

# UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

# **COURSE SYLLABUS**

# **Psychology of Disability and Inclusion**

2425-5-G8501R029

#### Course title

Psychology of Disabilities and Integration

#### Topics and course structure

The course aims to address the topic of disabilities and inclusion as a complex phenomenon that involves, along with the individual, the entire context of belonging. In the first part of the course, the concept of disability will be explored in depth, starting from the first definitions to the bio-psychosocial model. Different forms of disability will then be presented, always taking the threefold point of view: biological, psychological and social, in accordance with the approach of positive psychology. The second part of the course will present the potential of new technologies for reducing social exclusion and promoting well-being. The use of video games, augmented reality and virtual reality for promoting inclusion and fostering learning processes in the school context will be explored.

#### **Objectives**

Through this teaching, with constant and participatory attendance at lectures, the following learning is intended to be promoted, in terms of:

- Knowledge and understanding of the concept of disability in relation to biological, contextual and relational variables.
- Knowledge and understanding of the characteristics of different forms of disability.
- Ability to recognize and value the use of video games, reality augmentations and virtual reality for the promotion of mental inclusion and well-being.
- · Ability to apply knowledge about video games, augmented reality and virtual reality to design and

implement interventions for the promotion of inclusion and learning processes in the school context.

#### Methodologies

The course aims to promote the achievement of the objectives through lectures, exercises and discussions. Hours of teaching activities organized as face-to-face lectures (Didactics Erogative) will cover about 60 percent of the course (33 hours) while those involving classroom discussions, case presentations, group work and conducting exercises (Didactics Interactive) will be about 40 percent (23 hours).

# Online and offline teaching materials

- · Lecture slides
- Online space for exercises and/or discussions

# Programme and references

- 1. Soresi S. (2016), Psicologia della disabilità e dell'inclusione (Chapter 1,2,4,5,6,20). Il Mulino, Bologna.
- 2. Farber M. (2014). Gamify Your Classroom: A Field Guide to Game-Based Learning (Chapter 1,2,3,5,6,7,13). Peter Lang Pub Inc.
- 3. Pallavicini F. (2020), Psicologia della realtà virtuale. Mondadori Università, Milano.
- 4. One book to choose from:
  - Albanese O., delle Fave A. (a cura di) (2015), Disabilità, diversità e promozione del benessere. Franco Angeli, Milano.
  - Anderson A. (2019). Virtual Reality, Augmented Reality and Artificial Intelligence in Special Education: A Practical Guide to Supporting Students with Learning Differences. Routledge.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT STUDENTS/STUDENTS REGISTER FOR THE COURSE ON THE E-LEARNING PLATFORM SO THAT THEY HAVE ACCESS TO MATERIALS, INFORMATION, NOTICES

Students/students from previous years - unless requested to the Lecturer - bring the program of the year in which they were enrolled.

#### **Assessment methods**

The examination is conducted in written form and lasts one and a half hours. This test includes three open-ended questions aimed at testing knowledge of the proposed topics and the ability to design interventions for inclusion and promotion of well-being in the school context.

Up to a maximum of 10 points are awarded for each question, depending on (a) relevance of the answer to the question, (b) completeness of the answer, and (c) propriety of language. The evaluation is given in thirtieths. The results of the test will be posted on the Moodle platform.

Students who request it may supplement the exam with an oral interview, which will cover the texts in the

bibliography and may raise or lower the grade of the written test by a maximum of 1 point. To apply, it is necessary to have passed the written test with a minimum score of 18 and to register for the oral examination, which is held about 7 to 10 days after the written.

Erasmus students will have the choice of answering questions in English or Italian.

#### Office hours

For the updated timetable please consult the personal page of lecturer Federica Pallavicini. For any doubts or difficulties in preparation, you can contact the lecturer by email: federica.pallavicini@unimib.it

# **Programme validity**

The programs are worth two academic years.

#### Course tutors and assistants

Dr. Marzia Quaglia

### **Sustainable Development Goals**

REDUCED INEQUALITIES