UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Clinical Psychology of Sexuality and Gender Identity

2425-2-F5107P018

Learning area

Knowledge and understanding

- Theoretical and methodological approaches in sexology;
- Normality and pathology in sexual functioning;
- Diagnosis in sexology;
- Therapeutic approaches in sexology.

Ability to apply knowledge and understanding

- Ability to recognize manifestations of healthy and pathological sexual functioning;
- Ability to integrate detected symptoms into a diagnostic hypothesis;
- Ability to collect a comprehensive sexological history.

Learning objectives

The course aims to provide an introduction to clinical sexology from the peculiarities and specificities that distinguish sexological intervention from traditional psychological intervention.
In the first part of the course, the various dimensions involved in sexuality (biological, psychological, social, legal) will be explored and a critical review of theoretical models (classical and recent) of framing human sexual response will be proposed.
A review of the major male and female sexual dysfunctions will then be given, presenting their diagnostic criteria, the etiological factors involved, and hints of sexual therapy will be provided, with emphasis on evidence-based interventions.
The course will also provide a review of sexual minorities (LGBTQIA+ persons), psychological issues most frequently encountered in these populations, models for understanding the psychological experience of LGBTQIA+ persons (Minority Stress, Microaggressions), and affirmative therapies.

Contents

Sex, sexuality, sexual identity
Anatomy and physiology of the sex organs
Sexuality in the life cycle
Psychopathology of sexual disorders
LGBTQIA+ people: beyond heteronormativity and cisgender identities

Detailed program

Sex, sexuality, sexual identity
Anatomy and physiology of the sex organs
The cycle of sexual response: comparing models
Sexuality in the life cycle
Risk factors in sexology
Sexual health and sexual rights
Psychopathology of sexual disorders
LGBTQIA+ people: beyond heteronormativity and cisgender identities
Minority Stress, Microaggressions
Affirmative therapies
Sexological counseling: goals and objectives
The sexological history
Hints of sex therapy

Prerequisites

None

Teaching methods

The teaching methods include: lectures, viewing of films, role-playing, discussion of clinical cases, and optional exercises offered on the elearning platform.
Approximately 90% of the total hours will be delivered as lectures.
The remaining 10% 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 exercise on the use of clinical interviews).
90% of the lectures will be delivered in-person.

Assessment methods

The exam will consist of a written test divided in two parts: a multiple-choice test (30 questions with four answer options) aimed at verifying the specific knowledge of the theoretical aspects covered in the course, and a second part with open-ended questions.
Passing the written test will give access to an optional oral test in which, in addition to the knowledge acquired, the mastery of the technical language specific to the discipline will be evaluated.

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

QUALITY EDUCATION