

Degree Course in Sociology
A.Y. 2024/2025
Social Sciences Methodology
SSD: SPS/07
ECTS 8 - 48 hours
Lesson period: I Semester

Teacher Contact

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|----------------|---|
| Teacher | Prof. Eleonora Venneri |
| Reception time | On lesson days from 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm by appointment at venneri@unicz.it |
| Email | venneri@unicz.it |

Course Description

Starting from an introductory reflection on the main similarities and differences that can be identified between the ordinary and scientific forms of knowledge and their respective linguistic connotations, the course aims to lead students to understand the logic of the scientific method and its application in the social sciences, also considering the most critical epistemological, methodological, and ethical issues, relating to the investigative approaches that can be used in social research.

Expected Learning

The student will have to acquire the epistemological skills necessary to set up and conduct sociological research.

Syllabus

- Commonsense knowledge and scientific knowledge: similarities and differences.
- Ordinary language and scientific language: polysemy and monosemy.
- Method, epistemology, methodology, technique.
- The problem of knowledge: the relationship between reality, thought, and language.
- The elementary tools of knowledge: concepts, statements, explanations.
- Standard approaches and non-standard approaches to scientific knowledge: methodological integration and social research.
- The data matrix: rows and columns. Population and sample. Statistical and sociological representativeness.
- Conceptualization and operationalization: concepts, nature of indicators in the social sciences, variables, and levels of measurement.
- Hypotheses, theories, generalizations, scientific laws.

Expected student workload

152 hours

Learning resources

Marradi A., Metodologia delle scienze sociali, Bologna, Il Mulino, 2007

Teaching Method

Frontal lessons

Attendance policy

The attendance policy is established by art. 8 of the University teaching regulation:
http://www.unicz.it/pdf/regolamento_didattico_ateneo_dr681.pdf.

Assessment methods

The final exam will be oral.

The final exam will be graded according to the following table:

| | Knowledge and comprehension | Analysis and synthesis | Use of bibliographic references |
|------|---|--|--|
| Fail | Important gaps/mistakes/ lexical inaccuracies Confusion | Irrrelevant. Inappropriate use of digressions and generalizations | Not able |

| | | | |
|--------|---|---|--|
| 18-20 | Minimal orientation skills in the subject. Evident imperfections/gaps | Barely sufficient | Barely sufficient |
| 21-23 | Superficial Knowledge. Serious imperfections | Correct method supported by coherent presentation/reasoning | Able |
| 24-26 | Good knowledge, albeit non supported by substantial critical/systematic ability | Correct method supported by coherent presentation/reasoning | Able |
| 27-29 | Remarkable knowledge, supported by orientation skills in the subject and considerable critical thinking | Correct method supported by coherent presentation/reasoning with hints of originality | Able to focus the subject logically and coherently |
| 30-30L | Excellent knowledge supported by outstanding orientation skills in the subject and profound critical thinking | Correct method supported by coherent presentation/reasoning with noticeable originality | Able to focus the subject logically and coherently |