

The expectations of students of social work bachelor degree by their stage and suggestions for academic teaching

What are the expectations of students when they enter to contact with the professional practices of social workers?

Three or four years ago I had done the above mentioned question when I was teaching the so called “second “and “third stage” topics of bachelor degree in social work at Genoa University,. In particular I did this question during the starting classes, my motivation was both to interest students about the matters of my academic course and to improve the planning of my followings lessons. Hence student expectations guided myself in the teaching relation with the incoming social workers. Nevertheless the above mentioned question has also an other important goal: it allows to understand the mental representations of students about their own fresh identity of social workers. Therefore by this question I can understand both what students think about their incoming profession and what social workers is communicating about their professional identity. Moreover, during the lessons I recorded the answers of the students, so, now I have same qualitative data useful to build an observatory about the communicating processes of professional identity. The information that I collected can guide some considerations about both the ways of teachings and the features of social work profession.

In the poster I will deal with the strategy to collect data, the kind of expectations of students, and he conclusion I can draw by them.