

Courses in English Course Description

Department	11 Applied Social Sciences
Course title	Basics of transdisciplinary research and related methods
Course number	8102
Hours per week (SWS)	4
Number of ECTS credits	5
Course objective	The students have comprehensive knowledge of the multidisciplinary analysis of lifeworld problem and social issues and can apply this in identifying and solving novel problems in contexts of action as well as relate it to the scientific research process. They are able to interpret problem definitions and prepare concrete proposals for solutions in the context of a continuous communication process with practice in the fields of specialization of education, health and sustainability. The students are able to relate the methods of transdisciplinary research (goal and action orientation, participatory research, orientation towards societal problems) to concrete constellations and situations of action. The students can explain the process of transdisciplinary knowledge production - system knowledge, target knowledge, transformation knowledge - as well as transfer it to different change and research processes. Students are able to explain the organizational aspects of integrating non-scientific actors into the research process, to plan the linking of scientific knowledge production and practical knowledge, and to organize the collaboration of science and profession in the research process. Students will be able to read social science studies and empirical analyses, interpret them, assess their validity and critically reflect on them. They acquire the ability to analyze different study designs of qualitative and quantitative social research. They acquire knowledge of documentation, quality assurance and evaluation. The students acquire the ability to classify research results and derived findings in the respective research context as well as in their own professional context, to critically evaluate them and to draw conclusions for practical action.
Prerequisites	Basic knowledge of methods of empirical social research (on a BA courses level) is expected.
Recommended reading	Bergmann, M., Klein, J. T., & Faust, R. C. (2012). <i>Methods for transdisciplinary research: A primer 1</i>
Teaching methods	problem-based learning, (guided) self-study, e-learning units / blended learning, seminar-based teaching,
Assessment methods	Term paper, essay
Language of instruction	English
Name of lecturer	Diego Compagna, Eduardo A. Rueda
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Link	tba
Course content	Definitions of transdisciplinarity and transdisciplinary research processes; possibilities and limits of transdisciplinarity; reading, interpreting, classifying and assessing inter- and transdisciplinary studies; methods of linking scientific knowledge production with the practical knowledge of non-scientific actors; methods of transdisciplinary and transformative research; methods of empirical social research; organizational aspects of the integration of non-scientific actors (resp. of their knowledge) in research and change processes; reading, interpreting and assessing studies; concepts and instruments of documentation, quality assurance and evaluation; getting to know and assessing methodology, methods, quality criteria.
Remarks	None