UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

General Psychology I

2324-1-E2401P001

Learning area

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 (Turn A)

· Memory

· Emotions

· Motivation (Turn B)

Prerequisites

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

Teaching methods

Frontal lessons and videos

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. In addition, at the end of the course students will have the possibility to test the multiple choice part of the exam and responses to some open questions will be presented and discussed.

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.

See the Syllabus of each turn for more details.

Textbooks and Reading Materials

TURN A: Cherubini P., Bricolo E., Reverberi C. (a cura di) (2021). Psicologia generale (nuova edizione). Milano: Raffaello Cortina Editore.

The program is the following:
Chapter 1 --> the whole chapter
Chapter 2 --> only sections: 2.1, 2.2, 2.6
Chapter 3 --> the whole chapter
Chapter 4 --> the whole chapter
Chapter 5 --> the whole chapter
Chapter 6 --> the whole chapter except for: Figure 6.1, boxes 6.2, 6.5
Chapter 11 --> the whole chapter except for: 11.4.2, 11.4.3, 11.6; for what concerns 11.3.2, consider only the Theory of Appraisal by Scherer (fom p. 463, paragraph annoteted with "teoria dell'appraisal di Scherer" to p. 465, end of first paragraph).

Possible support materials will be made available by the teacher on the course website.

Note that the topics that are not explained in lectures, but are present in the indicated paragraphs of the textbook, are part of the exam programme.

TURN B: Ciccarelli, S.K. & White, J.N. (2022). Psicologia generale. Edizione italiana a cura di P. Ricciardelli e C. Iani. Milano: Pearson (capitoli: 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 12, Appendice B). Versione elettronica acquistabile su: pearson.it/shop ISBN code: 9788891915740

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

Erasmus students can contact the lecturer to ask for an English text book or a reading list to prepare for the exam and/or to arrange to take the exam in English.

Sustainable Development Goals

QUALITY EDUCATION