



UNIVERSITÀ  
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

## COURSE SYLLABUS

### Clinical Psychology

2425-1-I0102D007-I0102D023M-T1-T5

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#### Aims

Knowing how to describe the concept of "difficult patient" in terms of the narrative of the patient;

Knowing how to recognize and describe the features of different attachment styles and the implications for the relationship with the patient;

Knowing how to recognize and describe interpersonal motivational systems (activation, deactivation, objectives and related emotions);

Knowing how to describe the placebo effect in relational context and the mechanisms through which it acts

Knowing how to describe the concept of trauma e its implications in obstetric setting

#### Contents

The difficult patient and personal narrative

Relationship, observation and communication

Interpersonal motivational systems

Attachment and relationship with patients

The placebo effect

Trauma

## **Detailed program**

The difficult patient and personal narrative.

Interpersonal motivational systems (attachment, care, predatory, competitive, sexual, play and affiliation, cooperative)

Attachment and relationship with patients (secure, avoidant, ambivalent, disorganized attachment); attachment-based care approach.

The placebo effect and the implications for the relationship with the patient; the mechanisms by which the placebo effect acts

Traumatic experiences and their impact on mental functioning

## **Prerequisites**

## **Teaching form**

The course is structured into four 2-hour lessons, with a frontal lecture in the first part. The subsequent part aims to involve students interactively through group discussions of professional situations, the compilation of questionnaires to reflect on one's professional approach (using wooclap). All activities are carried out in presence

## **Textbook and teaching resource**

Liotti G., Fassone G., Monticelli F. (2017). L'evoluzione delle emozioni e dei sistemi motivazionali. Raffaello Cortina Editore. Capitoli 1,2,3

Wilhelm K., Tietze T. (2016). Difficult doctor-patient interactions. Applying principles of attachment-based care. *Medicine Today*, 17(1-2), 36-44

Benedetti F. (2018). L'effetto placebo. Breve viaggio tra mente e corpo, Roma, Carocci editore

Some suggested supplementary material will be uploaded on the e-learning platform

## **Semester**

1 Year - 2 Semester

## **Assessment method**

Written test: 2 open questions on topics presented at lesson.  
The score will contribute to the overall evaluation of the integrated course

## **Office hours**

by appointment: [marco.bani1@unimib.it](mailto:marco.bani1@unimib.it)  
online or in presence (Building U38, 5° floor, room 5041)

## **Sustainable Development Goals**

GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING | QUALITY EDUCATION | GENDER EQUALITY | REDUCED INEQUALITIES

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