

Syllabus
Course description

Course title:	Participation and evaluation in social work practice
Course year:	2 nd
Semester:	1 st
Course code:	53106
Scientific sector:	SPS/08
Degree:	Master in Innovation and Research for Social Work and Social Education
Lecturer:	Prof. Dr. Ulrike Loch
Modular:	No
Lecturer other module:	/
Credits:	6
Total lecturing hours:	30
Total Hours of availability for students and tutoring:	18
Office hours:	from Monday to Friday on request
Attendance:	According to the regulations, 1. session and for the presentation/discussion of your papers
Teaching language:	English
Propaedeutic course:	none
Course description:	The methodological expertise of social workers, while being based on scientific evidence, is only professionally acceptable when it respects the dignity of the person to whom it refers. The engagement with that person is therefore both an ethical and a practical issue in the identification of appropriate methods, and a focus on the nature of this participative process is essential in social work methodology. At the same time this also requires special attention to the evaluation and the criteria for evaluation of one's intervention results which need to be built around the same principles of a critical, interactive engagement with the users of social services.
Specific educational objectives:	Basic discipline: Social work methodology Caratterizzanti: social politics Participants will widen their methodological repertoire of methods of intervention and evaluation in the light of the above principles. In particular, they will learn to incorporate an ongoing process of research into their practice with different client groups and in different situations.

List of topics covered:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. social work history: between procedural and person-oriented intervention methods 2. diagnosis between positivist investigation and hermeneutic process 3. user movements and the challenge to professionalism 4. community work, community action and self-representation 5. helping processes as the recognition of capacities 6. participation principles in the context of social policy constraints 7. towards participation as co-construction of capacities
Teaching format:	Presentations, group discussions, case evaluations
Learning outcomes:	<p>Knowledge of the various forms in which user participation is being discussed in the social work literature</p> <p>Knowledge of key principles of participative social work research</p> <p>Ability to distinguish specific forms of user participation in various practice contexts</p> <p>Openness to learning processes as they present themselves in real intervention situations</p>
Assessment:	<p>Examination will be</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) in the form of an written summary of a chosen key text with an oral discussion about different forms and levels of participation or evaluation (30%) b) in form of a written case example and a theoretical based reflexive discussion of your case. The focus is on a research based evaluation of the presented case (30%) c) in the form of an written summary of a chosen key text with an discussion of the theoretical elements thereby used as foundation for the understanding of different forms and levels of participation and praxis evaluation (40%)
Evaluation criteria and criteria for awarding marks:	<p>Clarity and consistency of the oral presentations during the course: case study and chosen key text, Reflexivity during the discussed case examples</p> <p>Clarity and consistency of the written summary, understanding of underlying theoretical assumptions</p> <p>Written exam: ability to relate relevant theory to specific practice situations</p> <p>Understanding of participative research methods in social work</p>
Required readings:	<p>Adams, Robert (2008): Empowerment, Participation and Social Work. Houndmills: Palgrave Macmillan</p> <p>Depoy, Elizabeth/ Gilson, Stephen (2008): Evaluation Practice. How to Do Good Evaluation Research in Work Settings. Routledge</p> <p>Hall, C./ Slembrouck S. (2010). Parent Participation in</p>

	<p>Social Work Meetings – the Case of Child Protection Conferences. <i>European Journal of Social Work</i>, 2/40, pp. 143-160</p> <p>Kirby, Sandra/ Greaves, Lorraine/ Reid, Colleen (2010): <i>Experience Research Social Change. Methods Beyond the Mainstream</i>. Toronto: University of Toronto Press</p> <p>Kvarnström, Susanne/ Willumsen, Elisabeth/ Andersson-Gäre, Boel/ Hedberg, Berith (2012): How Service Users Perceive the Concept of Participation, Specifically in Interprofessional Practice. <i>British Journal of Social Work</i> 1/42, 129–146</p> <p>Madden, Raymond (2013): <i>Beeing Ethnographic. A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Ethnography</i>. London: Sage</p> <p>Muench, Kery/ Diaz, Clive/ Wright, Rebecca (2017): Children and Parent Participation in Child Protection Conferences: A Study in One English Local Authority. In: <i>Journal Child Care in Practice</i> 1/23, pp. 49-63</p>
Supplementary readings:	