UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Communication Psychology

2324-1-E2001R009

Course title

Communication Psychology

Topics and course structure

The course introduces the key concepts and research topics in communication psychology. Communication is meant as a process of joint participation and sharing of meanings, generated by different systems (verbal and nonverbal), regulated by communicative intention and playing a fundamental role in the definition of personal relationships.

More in detail, the course will focus on the following topics:

- Human communication: theoretical models and definitions
- Communication and meaning: approaches to semantics
- Intention and communication
- Nonverbal communication: relationship between verbal and nonverbal behavior, systems, functions
- Discourse and conversation: discourse organization, characteristics of conversation, methods of discourse and conversation analysis
- Miscommunication: definition, irony, seduction, deception, pathological communication
- Serious games as innovative learning tools for the empowerment of communication and relational competences

Objectives

Main aim of this course, through the lessons and activities proposed, is to promote the following learning achievements:

- Understanding of the theoretical bases, of communication psychology
- Comprehension of methods for the analysis of interpersonal communication
- Ability to apply relevant knowledge and models in different contexts

Methodologies

- Lectures and discussion supported also by Powerpoint slides
- Analyses of video sequences
- Practical communication tasks
- Simulations and role-playing
- Production of video and multimedia materials

Online and offline teaching materials

Powerpoint slides downloadable online

Programme and references

There two options of programme and bibliography (Path A-standard e Path B-with Project work):

PROGRAMME AND BIBLIOGRAPHY PATH A) STANDARD

1. Anolli L., Fondamenti di psicologia della comunicazione. Il Mulino, Bologna, (2° ediz.) 2012.
   The volume has to be prepared completely except chapters 2 and 9.

2. Anolli L. - Mantovani F., Come funziona la nostra mente. Apprendimento, simulazione e "serious games". Il Mulino, Bologna, 2011.

3. Sebenius, J.K. (2009). Assess, Don’t Assume, Part I: Etiquette and National Culture in Negotiation. Harvard Business Review, Working Paper 10-048. PDF disponibile all'indirizzo https://www.hbs.edu/faculty/Publication%20Files/10-048.pdf

4. A volume of choice between the following two:
   Anolli L., La mente multiculturale. Laterza, Roma, 2006.
   Pallavicini F., Psicologia della realtà virtuale, Mondadori, 2020.

PROGRAMME AND BIBLIOGRAPHY PATH B) WITH PROJECT WORK

The programme and bibliography in this path consist of:

i.) practical activities and project work (individual and in pairs/groups) according the guidelines provided during the course.

ii.) the following bibliography:

1. Anolli L., Fondamenti di psicologia della comunicazione. Il Mulino, Bologna, (2° ediz.) 2012.
   The volume has to be prepared except for the following parts:

- chapters 2, 8 e 9
- in chapter 1 NO the paragraphs 4.3 e 4.4
- in chapter 3 NO the paragraphs 1.1, 1.2, 3.1; the part on “Il caso della polisemia e la somiglianza di famiglia” (pag. 109-110-111); par. 7.1, 7.2, 7.3.
- in chapter 4 NO the paragraphs 4.1 (modello olistico-funzionale Levelt pag. 134); par. 7.1, 7.2; par. 9
- in chapter 6 NO the whole sections 1, 2 e 3 (only Section 4 on "Analisi della conversazione" has to be prepared, pag. 204-216)
- in chapter 7 it has to be prepared Section 1 + 2 sections of choice among the following four: Section 2 (Comunicazione ironica), Section 3 (Comunicazione seduttiva), Section 4 (Comunicazione menzognera), Section 5 (Comunicazione patologica)

2. Anolli L. - Mantovani F., Come funziona la nostra mente. Apprendimento, simulazione e "serious games". Il Mulino, Bologna, 2011.
   The volume has to be prepared completely except chapters 1 and 2.

3. Sebenius, J.K. (2009). Assess, Don’t Assume, Part I: Etiquette and National Culture in Negotiation. Harvard Business Review, Working Paper 10-048. PDF disponibile all'indirizzo https://www.hbs.edu/faculty/Publication%20Files/10-048.pdf

Assessment methods

Oral exam, according to the programme path chosen.

Path A) STANDARD
Oral exam focused on the discussion of the topics of the indicated bibliography. As for the topics proposed in the course bibliography and the materials discussed during the course, the assessment will focus on the coverage of the theoretical models presented, the ability of critical reflection and application to contexts of interpersonal communication.

Path B) WITH PROJECT WORK
Oral exam focused on the discussion of the topics of the indicated bibliography and of the activities and project work. As for the topics proposed in the course bibliography and the materials discussed during lessons, the assessment will focus on the coverage of the theoretical models presented, the ability of critical reflection and and application to contexts of interpersonal communication, as well as the ability to connect the theoretical aspects with the practical experiences carried out within the project work.

Office hours

On Thursdays 11.00 am (with previous contact and confirmation by email).

Programme validity

The program validity is 2 years

Course tutors and assistants

Sustainable Development Goals

GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING