UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

General Psychopathology - 1

2425-3-E2401P103-T1

Learning area

Knowledge and skills useful to understand, promote and change individual psychological functioning.

Learning objectives

Knowledge and understanding

· Theories and methods in psychopathology;
· Normality and abnormality in psychological functioning;
· Clinical diagnosis and the main contemporary nosographic systems;
· Main etiological theories of psychopathology and the bio-psycho-social model;
· Therapeutical interventions in psychopathology.

Applying knowledge and understanding

· Recognize the main features of pathological functioning in cognitions, emotions and behaviour;
· Collect a full clinical history;
· Formulate diagnostic hypotheses based on a case study.

Contents

The course aims at introducing students to essential elements in general psychopathology with special emphasis on descriptive psychopathology.

In the first part of the course the principal theoretical models in psychopathology theoretical models in psychopathology will be discussed focusing in particular on current descriptive approaches.

Detailed program

• Normality and pathology;
• Abnormal psychology;
• Nosographic classification;
• Psychopathology of thought, perception, language, emotions and behavior;
• Main psychopathological domains: mood disorders, psychotic disorders, anxiety disorders, eating disorders, obsessive-compulsive disorders, event-related disorders, somatoform disorders, substance use disorders, sexual dysfunctions, paraphilias, gender dysphoria;
• Assessment of psychopatology.

Prerequisites

None.

Teaching methods

The course is divided into didactic delivery (lectures) and interactive teaching. With regard to the latter, the planned modes include: watching films, role-playing, discussion of clinical cases, and optional exercises offered on the elearning platform.
About 85% of the total number of hours will be delivered as face-to-face lectures.
The remaining 15% of the total hours will include presentations of clinical cases to be discussed in plenary or small groups, viewing video interviews with fictitious patients, role playing (practical exercises on the use of clinical interviews). Such applied lectures are essential for acquiring practical skills for gathering anmnestic information and learning to reason in terms of differential diagnosis.

Assessment methods

The final assessment will be carried out through a written and oral examination aimed at verifying the specific knowledge of the main theoretical aspects of the course. The written test will be composed of 30 multiple-choice questions. The oral examination will test the student’s mastery of the technical language.

Textbooks and Reading Materials

Detailed information about the course materials will be posted on the e-learning page.
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.

Sustainable Development Goals

REDUCED INEQUALITIES