



UNIVERSITÀ  
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

## SYLLABUS DEL CORSO

### Psicologia dello Sviluppo Cognitivo

2021-1-F5103P003

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#### Learning area

Typical development and educational contexts.

#### Learning objectives

Knowledge and understanding

- The neuroconstructivist approach to the study of cognitive development
- The development of motor, cognitive and metacognitive competences
- The development of children's ability to understand others' actions, emotions and intentions.

Applying knowledge and understanding

- Promoting cognitive development
- Critical understanding of empirical evidence about cognitive development
- Risk factors in cognitive development
- Implications of the neuroconstructivist approach to atypical development
- Application of knowledge and empirical evidence for prevention and intervention

#### Contents

Students will be introduced to advanced knowledge regarding the emergence and the development of the human mind. To these aims, continuous references to empirical evidence about cognitive development and their implications for atypical development will be made.

## **Detailed program**

- The foundations of a new developmental science
- Promoting cognitive competences during infancy and school age
- The nativist approach and the evidence about early competences in the different cognitive domains
- The neuroconstructivist approach to the study of cognitive development
- The development of motor, cognitive and metacognitive competences
- Implications of the neuroconstructivist approach to atypical development
- The development of children's ability to understand others' actions, emotions and intentions

## **Prerequisites**

Basic knowledge about the classic approaches to the study of development is required. Students lacking such basic knowledge are encouraged to ask for a list of basic references.

## **Teaching methods**

Together with classroom lectures, the course will offer guided discussions, video presentations, and practical trainings. The material (slides and, when possible, scientific articles) is made available on the e-learning site of the course.

Due to the Sars-Covid-19 pandemic, this year only few lessons during the first week of the course will be held in presence. The remaining lessons will take place through Webex or videorecordings posted on the E-learning page of the course.

## **Assessment methods**

The exam is written with open and multiple choice questions. Multiple choice questions provide an extensive evaluation of acquired knowledge, open questions evaluate students' critical thinking on such knowledge. An oral interview can be requested by the student, in addition to the written exam, on all the topics of the course. In special cases, it is possible that the oral interview may be requested by the professor. The evaluation criteria are: adequacy of contents, organization and form of the answers.

Due to the Sars-Covid19 pandemic, exams will not take place in person, but through digital devices and platforms.

## **Textbooks and Reading Materials**

Valenza E. e Turati C. (2019). Promuovere lo sviluppo della mente. Un approccio neurocostruttivista. Bologna: Il Mulino.

Barone L. (2009). Manuale di psicologia dello sviluppo. Roma: Carocci Editore (cap. 4, pp. 93-133).

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