



UNIVERSITÀ  
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

## **COURSE SYLLABUS**

### **Behavioural Sciences, Communication Skills II**

1920-2-H4102D013-H4102D040M

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#### **Aims**

Knowing how to describe the placebo effect in relational context and the mechanisms through which it acts.

Knowing the phases of the motivational interview; be able to recognize and use the principles of motivational interview in a simulated interview

#### **Contents**

The placebo effect in the care relationship, subjective illness perception, the Motivational Interview

#### **Detailed program**

Definitions of placebo and nocebo effect both in relation to treatments and in relational terms; implications in the use of placebo for the relationship with the patient; different mechanisms through which the placebo and nocebo effect act.

The perception of illness.

Basic principles of motivational interview; the five phases of the model of change (precontemplation, contemplation, preparation, action, maintenance).

#### **Prerequisites**

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## **Teaching form**

Lectures, reflective activities in small groups, clinical cases

## **Textbook and teaching resource**

Communication Skills for Medicine, 4e Lloyd et al., Elsevier, 2018

The patient's brain: the neuroscience behind the doctor patient relationship, Oxford Press, 2011

## **Semester**

second term

## **Assessment method**

The final test measures the level of knowledge, the level of inductive and deductive reasoning, and problem solving ability.

It includes discussion of problems, analysis of clinical cases and open conceptual questions

## **Office hours**

on appointment

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