SYLLABUS DEL CORSO

Neuropsicologia Forense

2425-2-F5108P018

Learning area

METHODS AND TECHNIQUES FOR TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION

Learning objectives

Knowledge and understanding
• Mental capacity in litigation from the psychopathologic and neuropsychological perspectives
• Criteriology of scientific and technical psychological counseling in forensic settings
• Psychological theories, techniques, tools to be used in the legal field
• The contribution of neuroscience in the expert witness field

Applying knowledge and understanding
• Forensic issues in the diagnosis of psychopathological and neuropsychological conditions
• Assessment instruments (psychopathology and cognitive deficits) in forensic practice
• Type, content, and purpose of psychological technical consultant in criminal and civil cases
• Methodology and tools for assessing psychological, cognitive, and behavioral functioning for forensic purposes

Contents

Prerogatives of neuropsychological and psychopathological assessment for forensic purposes.
Methodology of the psycho-forensic examination.
Legal context for civil and criminal technical counselling.

Detailed program

- Typology and content of expert opinions and technical advice in psychopathological and neuropsychological matters, with reference to the cornerstones of legal reasoning.
- Diagnosis and teoretical models
- Insanity, imputability and capacity to act
- The simulation of mental illness and cognitive deficits
- Psychodiagnostic and neuropsychological testing in forensic science
- Neurobiological and genetic correlates of criminal behaviour
- The forensic neuroscience approach

Prerequisites

Knowledge of the theoretical and methodological foundations of clinical psychopathology and neuropsychology and of the methods of cognitive neuroscience is essential to address the course content.
The legal part and the implications for the experts' assessment focus on the law in force in Italy.

Teaching methods

The course will mainly consist of frontal room lessons in Italian. In addition to classroom lectures, part of the teaching will be conducted through practical-clinical exercises on the specific topics of the course: discussion of forensic cases, exercises on forensic methodologies, seminars.
Useful material to prepare for the examination and to delve deeper into the topics covered (national and international scientific articles, background books) will be indicated on the course e-learning site, so that it can also be used by non-regular students.

Assessment methods

The final examination is written and consists of open questions on the topics covered in class. The assessment criteria are: the correctness of the answers to the questions, exhaustive exposition and the ability to argue critically.
An in itinere written test on the topics covered during the course is foreseen, organised as an in-depth study of a topic or analysis of a forensic case applying the methodology covered in the lecture.
For international students (Erasmus Programme), it will be possible to answer the final written test in English or to agree with the lecturer on the possibility of taking the oral examination in English.

Textbooks and Reading Materials

Bolognini N. (2024), 'Manuale di neuropsicologia e psicopatologia forense', Il Mulino Editore
Sammicheli, L. (2019), 'La perizia psicologica. Prospettive e metodi in psicologia e psicopatologia forense', Il Mulino Editore

Sustainable Development Goals

QUALITY EDUCATION