COURSE SYLLABUS

Risk and Protective Factors in Personality Development

1920-3-E2401P031

Learning area

1: Knowledge and skills useful to understand, promote and change individual psychological functioning

Learning objectives

Knowledge and understanding

- Personality and personality pathology
- Psychological models of personality
- Risk and protective factors
- Categorical and alternative models for diagnosing personality pathology

- Identifying the core features of personality pathology
- Identifying specific personality disorders
- Critical analysis of the scientific literature on protective and risk factors of personality

Contents

The course aims at providing theoretical, methodological, and clinical elements related to personality and personality pathology development. The role of risk and protective factors in personality pathology development will
be examined, according to both psychological theories and empirical studies.

Finally, the course will present the scientific debate related to categorical and dimensional models of personality pathology.

**Detailed program**

- Psychological theories on personality
- Clinical theories on personality pathology
- Theories and empirical studies on risk and protective factors in personality pathology
- The DSM-5 approach to personality disorders: official classification and the alternative model for personality disorders
- Assessment of personality disorders

**Prerequisites**

Since scientific literature in English will be presented, it is recommended that students have already taken the Advanced English exam (Second year).

**Teaching methods**

Lectures, discussion on scientific papers, seminars on specific topics, discussion on clinical cases.

The course material (slides and scientific papers) will be made available on the e-learning web site, so that also non-attending students can use it.

**Assessment methods**

The exam will mainly verify the following topics:

- main features of personality
- main features of pathological personality
- risk and protective factors of pathological personality
- personality disorders
- DSM-5 criteria for diagnosing personality disorders
- diagnostic instruments for personality disorders
The exam will consist of 30 multiple choice questions and one open question on the course topics. The answer to the open question will be evaluated in terms of correctness and completeness of the answer, argumentative strength, and the ability to connect the information to the topics of the course, which can lead to an increase or decrease of up to 3 points compared to the written exam score.

There will be initutre examinations including two partial written exams. The first one will consist of 30 multiple choice questions (mid-term exam). The second one will consist of one open question (at the end of the course).

Students who pass the first partial written exam can do the second one.

Textbooks and Reading Materials