Course information

Children, Youth and Participation

Credits ECTS: 15.0
Teaching language: EN
Scientific area: Social Work

Hours:
- Theoretical (T): 43.0 h
- Theoretical and practical (TP): 0.0 h
- Practical and laboratorial (PL): 8.0 h
- Seminar (S): 0.0 h
- Field work (TC): 0.0 h
- Training (E): 0.0 h
- Tutorial (OT): 1.0 h
- Other (O): 0.0 h

Contact hours (total): 25.0 h / semester
Total hours: 150.0 h / semester

Pre-requisites:

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Objectives:

The central goal of the module is to provide knowledge and promote critical reflection on the concept of family in a comparative perspective, both from a historical & socio-cultural point of view. Through the examination of the major theoretical approaches in sociology of the family, it also intends to deepen the understanding on parenting, gender and generations. To analyse main social problems affecting family life and policies to address them.

Learning outcomes:

The module aims to provide students with knowledge of current trends about the family, in a historical and cross-national perspective. The main theoretical approaches on family will be focused, to get an understanding of the family dynamics, family relations and family problems. By the end of the course, students who successfully complete this module will have the knowledge, confidence, and theoretical background to: LO1 - Become familiar with the different family concepts and theoretical perspectives. LO2 - Analyze the main changes and dynamics occurring in household structures and family, parenthood and gender relations. LO3 - Identify and understand the meaning of current indicators on family issues. LO4 - Understand family relations along the life course and across social and cultural contexts. LO5 - Analyze kinship networks and family resources. LO6 - Identify the main problems affecting family life and analyze its social implications and family policies.

Syllabus:

S1 - Introduction. The concept of family in a critical perspective
S2 - Theoretical perspectives on family
S3 - Main indicators, trends and family dynamics. Cross-country comparative analysis
S4 - Family relations, gender and parenthood
S5 - Generations and kinship networks of support
S6 - Family problems and family policies: children at risk; domestic violence
Demonstration of the syllabus coherence with the curricular unit’s objectives:

| LO1: S1; S2
| LO2: S3; S4
| LO4: S3; S4; S5
| LO5: S4; S5
| LO6: S6

Assessment:
The course will be assessed on the following basis: 1500 words seminar group presentation, exercises and active participation in classroom (30%); At home examination essay (70%)

Teaching methodology:
A wide range of teaching and learning methods will be used. Theoretical lectures will be combined with seminar discussions, group work and practical exercises.

Demonstration of the coherence between the teaching methodologies and the learning outcomes:

Reading the texts of literature to support each class will allow students to get knowledge of subjects the course is dealing with. Along the lectures, the teacher presents the main syllabus contents and methods of their analytical operationalization. Seminar sessions, group work and practical exercises, will promote collective reflection and debate on the matters under review.

Observations:

Essential readings:

Aboim,Sofia,Pedro Vasconcelos & Karin Wall (2013),"Support, social networks, and the family in Portugal: two decades of research", International Review of Sociology


Additional readings:


Kapoor, Sushma (2000), Domestic Violence against Women and Girls, Innocenti Digest 6, Innocenti Research Centre, UNICEF.


Trnka, Sylvia (1999), Family issues between gender and generations, Seminar Report, Vienna, European Observatory on Family Matters, EC.