UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

SYLLABUS DEL CORSO

Cognitive Foundation of Cognitive and Affective Processes

2425-2-F5105P012-F5105P013M

Learning area

Applied Experimental Psychological Sciences

Learning objectives

Knowledge and understanding

· Knowing the cognitive, neurobiological and functional bases of social and affective mental processes.

· Understanding the genesis and dynamics of alterations and disorders of cognitive, communicative, emotional-motivational and social activity

Applying knowledge and understanding

· Acquisition of the ability to apply the acquired knowledge in order to design and carry out empirical studies in the field of social and affective neuroscience.

. Acquisition of the abillity to apply the acquired knowledge in order to personally design and carry out studies focused on specific patients with socio- affective disorders.

Contents

This course provides essential knowledge concerning the main cognitive models of social and emotional-motivational processes in humans, in order to promote the understanding of socio-emotional and behavioral

functions, both in healthy people and patients with specific social or affective disorders.

Detailed program

Biological motion, causality and agency

Face and gaze perception

Social attention and gaze following

Attentional biases towards social and emotional stimuli

Mentalizing

Embodied cognition

Mirror neurons, empathy, action and intention understanding

Pathological and atypical aspects of Social Cognition:
Autism Spectrum Condition.and other conditions

Prerequisites

This course requires a basic knowledge of anatomy and physiology of the nervous system and its cognitive functions.

The understanding of English textbook and scientific articles.

Teaching methods

Frontal lessons with slides and audio/video presentations. Presentation and discussion of ongoing data and research articles.
The course will be held in presence. Teaching will consist of lecture-based lessons, and also interactive classwork, discussion on scientific papers, and assignments. All lessons will contain at least a part of interaction with students.

Assessment methods

The exam is only written.
The written examination consists of two open ended questions (essay-like) on textbooks and slides of the lectures; part of the exam (one question) can be substituted with an oral presentation of a scientific article, or a brief essay, to be completed during the course and agreed with the lecturer, testing both the knowledge on a topic presented in the course and the student's critical thinking skills.

Erasmus students are admitted to the course and take the exam in English.

Textbooks and Reading Materials

Course slides and scientific papers will be uploaded on the course website by the lecturer.

Detailed information about reading material will be given on course start, and published on the course webpage.

Sustainable Development Goals

GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING | QUALITY EDUCATION