UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Practical Class: Clinical Interviews for The Diagnosis of Personality Disorders

2526-2-F5107P020

Learning area

Models and techniques for assessing psychological functioning

Learning objectives

Knowledge and understanding

- Personality Disorders according to the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM).
- Personality pathology according to Otto Kernberg's theory of Structural Diagnosis.

Applying knowledge and understanding

- Administering and scoring the Structured Clinical Interview-5-DP (SCID-5-DP)
- Administering and scoring the Structured Interview of Personality Organization (STIPO-R)

Making judgements

- Ability to think critically about the conceptualization of clinical cases and the formulation of diagnostic hypotheses, obtained through group work on clinical cases
- Awareness of the limitations and possibilities of the diagnostic systems covered during classes

Communication skills

- Ability to communicate clearly and knowledgeably with teachers and colleagues about topics covered in class

-Development of diagnostic communication skills in clinical and scientific settings, encouraged through practical exercises and mock interviews

Learning skills

- Ability to use the sources indicated by teachers to explore course topics in greater depth and clarify doubts and uncertainties

Contents

The conceptualization of personality pathology will be discussed according to both the psychiatric approach (DSM-5) and Otto Kernberg's psychodynamic theory. Basic
techniques for the administration of diagnostic tools to assess these aspects will also
be presented.

Detailed program

· Definitions of personality pathology
· Personality disorders in the DSM-5
· Assessment of personality disorders through the SCID-5-DP: administration and
scoring
· Otto Kernberg's model of personality pathology
· Assessment of personality organization through the STIPO-R: administration and
scoring

Prerequisites

General knowledge related to:
-Diagnostic assessment: categorical approaches and structural diagnosis
-General descriptive features of personality disorders (DSM-5)

Teaching methods

· Presentation of the theoretical models
· Presentation and discussion of clinical material
· Role playing
· Scoring of the presented assessment tools

Teaching: 8 hours
Interactive teaching: 20 hours
Type of activity: Laboratory
All teaching delivered in person.

Assessment methods

Students will be asked to produce a written composition in which they analyze a clinical case presented during the lessons (psychodiagnostic report).
Although this course is held in Italian, for Erasmus students, course material can also be available in English, and students can take the exam in English if they wish to do so.

Textbooks and Reading Materials

To read:

-Hörz-Sagstetter, S., Caligor, E., Preti, E., Stern, B. L., De Panfilis, C., & Clarkin, J. F. (2018). Clinician-guided assessment of personality using the Structural Interview and the Structured Interview of Personality Organization (STIPO). Journal of Personality Assessment, 100(1), 30-42.
-Morey, L. C., Benson, K. T., Busch, A. J., & Skodol, A. E. (2015). Personality disorders in DSM-5: Emerging research on the alternative model. Current Psychiatry Reports, 17(4), 24.

Recommended:

-American Psychiatric Association (2013). Diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders (5th ed.). Arlington, VA: American Psychiatric Publishing. Edizione italiana:
-Manuale diagnostico e statistico dei disturbi mentali (5° ed.). Milano: Raffaello Cortina, 2014.
-Madeddu, F., Preti, E. (2012). La diagnosi strutturale di personalità secondo il modello di Kernberg. Milano: Raffaello Cortina.
-Kernberg, O. F. (2018). I disturbi di personalità nel DSM-5: Panoramica generale e criticità. In Madeddu, F. (a cura di), Erotismo e Aggressività nei disturbi gravi di personalità (pp. 33-44). Milano: Raffaello Cortina, 2019
-Kernberg, O. F. (2016). What is personality? Journal of Personality Disorders, 30(2), 145-156. Tr. It. In Madeddu, F. (a cura di), Erotismo e Aggressività nei disturbi gravi di personalità (pp. 15-32). Milano: Raffaello Cortina, 2019.

Sustainable Development Goals

GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING