

UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Communication and Acceptance in The Diagnostic Process

2425-1-F5108P011

Learning area

Models and techniques for assessing psychological functioning

Learning objectives

- Acquire the principles related to communication in the diagnostic process
- Acquire the principles relating to acceptance in the diagnostic process
- Understand the terminology related to the different models regarding the communication of the diagnosis and its acceptance

Contents

Communication in the diagnostic process Psychological/psychiatric diagnosis Medical diagnosis Acceptance in the diagnostic process

Detailed program

Introduction to the diagnostic process Essential vs accessory symptoms

Key elements of effective communication

Relationship strategies

Examination of mental conditions

Diagnostic process and diagnosis communication

How to communicate the diagnosis? Communication techniques in the diagnostic process

Differences between diagnoses of physical and psychological/psychiatric pathologies

Diagnosis of mental problems, the example of suicidal risk

Defense mechanisms

Medical diagnosis and chronic pain

Communication models

Communicate the bad news

The main errors in the communication with the patient

Communication of the diagnosis of dementia

Health communication throughout the life cycle

Patient, Family, Caregiver

Coping and defenses

Communication of the diagnosis in different contexts (oncology, palliative care)

Death and dying

The story of the drug

Drug acceptance and drug resistance

Health and the right to health

Ethics and law in doctor-patient communication

Prerequisites

Knowledge of DSM-5-TR diagnostic criteria

Teaching methods

The teaching activity will be carried out face-to-face and in Italian (with the exception of single lessons given by external experts, which may be in English).

Lectures will alternate with group discussions of clinical material.

Clinical cases will be used through texts and videos.

Hours of teaching activity organized as frontal lessons: 50% of the total

Hours of teaching activities involving classroom discussions, presentation of cases, group work, exercises: 50% of the total

Type of teaching activity: lesson

Assessment methods

The exam will be carried out in presence. The exam consists of a written test with 30 multiple choice questions and two open questions. The test will focus on the entire program of the course. Students who pass the written test (minimum 18) will have access to an optional oral test.

The questions are aimed at ascertaining the effective acquisition of both theoretical knowledge and practical-clinical

skills relating to the different models of communication and acceptance of the diagnosis.

The evaluation criteria are: the correctness of the answers and the mastery of the models and techniques learned during the course.

Erasmus students can contact the professor to agree on the possibility of studying on a bibliography in English and/or the possibility of performing the exam in English.

Textbooks and Reading Materials

Supplementary materials (slides, articles). The slides are essential for passing the exam. They will be uploaded online before each lesson. Book(s):

Parts of the book: Bruno G. Bara, «Il corpo malato. L'intervento psicologico», Raffaello Cortina Editore, 2023.

One among the following (parts of one of these books):
Rita Charon , «Medicina narrativa. Onorare le storie dei pazienti», Raffaello Cortina Editore, 2019
Pompili M., «Il rischio di suicidio. Valutazione e gestione», Raffaello Cortina, 2022
Lingiardi V., Madeddu F., «I meccanismi di difesa. Teoria, valutazione, clinica», Raffaello Cortina Editore, 2023

Any other references can be given in class.

Sustainable Development Goals

GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING