UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

General Psychology I

2021-1-E2401P001

Learning area

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

Learning objectives

Knowledge and understanding

- The experimental approach to psychology: methods and theory
- Main themes and most relevant theories in the study of individual behavioural and cognitive functioning.

Applying knowledge and understanding

- Ability to understand the technical language and the research results in psychology
- Ability to identify the psychological processes involved in individual behaviour in everyday life
- Ability to recognize the non-pathological cognitive functioning

Contents

The course introduces students to the most relevant theories and theoretical approaches in the study of general psychology, analyzing in detail some cognitive processes. The intent is to clarify the subjects of interest of general psychology and how general psychology studies the processes and phenomena of interest.

Detailed program

- Experimental approach used by general psychology with particular emphasis on methodological and theoretical aspects.
- Sensory systems
- Problems, methods of investigation and relevant theories of specific cognitive processes:
  - Perception
  - Attention
  - Learning
  - Memory
  - Emotions
  - Motivation

Prerequisites

Receptive and productive language skills
Analytical abilities in understanding and reasoning
The capacity of synthesis and content processing

Teaching methods

The course will consist of online lectures followed by moments of confrontation with the students where specific experimental will be analyzed and discussed.

Assessment methods

The written exam consists of a written test With multiple choice questions and open questions. The multiple choice questions are aimed at testing the acquired knowledge while the open-ended questions will also test the ability to debate and argue on the course topics in brief. The evaluation criteria are the correctness of the answers, the ability to argue, synthesize, create links, and critically read reality.

For turn A at the end of the course students will have the possibility to test the multiple choice part of the exam.

For turn B there will be two moments (one at halfway and one at the end of the course) of self-testing and further explanations on the course topics.

Upon the student’s request, the exam can be completed with an oral examination on all course topics that could increase or decrease the written examination mark.

NB. During the COVID emergency the exams will be online. The oral examination will be made via WebEx platfom whereas for the written examination other platforms will be used.

Textbooks and Reading Materials

Students non-fluent in Italian are required to contact the professor for advice on English textbooks.