

COURSE SYLLABUS

Prevention, Assessment and Intervention in Psychodynamic Practice

2324-1-F5107P010

Learning area

Methods and techniques of intervention and rehabilitation

Learning objectives

Knowledge and comprehension

- Psychodynamic evaluation of psychopathological patterns and mental functioning in the life cycle
- Psychodynamic-developmental models and trajectories at the basis of normal and pathological functioning
- Adverse and traumatic experiences in the life cycle and implications for therapeutic treatment
- Indications for clinical treatment regarding the different mental functioning modalities considered
- Prevention models aimed at reducing psychopathological risk and supporting socio-emotional development throughout the life cycle

Applying knowledge and understanding

- Ability to evaluate normal and pathological mental functioning
- Ability to identify protection and risk factors with respect to different psychopathological conditions
- Ability to understand the role of traumatic experiences and to evaluate their impact with respect to therapeutic choices
- Ability to clinical reasoning with respect to indications for treatment in the psychodynamic field
- Ability to pre-order prevention programs aimed at supporting socio-emotional development and reducing psychopathological risk in the life cycle

Contents

The course will promote the acquisition of useful knowledge for the psychodynamic evaluation of the psychopathological patterns in the life cycle and in order to understand the psychodynamic developmental models at the base of mental functioning, with particular reference to the role of the adverse experiences with respect to the psychopathological risk. It will also focus on the indications useful for treatment in the psychodynamic field, as well as on the identification of prevention programs aimed at parents and children for mitigating parental risk conditions and promoting the child's social-emotional development.

Detailed program

- Psychodynamic evaluation in a dimensional view of the psychopathological patterns in the life cycle
- Psychodynamic developmental models to understand mental functioning with reference to: attachment styles and emotional regulation, capacity of mentalizing and reflective function, relational and emotional communication skills
- Adverse and traumatic experiences: resilience and risk factors, intergenerational transmission of trauma, effects on psychopathology and implications for the treatment
- Different indications for psychotherapy treatment and for consultation in the psychodynamic field
- Prevention programs centered on attachment theory aimed at supporting and increasing parental sensitivity and mentalization ability in order to facilitate the child's social-emotional development and its capacity for resilience even in adverse conditions

Prerequisites

Knowledge of the basic principles of dynamic psychology

Teaching methods

Theoretical lectures will be accompanied by the presentation of clinical cases useful to deepen the knowledge of theoretical constructs through the extended discussion in the entire group of students and in small groups.

Furthermore, presentations of articles related to the topics analyzed by the students will be proposed to deepen the knowledge of different constructs.

Assessment methods

The assessment of learning will be carried out through an written exam (optional oral examination) aimed at verifying the specific knowledge of the main theoretical aspects covered in the course.

Participation in the optional activities (group presentation, exercises, etc.) proposed during the course contributes to the final evaluation (only for attending students).

Although this course is held in Italian, for Erasmus students, course material can also be available in English, and

students can take the exam in English if they wish to do so.

Textbooks and Reading Materials

Luyten, P., Mayes, L. C., Fonagy, P., Target, M., & Blatt, S. (2015). Handbook of Psychodynamic Approaches to Psychopathology. New York: Guilford Press. chap. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5; cap. 7, 8, 9; chap. 20, 21, 24 e 25.

Midgley, N., & Vrouva, I. (2012). La mentalizzazione nel ciclo di vita. Tr.it. Milano: Raffaello Cortina. (Introduction and chap. 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7).

Riva Crugnola, C. (2024). Diventare giovani adulti. Milano: Raffaello Cortina.

Slides required and available on the website.

One book chosen:

Eagle, M. N. (2013). Attaccamento e psicoanalisi. Tr. It. Milano: Raffaello Cortina (cap. 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12).

Holm-Hadulla, R. (2022). Psicoterapia integrativa. Un modello interdisciplinare attraverso tredici racconti di pratica psicoterapeutica. Tr it. Milano: Mimesis Edizioni.

Sustainable Development Goals

GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING
