

## Syllabus

### Course description

<b>Course title</b>	Theory and Research in Social Work
<b>Course code</b>	53128
<b>Scientific sector</b>	SPS/07
<b>Degree</b>	Master in Innovation and Research for Social Work and Social Education
<b>Semester</b>	1st
<b>Course year</b>	1st
<b>Credits</b>	12
<b>Modular</b>	Yes

<b>Total lecturing hours</b>	60
<b>Total lab hours</b>	15
<b>Attendance</b>	according to the regulation
<b>Prerequisites</b>	

<b>Specific educational objectives</b>	<p>This course has a double aim: on the one hand provides the students with fundamental knowledge and understanding from a sociological perspective in order to be able to widen contextualization of social profession issues; on the other hand it aims at fostering the capabilities to understand the role played by institutional, cultural, economic and political factors as potential origins of social problems from a critical perspective.</p> <p>The scientific area of this course is General Sociology. The course gives a general overview of scientific contents but is also designed for acquiring skills and knowledge in order to face professional issues.</p>
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<b>Module 1</b>	Social Work and Social Theory
<b>Lecturer</b>	<i>Lorenz Walter</i>
<b>Scientific sector of the lecturer</b>	SPS/07
<b>Teaching language</b>	English
<b>Office hours</b>	18 (before or after the lectures; or on request)
<b>List of topics covered</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What constitutes "social reality"? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Discovering the "laws of society" objectively – the importance of structural perspectives (Comte, Durkheim and followers)</li> <li>b. Listening to the meanings human beings give to their lived reality – the importance of agency (Weber, Schütz, Berger)</li> <li>c. Bringing structure and agency together in integrated perspectives (Parsons, Giddens, Mead, Goffman)</li> <li>d. The Theory of Communicative Action (Habermas)</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. The (contested) scientific nature of psychology</li> <li>3. Homo economicus and his downfall</li> <li>4. What is the "subject" of social work and what kind of knowledge lends itself to the understanding of "people</li> </ol>

	<p>in a social and political context"</p> <p>5. "What is the wider significance of a professional title?" Social work, social pedagogy, community education, social care, animation ...</p> <p>6. "The personal (and the social) is political" – synthesizing an understanding of "social well-being" (capability approach; Otto, Kessler, Webb, Grey)</p> <p>7. Working under conditions of uncertainty – social work and the polarizations revealed in the Corona crisis</p>
<b>Teaching format</b>	<p>This module is based on the active participation of students in the form of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Reflections on individual work and life experiences from various theoretical perspectives</li> <li>- Careful reading of selected key texts in preparation of a discussion on the above topics</li> <li>- Application of diverse theoretical perspectives on selected social practice scenarios through short written statements and interactive discussion</li> </ul> <p>The first 4 sessions are held in personal presence, the rest can be attended via interactive video</p>
<b>Total lecturing/lab hours</b>	30
<b>Credits</b>	6

<b>Modulo 2 a)</b>	Produzione e applicazione della conoscenza nel lavoro sociale
<b>Docente</b>	<i>Accorinti Marco</i>
<b>Settore scientifico disciplinare del docente</b>	SPS/07
<b>Lingua ufficiale del corso</b>	Italiano
<b>Orario di ricevimento</b>	18 (dal lunedì al venerdì previo appuntamento)
<b>Lista degli argomenti trattati</b>	<p>1. La conoscenza delle politiche e degli interventi sociali: le radici storiche del dibattito</p> <p>2. Lavoro con le persone e metodo scientifico: un rapporto difficile</p> <p>3. Tratti distintivi della ricerca nel campo degli interventi sociali: la questione della partecipazione nella produzione di informazione e conoscenza</p> <p>4. Il disegno di ricerca: dai problemi emergenti alla definizione di ambiti di ricerca rilevanti</p> <p>5. Costruzione degli strumenti, definizione del contesto di ricerca, rilevazione, analisi ed elaborazione dei dati</p> <p>6. La relazione tra ricerca e pratiche: decidere e progettare con molteplici fonti di conoscenza</p>
<b>Attività didattiche previste</b>	lezioni in presenza, lezioni videoregistrate, attività e-tivity (monitoraggio + feedback + video call) generali per la classe e per gruppi
<b>Totale di ore di lezione/laboratorio</b>	30
<b>Crediti formativi</b>	6 (complessivamente con modulo 2b)

<b>Modul 2 b)</b>	Wissenschaft und ihre kritische Anwendung in der sozialen Arbeit (Lab.)
<b>Dozent</b>	<i>Nagy Andrea</i>
<b>Wissenschaftlich-disziplinärer Bereich</b>	SPS/07
<b>Unterrichtssprache</b>	Deutsch

<b>Sprechstunden</b>	9 (von Montag bis Freitag auf Anfrage)
<b>Auflistung der behandelten Themen</b>	<p>Übung zu folgenden Themen im Rahmen Partizipativer Praxisforschung Sozialer Arbeit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ein Praxisproblem in eine Forschungsfrage verwandeln</li> <li>- Stakeholder identifizieren, die involviert werden sollten</li> <li>- Forschungsmethoden</li> <li>- Forschungsstrategien, Datensammlung, Ethische Fragen</li> <li>- Dissemination im Sinne der Weiterentwicklung der Praxis</li> </ul>
<b>Unterrichtsform</b>	<i>Vorlesungen, Übungen, Laboratorien, Projekte, etc.</i>
<b>Gesamtanzahl Vorlesungsstunden/ Laboratoriumsstunden</b>	15
<b>Kreditpunkte</b>	<i>6 (zusammen mit Modul 2a)</i>
<p><b>Learning outcomes</b></p> <p><b>(The learning outcomes need to be arranged and defined among the lecturers of all modules. The coordinator of the modules is responsible for the provided data.)</b></p>	<p><i>The learning outcomes:</i></p> <p><i>Knowledge and understanding</i> of key concepts of sociology for social professions;</p> <p><i>Applying knowledge and understanding</i> approaching and using available evidence in social interventions with a critical perspective;</p> <p><i>Making judgments</i> through argumentations of the choices in everyday social practices and its impact on social relations;</p> <p><i>Communication skills such as argumentation of choices and interconnections of social perspectives in an own project;</i></p> <p>Learning skills such as the ability to use critically different sources of knowledge and critically use it in the different area of intervention.</p>
<p><b>Assessment</b></p> <p><b>(The assessment needs to be arranged and defined among the lecturers of all modules. The coordinator of the modules is responsible for the provided data.)</b></p>	<p><i>Written exam –project work with a final oral presentation and intermediary assessments on the lectures.</i></p> <p>Esame scritto in forma di project work individuale, presentazione e discussione orale finale anche relativa agli argomenti del corso. Lavori intermedi di valutazione sugli argomenti del corso.</p>
<b>Assessment language</b>	English and Italian
<p><b>Evaluation criteria and criteria for awarding marks</b></p> <p><b>(The evaluation criteria need to be arranged and defined among the lecturers of all modules. The coordinator of the modules is responsible for the provided data.)</b></p>	<p>Final mark</p> <p>Criteria for the written exam will be the ability to evaluate, logical structure, ability to argue, accuracy and connections with the topics of the course.</p> <p>The final oral presentation will assess the ability to evaluate, competent argumentation, critical analysis and summarizing skills, as well as reflectivity.</p> <p>The final mark is the combination of the final written and</p>

	<p>presented project.</p> <p>Media tra elaborato scritto e presentazione orale.</p>
<b>Required readings</b>	<p>Fargion, S. (2019) <i>Il metodo del servizio sociale</i>, Carocci, Roma.</p> <p>Lucchini, M. (2018) <i>Metodologia della ricerca sociale</i>, Pearson, Monza</p> <p>Payne, M. (2005) <i>Modern Social Work Theory</i>, 3rd edn. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.</p> <p>Thorpe C. (2018) <i>Social Theory for Social Work. Ideas and Applications</i>, New York: Routledge.</p>
<b>Supplementary readings</b>	In due course