, organised and detailed manner the content learned, using appropriately the specialised vocabulary of the subject; - Debating skills: the student is able to engage in discussion with the group and with the teacher and is able to express arguments in support of a methodological choice, in an understandable, consistent and linear way; - Argumentation skills: the student is able to justify his/her methodological choices, also with reference to the - literature <p><i>Capacities to continue learning</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Methodological skills: the student is able to identify and apply the main research methods introduced in the course to examine social phenomena; - Research skills: the student is able to search studies and investigations in the social research's field.
Final exam and grading criteria	<p>The final grade is expressed in thirtieths. The examination is considered passed when the mark is greater than or equal to 18. Students will be assessed in relation to the degree of achievement for each of above-mentioned criteria. The final evaluation is considered as the global score derived from the measurement of the level of competence obtained for each expected learning result. The laude is awarded to students who achieve a mark of 30/30 show particular argumentative skills and ability to connect topics. The criteria followed for the assessment of learning outcomes</p>

	<p>expressed in thirtieths are:</p> <p>Insufficient: 0-17 Lacking and inadequate knowledge of the main topics of the syllabus, use of inappropriate vocabulary.</p> <p>Sufficient: 18-20 Sufficient knowledge of the main topics of the syllabus and overall appropriateness of the vocabulary used.</p> <p>Satisfactory: 21-23 Satisfactory knowledge of the main topics of the syllabus, fair ability to argue and make connections between the different topics, use of appropriate vocabulary.</p> <p>Good: 24-26 Good knowledge of the topics of the syllabus, good in-depth and critical study skills, use of appropriate vocabulary.</p> <p>Very good: 27-28 More than good knowledge of all the topics of the syllabus, more than good capacity for in-depth study, for linking the different topics, for criticism and mastery of vocabulary.</p> <p>Excellent: 29-30 Excellent knowledge of all the topics of the syllabus, very good in-depth study, ability to link between the different topics, as well as criticism and expertise in vocabulary's use.</p> <p>Excellent cum laude Excellent knowledge of all the topics of the syllabus, excellent ability to study in depth, to link between the different topics, as well as criticism and full mastery of vocabulary.</p>
Further information	
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