UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Eating Disorders: An Ethnographic Approach

2021-2-I0101D144

Aims

• Provide basic training on the phenomenon of eating disorders in the multiplicity of its facets.

• Provide targeted knowledge on therapeutic responses prepared by the health system to counter its spread.

• To highlight the potential of the ethnographic approach as an analytical tool of the so-called "multidisciplinary integrated" therapy model.

Contents

Eating disorders (DCA) represent a real social emergency. Their diffusion in Western countries based on advanced capitalism questions the articulation between food system, nutritional clinic, representations of corporeity and current forms of psychic distress. The search for an adequate therapeutic response, in turn, highlights the Cartesian foundation of the Western medical system, trying to go beyond its limits.

Detailed program

- Clinical classification of DCA (nosographic classification and main types).
- Hints at the historical evolution of the problem.
- Correlation between Western food system, biological and socio-cultural meaning of human feed, hegemonic corporeity models.
- The gender issue: a female pathology?
- The evolution of medical models: from monodisciplinary to "integrated multidisciplinary"
- DCA and health biopolitics: the situation of welfare services in Italy.
- Team work (with a specific focus on the role of the nursing profession)
- Ethnography of a residential treatment center for anorexia and bulimia: the results of a PhD thesis

Prerequisites

2nd and 3rd year of course Student Nurses

Teaching form

Frontal classes

Textbook and teaching resource

Semester

Assessment method

Frequency

Office hours