UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Practical Class: Deontology and Responsibility of The Psychologist in The Health System

2526-2-F5108P026

Learning area

2. Methods and techniques for treatment and rehabilitation

Learning objectives

Knowledge and understanding
• Acquisition of the historical foundations concerning the establishment of the profession of psychologist in Italy and approval of the Code of Conduct of Italian psychologists;
• Knowledge of the principles that inspire the Code and its aims;
• Examination of the Code of Ethics articles;
• Basic legal and theoretical principles of deontology and civil and criminal legislation concerning the profession of psychologist.

Applying knowledge and understanding
• Applying knowledge of ethical principles to specific cases;
• Methods for the correct drafting of reports requested by customers, patients or client entities.

Independent judgment
The course fosters critical reflection on ethical dilemmas and the professional responsibilities of psychologists in healthcare settings, encouraging the ability to analyze complex situations with ethical and regulatory awareness.

Communication skills
Students develop communication skills for managing sensitive professional situations, with a focus on active listening, emotional regulation, and responsible communication in critical contexts.

Learning skills
The course promotes autonomous learning and ongoing professional development regarding regulations, the code of ethics, and relevant scientific literature, also through case analysis and the study of English-language materials.

Contents

Legal framework of the profession of psychologist with in-depth analysis of regulatory and ethical aspects. The themes of professional responsibility and its foreseeable consequences will be explored both in health care and in various organizational settings with reference to the therapeutic contract, the importance of informed consent and professional obligations. Both classroom lectures and guided practical activities with supervision will be provided.

Detailed program

Course topics:
• Ethics, deontology and the law
• Psychology as a profession: Being a psychologist and practicing as one
• Professional responsibility
• Therapeutic contract and settings
• Informed consent
• Professional secret
• Medical and police reporting requirements
• Drafting of reports and certificates
• Critical ethical issues in health care and other organizational contexts

Prerequisites

No specific prerequisites are necessary.

Teaching methods

The teaching activity will be carried out in person and in Italian.
Lectures will alternate with group discussions of the material.
Cases through written texts will be used.
Hours of teaching activity organized as frontal lessons (Providing Teaching): 50% of the total.
Hours of teaching activity which include classroom discussions, presentation of cases, group work, carrying out exercises (Interactive Teaching): 50% of the total.

Assessment methods

Students will be evaluated through participation in group work and simulations prepared during the lessons

according to the methods explained by the lecturer from time to time.

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

Material supplied by the lecturer, such as slides, exercises, bibliography.

Sustainable Development Goals