



UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Learning, Thinking and Decision Making

2021-2-E2004P008

Learning area

STUDY OF THE PSYCHOLOGICAL ASPECTS UNDERLYING COMMUNICATION

Learning objectives

Knowledge and understanding

- _____
- _____
- _____

- _____
- _____

Contents

The course analyses in detail, and with practical examples, the main empirical studies and theoretical models concerning learning, concept development, deductive and inductive reasoning, hypotheses testing, problem solving, and decision making.

Detailed program

- learning
- —
- reasoning, exploration and testing of hypotheses, problem solving
- decision making

Prerequisites

None

Teaching methods

Different teaching methods will be used:

1. Asynchronous lectures. They will be 2/3 of all the lectures and will be used to present and explain the contents.
2. Synchronous videoconferences. They will be 1/3 of all the lectures. Approximately half of these lectures will be used to sum up and clarify the topics presented in the asynchronous lectures. During these lessons, large space will be given to questions and/or request of clarifications on what presented during the previous lectures, or to discuss together theoretical/methodological issues of particular interest. The other half of these synchronous videoconferences will be used to make practice exercise and discuss/comment together the results of these

exercises. Practical exercises are optional (i.e. not mandatory). To be attendant, the student has to do the practical exercises and take part to all other synchronous videoconferences. Practical exercises will be (a small) part of the final vote (see below for further details).

3. Short self-evaluation questionnaires. Every week, students will be asked to fill in a short questionnaire with multiple-choices questions on the topics presented during the last asynchronous lectures. These questionnaires will NOT be evaluated. However, students will be able to self-evaluate their learning progresses. Filling the questionnaires is not mandatory, but encouraged.

Every week will be (approximately) structured as follows: 2 asynchronous lectures + 1 synchronous videoconference + short self-evaluation questionnaire. All lessons will be videorecorded.

Assessment methods

The modality of the exam will be defined and updated on the basis of the University rules for COVID-19 emergency.

Written exam (step 1) with optional oral exam (step 2).

Step 1: 4 computer-based open questions. Answers have a length limit of 15 lines. Questions may be on both theoretical and empirical/methodological issues. Each question is evaluated with a scale that goes from 0 (_____) to 7.5 (_____)

The student has three days from the publication of the grades of the written exam for accepting the grade, retiring from the exam, or else requiring an oral exam (please remember that also the teacher can ask for an oral exam: in this latter case, the student cannot accept the grade of the written exam and, in case he/she is absent from the oral exam, he/she will be considered retired).

Step 2: _____

For students taking part to all synchronous activities (and that have obtained at least 18 in step 1 - written exam): Each practical exercise will be evaluated with a score from 0 to 3. At the ends, the average score will be computed and this score will be summed to the grade obtained in step 1 (and possibly in step 2). The score is rounded down for decimal of .5 or below and up for decimal of .6 or above). Note that this score is summed to the other scores only if the student obtain at least 18 in step 1.

Textbooks and Reading Materials

Cherubini P. (a cura di) (2012). Psicologia generale. Milano: Raffaello Cortina Editore.

Chapters:

- 1: only paragraphs 1.1, 1.1.1, 1.1.2, 1.4.1, 1.4.2.

- 7: all the chapter

- 8: all the chapter, except: Box 8.1, Table 8.9, Figure 8.5, Equations 8.9-8.12, Paragraphs 8.6.2.3, 8.7.3.1, 8.7.4.3, 8.7.4.4)

- 9: all the chapter, except: Box 9.1, Paragraphs 9.5.3.1, 9.5.6

- 13: only from 13.1 to 13.3.3 included.

Note that the topics that are not explained in lectures, but are present in the indicated paragraphs of the textbook, are part of the exam programme. Note also that the indicated textbook sections are to be studied completely and extensively (including boxes, figures and captions).

Possible support materials can be made available by the teacher on the course website.
