UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Psychological Sciences

2021-1-I0202D005-I0202D018M

Aims

At the end of the course the student will have acquired a general knowledge of the macro areas of psychology (memory, attention, learning, social psychology) and of the main theories on cognitive and affective development.

Contents

Definition and short history of psychology as a science. The macro areas of psychology: mechanisms, processes and memory models; attentional processes, types of learning, in particular highlighting the most significant contributions in clinical psychology (e.g. behavior modification).

New theories of intelligence: beyond Piaget, the model of situated cognition, the new hypotheses on the development and organization of knowledge. The motor aspects and the interaction with the world in the development and organization of mental representations. The theory of interpersonal motivational systems. Implications of SMIs in reading communication mechanisms and processes. Emotions.

Detailed program

? Psychology as a science and short history of psychology

? Memory: short and long term memory, memorization processes, eidetic and sensory memory, perspective memory, semantic memory and episodic memory ? Attentional processes and consciousness ? Learning: classical conditioning, operant conditioning,

learning by imitation, learning and socialization, cognitive mechanisms in learning, language and learning ? New theories on knowledge and intelligence, understood as the most specialized and advanced forms of adaptation of the human being to the environment. ? The model of situated cognition, the new hypotheses on the development and organization of knowledge, the distinction between tacit and explicit knowledge, the vision of the child as a builder of theories and naive explanations. ? Importance attributed to the motor aspects and to the interaction with the world in the development and organization of the highest level mental representations from a perspective that is however different from the classic Piagettian approach. ? The theory of interpersonal Motivational systems and the approach of evolutionary psychology including the theory of attachment because it is an important tool for understanding the emotional dynamics of the individual, for a more articulated understanding of interactions (mother-child, therapist-child) ? Implications of SMIs in reading communication mechanisms and processes, and the implications for communication between the therapist and the little patient or his / her family members ? Emotions: the Gross vrs model the Panksepp model

Prerequisites

none

Teaching form

Frontal lessons, with the use of active and interactive methodologies (e.g. mentimeter, flipped classroom, buzz groups), guided discussion in the classroom, with the use of educational videos and film clips.

It should be noted that, in the event that even in the second half of the year, an emergency state (e.g. COVID19) is activated, the lessons will take place remotely, mainly in asynchronous mode, with some synchronous moments (video conference) on available platforms (e.g. Webex, Zoom, Google Meet)

Textbook and teaching resource

1. Siegel, Hartzell,. Errori da non ripetere. Cortina Ed., 2003

2. P.Gray Psicologia, Zanichelli, 2004.

3. G.Liotti, , Il concetto di sistema comportamentale tra etologia e psicologia clinica. Rivista di psicologia Clinica, 2, 176-187,1990

Semester

Second Semester

Assessment method

Written exam: quizzes with single / multiple choice and open questions with brief answer.

In case of extension of the pandemic emergency COVID19 and official restrictions also in the second semester, the oral exams will be exclusively through on-line platforms (e.g.WebEx platform). A public link will be posted on the course e-learning page for the access of virtual public.

Office hours

To make an appointment, please contact the teachers by e-mail: mariagrazia.strepparava@unimib.it

office: U38, villa Serena (Monza), room number 5-24, V floor