CONSCIOUSNESS - RAISING. A NECESSARY TEACHING “INNOVATION”

University education is at a crossroads. The technological tools and methodological innovations that are proliferating in contemporary times are undoubtedly essential for building innovative teaching models. At the same time, it is clear that innovative methods used solely for the transfer of content can be highly discouraging for students. We have a long methodological tradition aimed at building learners’ awareness and at encouraging their active responsibility in the learning process. Building a supportive learning group, the ability to speak up and think critically, the opportunity to bring personal skills, desires, and practices into the learning process are all part of a tradition that stems from popular education (from Freire to Danilo Dolci) but is also applied in university teaching (bell hooks). Nowadays in Europe youth atomization and a gap in terms of access to education are shared concerns: the work of “consciousness-raising” can be a necessary innovation not only for students but also for the future role of the university in society.

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