

## UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

## **COURSE SYLLABUS**

## **Social Psychology**

2425-1-E2004P005

## Learning objectives

Knowledge and Understanding

#### **Introduction to Social Psychology:**

Approaches and methodologies for conducting research in the field of social psychology

Data collection tools: field observations, questionnaires, and experiments

## Theoretical and Methodological Foundations of Social Psychology:

Main theories and models of social psychology

Quantitative and qualitative methods used in social psychology research

#### **Emerging Areas of Social Psychology:**

New areas of study such as social psychology in the digital age, political psychology, and environmental psychology.

Ability to Apply Knowledge and Understanding

# Understanding the Field of Social Psychology and Its Specificities (Theoretical, Methodological, and Linguistic) Within the Panorama of Social Sciences Studies:

Distinguish social psychology from other disciplines within the social sciences

Analyze the specific contributions of social psychology to the understanding of human behavior

#### **Recognizing Social Cognition Processes:**

Identification and analysis of the mechanisms through which people perceive, interpret, and remember social information

Study of cognitive biases and heuristics in social judgment

#### **Identifying and Deconstructing Different Forms of Social Influence:**

Analysis of the dynamics of conformity, obedience, and persuasion

#### **Understanding Intergroup and Interpersonal Relationships and Conflicts:**

Theories and research on the dynamics of conflicts and relationships between groups and individuals

## **Knowing the Emerging Areas of Social Psychology:**

Exploration of the new frontiers of social psychology

#### **Contents**

The course aims to provide a solid theoretical and methodological foundation in social psychology, with particular attention to the specificities of the discipline within the broader context of the social sciences. Students will delve into the main studies and theories developed in social psychology to understand the processes of social cognition, social influence, and the dynamics of relationships between individuals and groups in various social contexts.

## **Detailed program**

#### **PART ONE: SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY**

- Introduction to Social Psychology
- · Conducting Research in Social Psychology

#### PART TWO: THE FOUNDATIONS OF SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY

- Social cognition
- · Social influence
- Attitudes
- The Self: self-regulation, motivation, and emotions
- Aggression
- Prosociality
- Belonging and social exclusion
- Prejudice

#### PART THREE: EMERGING AREAS OF SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY

- Social psychology in the digital age
- · Environmental psychology
- Political psychology

## **Prerequisites**

No one in particular.

## **Teaching methods**

28 lectures (equivalent to 56 hours and 8 ECTS credits) in-person in the classroom. The course is primarily based on a didactic method of frontal lectures. During the lectures, the instructor encourages active participation from students through classroom discussions and interactive activities, such as brief group reflections, film analysis, case studies, and applications of theories to practice. This approach aims to stimulate critical thinking and foster direct engagement with the topics discussed, allowing students to apply the theoretical knowledge acquired to real-world situations. Whenever possible, materials (lecture handouts and, when available, films) are made accessible

on the course's e-learning site, so that it can also be considered by non-attending students. The course is taught in Italian.

#### **Assessment methods**

The assessment consists of a written exam that covers the entire syllabus, including multiple-choice questions and open-ended questions. The questions are designed to verify the effective acquisition of theoretical knowledge and the ability to connect the various contents, areas, and processes of social psychology. The answers to the multiple-choice questions will be evaluated based on correctness. The answers to the open-ended questions will be evaluated based on correctness, argumentative ability, synthesis, the creation of connections between different areas, and critical analysis of the presented phenomena. No mid-term exams are planned.

## **Textbooks and Reading Materials**

Andrighetto, L. & Riva, P. (Eds.) (2020). *Psicologia Sociale: Fondamenti teorici ed evidenze empiriche*. Bologna: Il Mulino. ISBN 978-88-15-28794-6

Listening to the following podcasts also constitutes examination material:

- a Io ero il milanese RaiPlay Sound (https://www.raiplaysound.it/programmi/ioeroilmilanese)
- b Sabrina Efionayi STORIA DEL MIO NOME (https://choramedia.com/podcast/storia-del-mio-nome/)

And watching the following videos:

a	-	Comizi	d'amore	(documentario	del	1965	di	Pier	Paolo	Pasolini	-
https	://www	.youtube.co	m/watch?v=J	IKGvqxBZWS0&t=2	2741s&al	o_channe	l=Film <sup>9</sup>	%26Clips			
b - P	rocess	o per strupr	o (documenta	ario del 1979 di Ma	ria Grazi	a Belmon	ti, Anna	a Carini,	Rony Daop	oulo, Paola l	De
Marti	S,	An	nabella	Miscuglio		е		Loredan	а	Rotond	0)-
https	://www	.voutube.cc	m/watch?v=x	aTmbLzyWmk&list	=PL8CE	CAD6B86	04F5A	.5&ab ch	annel=mat	tergea	

#### **Sustainable Development Goals**

GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING | GENDER EQUALITY | REDUCED INEQUALITIES | SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES | PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS