### Course title:
Epistemology of General Sociology, Social Pedagogy

### Course year:
1

### Semester:
1, 2

### Course Code:
15110G

### Scientific sector:
interdisciplinary
Sps/07, SPS 08, M-Ped/02

### Lecturer:
Prof. Susanne Elsen, Prof. Annemarie Profanter, Prof.aggr. Ilaria Riccioni

### Total lecturing hours:
12

### Module:
Methodological courses and seminars

### Credit Points of the module:
30

### Total Hours of availability for students and tutoring:
- **Office hours:** from Monday to Friday on request
- **Attendance:** according to the regulations
- **Teaching Language:** English-German-Italian
- **Propaedeutic course:** Philosophy of science

### Course description:
The course offers general knowledge of actual and historical debates in Sociology and their relevance for Social Pedagogy.

The aim is, to give an overall idea about the debate on the epistemological principles of the discipline in order to provide students with a stock of knowledge and stimuli, as well as critical tools that will be useful for their scientific work.

### Specific educational objectives:
From the perspective of Sociology:
- Scientific knowledge and common sense.
- The epistemological foundations and aims of sociological knowledge.
- The context of discovery and the context of validation;
- Understanding or explaining? A brief excursus from Dilthey to Phenomenology;
- The issue of objectivity in social research.

From the perspective of Social Pedagogy we will look at the:
- theoretical and epistemological foundation of social pedagogy
- the relationship between epistemology (theory of knowledge) and social pedagogy
- definition of ‘knowledge(s)’ in relation to „the social aspects of “education” (Bildung)
List of topics covered:

- The logic and aim of sociological knowledge.
- Historical and actual epistemological.
- The context of discovery and the context of validation;
- Understanding or explaining? A brief excursus from Dilthey to Phenomenology;
- The issue of objectivity in social research.
- Sociology of social change
- The societal construction of reality.
- Sociology of modernization
- Social structure and lifeworld
- Sociological questions of social pedagogy

Teaching format:

Learning outcomes:

The learning outcomes need to refer to the Dublin Descriptors:

- Knowledge and understanding of different epistemologies
- Applying knowledge and understanding in the PhD studies
- Critical capacity of interact on the different issues discussed in the lectures
- Ability of communicating, reasoning and writing in scientific terms
- Ability to connect in a scientific way the different issues debated

Assessment:

Written abstract related to the sociological base of the research project of the participants

Required readings:

Reading suggestions will be given during the lectures.

Supplementary readings: