



UNIVERSITÀ  
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

## SYLLABUS DEL CORSO

### Comunicazione e Accettazione nel Processo Diagnostico

2425-1-F5108P011

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#### 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

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