UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Research Methods and Assessment for The Life Cycle

2223-2-E2004P039

Learning area

STUDY OF THE PSYCHOLOGICAL ASPECTS UNDERLYING COMMUNICATION

Learning objectives

Knowledge and understanding

- Mechanisms of cognitive, affective and socio-emotional development in the lifespan
- Main data collection techniques for the evaluation of cognitive, affective and socio-emotional development
- Theories and mechanisms of atypical development in the lifespan
- Knowledge of specific tests for the identification of developmental difficulties in cognitive, affective and socio-emotional domains in the lifespan

Applying knowledge and understanding

- Ability to link theory with functional applications
- Ability to design and conduct a research project
- Ability to choose the right methodological approach
- Ability to present efficiently a research project

Contents

The course is made of two main modules. The first module focuses on early and late development, discussing the main theories and aspects of both cognitive and socio-emotional development.

The second module deals with aging, both typical and atypical, and the lines of intervention.

Detailed program

- Cognitive, affective and social development in infancy and childhood
- Behavioural and physiological measure to study perception in preverbal infants
- Social relationships and contexts in development
- Social deprivation
- The aging brain: typical and pathological aging
- Alzheimer and Parkinson: evaluation and interventions
- Methodological and statistical aspects in the study of aging
- Intelligence and memory in aging

Students' presentations of a topic of interest

Prerequisites

None in particular, but knowledge of the English will help the student during the presentation of videos (only in English).

Teaching methods

Teaching methods include lectures, videos and discussions. The material will be uploaded at the end of each class on the e-learning platform, to allow also non-attending students to use the material.

All attending students will have the opportunity to present a paper of their choice in class, which will be graded. The presentation of the paper will be done under the supervision of the teacher.

Assessment methods

The exam is written and consists of 38 multiple-choice questions and 2 open questions, which needs to be completed within 90 minutes. The multiple choice questions will evaluate the student's knowledge of the topics discussed throughout the course. The essays will evaluate the ability of the student to discuss a specific topic and make connections among topics. The answers to the short essays will be evaluated in terms of accuracy of response, clarity, synthesis, and critical abilities.

The written exam can be integrated by an oral exam, which will allow the student to earn a maximum of 3 points to be added to the points achieved at the written exam.

Textbooks and Reading Materials

1. A.E. Berti & A.S. Bombi (2013). Corso di psicologia dello sviluppo. Bologna: Il Mulino.
2. De Beni, R. & Borella, E. (2015). Psicologia dell'invecchiamento e della longevità. Bologna: Il Mulino.
   Potential new handbooks will be communicated before the beginning of the course on e-learning.

Sustainable Development Goals

QUALITY EDUCATION