

**SOCIOLOGY of EDUCATION [800428] MBL**  
**PRIMARY EDUCATION**

Year 1, Term 2  
ECTS Credits: 6

**1. DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES**

The course schedule initiates students in the basic issues of the Sociology of Education. This introduction to the discipline aims to raise awareness, from a critical perspective, on the social dimension of the education system, educational policies and educational phenomena in general. The general objectives are:

- To be able to analyze, describe and define education as a social phenomenon
- To know and understand, both theoretically and practically, all the elements that make up the society and its relationship with educational institutions
- To show conceptual and terminological knowledge when presenting and explaining any of the topics included in the program

**2. COURSE SCHEDULE**

**I. The Sociological Perspective.** Culture and Society. Socialization through the life-course. Agents of socialization: family, schools, peer relationships and mass media. Theories of child development. Gender socialization: the difficulty of non-sexist child-rearing.

**II. Sociology of Education.** Questions asked by sociologists of education. Theoretical approaches and the development of Sociology of Education.

**III. Education and school: functions.** Conflicting functions and processes in education. The social functions of school.

**IV. Theories of schooling and inequality.** Ivan Illich: the hidden curriculum. Basil Bernstein: language codes. Pierre Bourdieu: education and cultural reproduction. Paul Willis: cultural reproduction. Postmodern approaches to education.

**V. (In)equality and education.** Single-sex education. Co-education. Teachers and students: the importance of gender. Family involvement. Creativity and education.

**3. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING**

Students are encouraged to attend the classes and participate in the discussions. Attendance is mandatory and the presence and participation in class activities will have a positive effect in the overall evaluation of the course. The final course grade will be based on:

- research proposal (30% of overall mark)
- oral presentation in class and written version (30% of overall mark)
- a final-term exam (40% of overall mark)

**4. BIBLIOGRAPHY**

- Apple, Michael W., Ball, Stephen J. and Gandin, Luis Armando (2010) The Routledge international handbook of the sociology of education. New York: Routledge.
- Ballantine, Jeanne H. (2001) The sociology of education: a systematic analysis. Upper Saddle River, New Jersey: Prentice Hall.
- Giddens, Anthony (2006) Sociology. Alianza Editorial, Madrid.