

*Self-organized seminar by  
the 40th-cycle PhD students in  
Education in the Contemporary Society*



# **Talking Thoughts.** A Dialogical Seminar on Becoming a Reflexive Researcher

*Thursday, 27 November 2025*

**09:00–13:00**

*Aula Seminari (Online access until the coffee break)*

*Department of Human Sciences for Education "Riccardo Massa"*

*4th floor, U6 Building, Piazza dell'Ateneo Nuovo*



## 09:00 - 10:30 Theoretical Contributions on Reflexivity in Educational Research

Online participation is available until the coffee break; the rest of the seminar is in-person only.

● **Google Meet:** <https://meet.google.com/aqx-taic-wgo>

**Opening discussion** – *Seeing ourselves “seeing”: reflexivity as an ongoing epistemic and ethical enterprise in research* – **Professor Davide Cino**

**Reflexivity, Perspective, and Categorization in Educational Research** – *Re-imagining Representations in Complex Sociocultural Contexts* – **Fabiana Marchioro, Claudia Menduni**

**Agency and Participation** – *How reflexivity enables the recognition of students as active political subjects and supports participatory research practices* – **Caterina Rapini, Chiara Paganuzzi**

**Reflexivity and AI** – *Understanding the visible and invisible uses of technology to reshape our ways of thinking, teaching, and creating, while avoiding the reinforcement of our own biases* – **Bogdan Novakovic, Giulia Sironi**

**Reflexivity through Arts and Games** – *How creative experiences foster deep thinking and transformation.* – **Pier Daniel Cornacchia, Alessia Polidori**

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**10:30 - 10:50** Dialogical and creative debriefing conducted by **Professor Davide Cino**

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**10:50 - 11:10** Coffee Break ☕

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## 11:10 - 12:00 Reflexivity workshop “The Human Library”

*A narrative, dialogic and interactive session as if the speakers were “living books”.*

“Changing Plans Unexpectedly” – **Mattia Marexiano**

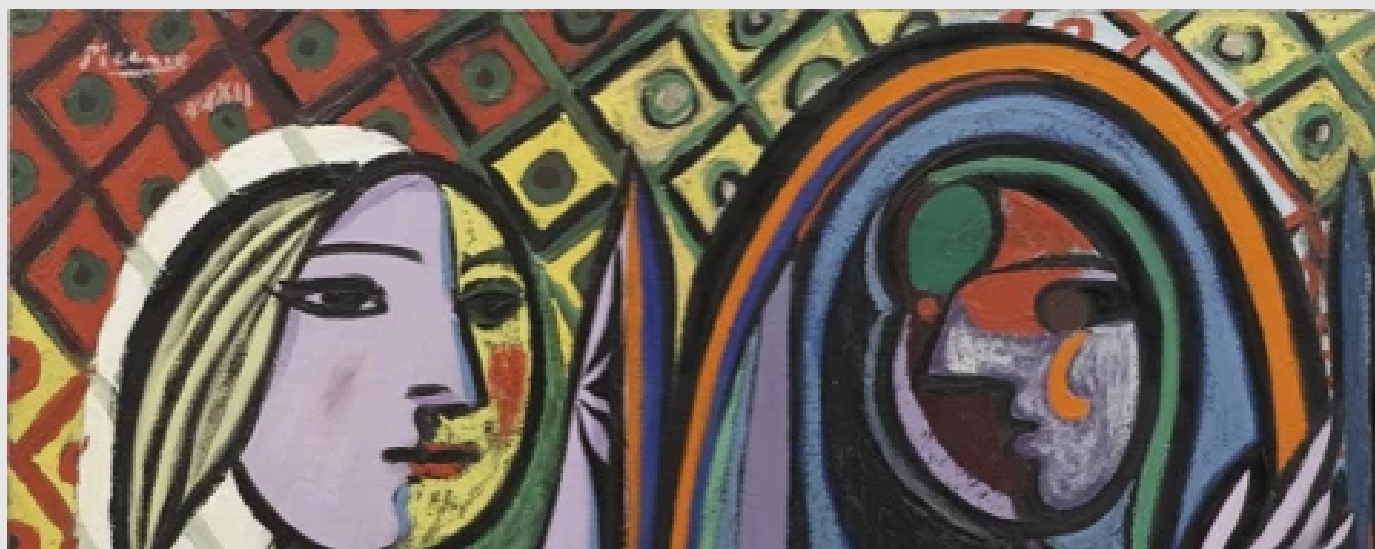
“Educate, Agitate, Organize: Political Reflection as a Tool for Shaping the Researcher’s Identity” – **Eugenia Campanella**

“Bridget Jones Petar Lefterov’s Diary - Confessions of a (Possible) Insider” – **Petar Lefterov**

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## 12:00 - 13:00 Workshop on writing a Reflexive Diary

*Participants in groups will write an introductory or state-of-the-art page for their reflexive research diary, reasoning on their personal research journeys.*



**DISCUSSANT: Davide Cino**, Assistant Professor in General and Social Pedagogy, Department of Human Sciences for Education “Riccardo Massa”, University of Milano-Bicocca

**Pier Daniel Cornacchia** is a PhD student in the Education in the Contemporary Society (ESC) programme (40th cycle) at the University of Milano-Bicocca. His research interests include game-based learning, teacher training, and teacher communities.

**Fabiana Marchioro** is a PhD student in the ESC programme (40th cycle) at the University of Milano-Bicocca. Her research focuses on transnational Chinese families, educational care, migration and identity construction among the Chinese diaspora in Italy.

**Claudia Menduni** is a PhD student in the ESC programme (40th cycle) at the University of Milano-Bicocca. Her research focuses on linguistic and educational inclusion at the intersection of disability and migratory background, with a particular interest in language education.

**Bogdan Novakovic** is a PhD student in the ESC programme (40th cycle) at the University of Milano-Bicocca. His research focuses on Artificial Intelligence, with a particular interest in how AI can be integrated into university-level art and design education to empower educators in teaching.

**Chiara Paganuzzi** is a PhD student in the ESC programme (40th cycle) at the University of Milano-Bicocca. She investigates democratic school models and the ways in which students' participation and voice, grounded in children's rights, shape everyday school governance.

**Caterina Rapini** is a PhD student in the ESC programme (40th cycle) at the University of Milano-Bicocca. Her research focuses on how gender-based violence is implicitly reproduced in school environments in secondary schools.

**Giulia Sironi** is a PhD student in the ESC programme (40th cycle) at the University of Milano-Bicocca. Her research focuses on how AI-based Learning Platforms can be integrated in University Courses.

**Alessia Polidori** is a PhD student in the ESC programme (40th cycle) at the University of Milano-Bicocca. Her research focuses on critical theory of space and place-based pedagogy, and on how to facilitate Participatory Creative processes for Urban Space regeneration.

## HUMAN LIBRARY

**Mattia Marexiano** is a PhD student in the ESC programme (39th cycle) at Milano-Bicocca. His research centers on the educational effects of deconstruction, drawing on Jacques Derrida's philosophy and its recent developments in the philosophical-educational domain, exploring themes such as intersubjectivity, education, and embodiment.

**Eugenia Campanella** is a PhD student in the ESC programme (39th cycle) University of Milano-Bicocca. Her doctoral research investigates community mental health clinics in Italy, arguing for a political dimension to mental health work, fostering social activation, mutual support and participation.

**Petar Lefterov** is a PhD student in the ESC programme (38th cycle) at the University of Milano-Bicocca. For his doctoral thesis he studied how to value and integrate migrant background children's heritage languages and cultures.

*We look forward to welcoming you.*