Syllabus

Course Description

Course Title	Anthropological research for socio-educational interventions
Course Code	64174
Course Title Additional	
Scientific-Disciplinary Sector	SDEA-01/A
Language	English
Degree Course	Bachelor for Social Education
Other Degree Courses (Loaned)	
Lecturers	Prof. Dorothy Louise Zinn, DOROTHY.ZINN@unibz.it https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/education/academic-staff/person/31663
Teaching Assistant	
Semester	First semester
Course Year/s	2
CP	6
Teaching Hours	45
Lab Hours	0
Individual Study Hours	105
Planned Office Hours	18
Contents Summary	For effective intervention, social educators must be aware of and sensitive to socio-cultural dynamics. Anthropology is the discipline par excellence that has dealt with questions of culture and has promoted an appreciation of human similarity and diversity. The course will offer students a general introduction to anthropological concepts and research methods, and it will apply these with regard to specific themes of interest in social education.
Course Topics	Anthropological research, Cultural relativism, culture, ethnography, kinship, gender, embodiment, medical systems, belief systems, "race", identity, ethnic and religious diversity; selected topics in

	social education issues.
Keywords	anthropology, ethnography, social research
Recommended Prerequisites	none
Propaedeutic Courses	
Teaching Format	Through the use of TEAMS and the OLE platforms: lectures, discussions, group work, research exercise, active audiovisual viewing.
Mandatory Attendance	In accordance with the regulation
Specific Educational Objectives and Learning Outcomes	Type of course: "di base". The course aims to integrate anthropological perspectives and research tools into the professional practice of social education. Students will develop new awareness through critical and cross-cultural reflection on concepts such as person, family, group/collectivity, multicultural society, gender, exchange (reciprocity) and questions of power. They will apply these concepts and anthropological research approaches to selected topics in social education, and they will conduct a small fieldwork exercise. Additionally, the course will encourage students to critically engage scientific texts and enhance their academic research and writing skills. Knowledge and understanding • Knowledge of basic concepts in the anthropological study of culture. • Knowledge of basic anthropological research methods. • Acquisition of appropriate scientific languages for the description and analysis of social-cultural phenomena. Applying knowledge and understanding • Ability to apply anthropological approaches and concepts to the analysis of concrete social education contexts. • Ability to apply anthropological approaches and concepts in engaging scientific and cultural products. • Ability to apply anthropological methods to the exploration and investigation of empirical social education contexts. Making judgements • Development of critical and independent thinking regarding

	social-cultural dynamics in intercultural social education contexts. • Development of reflexive self-awareness in intercultural settings. • Development of abilities to make ethical judgements in social education settings and in research Communication skills • Ability to recognize the fundamental elements of scientific writing. • Ability to develop a correctly structured short scientific presentation. • Ability to participate in scientifically grounded discussions and express an informed opinion. • Ability to communicate with appropriate sensitivity in intercultural contexts. • Ability to communicate appropriately in a research setting Learning skills • Ability to autonomously extend the knowledge acquired during the course in dealing with various types of cultural products (scientific, journalistic, film, literary) and social education settings. • Ability to acquire new concepts and information consistent with the analysis of changing social-cultural dynamics
Specific Educational Objectives and Learning Outcomes (additional info.)	
Assessment	Attending students will do an oral presentation on a selected reading. They will present a written report of the research exercise, to be discussed at the final exam. The oral exam will also deal with selected topics from the class lectures and readings. More detailed instructions for the report and the oral exam will be provided during the lessons. Non-attending students will be responsible for all of the reading and viewing material assigned to them through the course's OLE platform. Their marks will be based entirely on a written exam. More detailed instructions will be provided through the OLE platform.
Evaluation Criteria	Evaluation will be weighed as follows: Attending students:

	In-class presentation 1/6 final mark Research exercise report - 3/6 final mark Oral examination on selected classroom topics - 2/6 final mark Non-attending students: Assessment via written exam 100% Criteria for the evaluation of all work will consider the ability to accurately apply course concepts and instruments, the formulation of original opinions and analyses, and the logical structure of exposition and argumentation.
Required Readings	• Lassiter, L.E., Karchner E.I., and D.E. Powell The New Invitation to Anthropology (5th ed.) Rowman and Littlefield (required for non-attending students) • (Attending AND non-attending students: selected readings:) • Burraway J. 2025 Becoming Somebody Else. Chicago: HAU Books. • Campbell, E. and L.E. Lassiter, Doing Ethnography Today. New York: Wiley-Blackwell. • Jacobsson, K. and Gubrium, J.F., eds. (2021) Doing Human Service Ethnography. Bristol: Policy Press. • Lenhard, J. 2022 Making Better Lives. Oxford-New York: Berghahn. • Tuckett A. 2018 Rules, Paper, Status. Stanford: Stanford University Press.
Supplementary Readings	Various journal articles, to be announced during lessons, dealing with specific topics relevant to social education.
Further Information	
Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	Good health and well-being, Sustainable cities and communities, Reduced inequalities, Gender equality