



UNIVERSITÀ  
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

## SYLLABUS DEL CORSO

### Psicologia Sociale - 1

2526-1-E2403P007-T1

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#### Learning area

KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS USEFUL TO UNDERSTAND AND CHANGE THE RELATIONS AMONG INDIVIDUALS AND THE PSYCHOSOCIAL PROCESSES UNDERLYING GROUPS, ORGANIZATIONS AND SOCIAL SYSTEMS

#### Learning objectives

##### *Knowledge and understanding*

- Cultural and historical framework of Social Psychology and theoretical models of the discipline
- Research methods in social psychology
- Psychosocial processes related to individual and group behaviour

##### *Applying knowledge and understanding*

- The ability to dialogue with other disciplines
- The ability to apply the psychosocial models in different contexts: family, groups, communities

##### *Making judgements*

The development of students' ability to critically analyse the methodological framework of research projects conducted within the discipline is facilitated by classroom discussions. This ability encompasses the analysis of the research itself, its results and its limitations. The exercise of critical discussion itself, conducted in relation to the main theoretical models of the discipline, also allows students to develop an understanding of the variety of perspectives that characterise it and helps them to form their own independent orientation. The examination method, which consists exclusively of open-ended questions and, if required, an oral interview, stimulates independent judgement and reflective thinking about the course content.

### *Communication skills*

The course is designed to promote the development of communication skills through classroom discussion, as previously indicated. As was stated in the preceding paragraph, the examination method in question necessitates the employment of suitable specialist language and the capacity to summarise the subject matter in a succinct, lucid and cogent manner.

### *Learning skills*

The course provides a solid theoretical and conceptual foundation that can be further developed by attending courses in the field of social psychology in subsequent years, as part of the individual training plan that will gradually take shape over the three years of the Degree programme.

## **Contents**

By the end of the course students will be expected to: recognize the key areas of social psychology, demonstrate a basic knowledge of the major theoretical frameworks in social psychology and demonstrate a basic knowledge of the relationship between theoretical perspectives and research methodologies.

## **Detailed program**

- The social and cultural origins of Social Psychology
- Main theoretical models in Social Psychology
- Types of research designs and research methods in social psychology (experimental method, laboratory method, field research, action research);
- The relationships between Social Psychology and other sciences (Physics, Biology, Sociology, Economics, History) – Social Psychology and General Psychology, Psychodynamic Psychology, Clinical Psychology.
- Social Psychology main topics:
  - attitudes,
  - persuasive communication,
  - stereotypes and prejudices,
  - social representations,
  - conformity and social influence processes,
  - group and relationships between groups,
  - social cognition.

## **Prerequisites**

Nothing specific.

## **Teaching methods**

The objective of the lectures is to encourage students to engage in critical reflection on the topics and their articulation, even through the use of questions and the viewing of films or other mass media material. Each lecture employs a combination of frontal and interactive teaching methods.

All the material (lecture notes and, if possible, films) is made available on the e-learning site of the course.

## Assessment methods

The exam consists of a compulsory written test on the entire course programme and an optional oral examination.

The written test, which is based on open questions, aims to ascertain the knowledge of the discipline's main theories and research areas and the ability to understand the psychosocial processes through which individual, group and social functioning can be described. The test comprises four questions to be answered by computer within 75 minutes. Each answer is graded in thirtieths, the final grade corresponding to the average of the responses. Absent or insufficient responses result in a penalty of 2 points on the final average.

The criteria for evaluating the answers are the correctness of the content, the ability to summarise, discuss and identify connections between the different areas, and the development of skills enabling a critical reading of the phenomena.

After the publication of the written test results, the students have three days to accept the mark, withdraw, or request an oral examination. Please note that the professor may also request an oral test: in this case, the student cannot accept the mark for the written test and will be withdrawn if they do not attend the oral examination.

The optional oral examination may only be taken by those who have obtained a mark of at least 18/30 in the written test. The oral examination consists of in-depth questions on the course contents. The answers are assessed according to the same criteria as the written test. The oral examination may increase or decrease the written examination mark.

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

Hogg M.A.; Vaughan G. M. *Psicologia sociale. Teorie e applicazioni*. Milano: Pearson

Palmonari A., Cavazza N. *Ricerche e protagonisti della Psicologia Sociale*. Bologna: Il Mulino.

Slides (from the e-learning's course page)

## Sustainable Development Goals

GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING | QUALITY EDUCATION | GENDER EQUALITY | REDUCED INEQUALITIES

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