UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Social Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience

2526-1-F5110P009

Learning area

Social Neuroscience, Affective Neuroscience, Cognitive Neuroscience

Learning objectives

Learning objectives according to the five Dublin Descriptors (DdD)

1. Knowledge and understanding
   Students will acquire a comprehensive understanding of the neural mechanisms underlying social and affective cognition, including emotion recognition, empathy, facial processing, and social interaction. Emphasis is placed on experimental evidence from neuroimaging techniques such as EEG, ERP, and fMRI.
2. Applying knowledge and understanding
   Learners will be able to apply neuroscientific knowledge to analyze affective and social processes in both typical and clinical populations. They will learn to interpret empirical data and critically asses research studies in the domains of social neuroscience and affective processing.
3. Making judgements
   Students will develop the ability to critically evaluate scientific literature and experimental methodologies in social and affective neuroscience, with attention to ethical issues, methodological rigor, and the interpretation of neural data related to human behavior and emotion.
4. Communication skills
   Participants will improve their academic communication skills through the presentation and discussion of scientific findings in both written and oral forms, using appropriate technical terminology in English. They will also be encouraged to communicate complex neuroscientific concepts to non-specialist audiences.
5. Learning skills
   The course will enhance students' ability to engage in autonomous learning through the critical reading of scientific articles, the use of online databases, and active participation in class discussions. These skills will prepare them for further study or research in cognitive, affective, or clinical neuroscience.

Contents

This course provides essential knowledge concerning the main cognitive models and the neurophysiological bases 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

Please see the info saved for each of the 2 modules

Prerequisites

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

The understanding of textbook and scientific articles in English.

Teaching methods

The course will be held in presence and in English. 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 will be only written.
The written exam consists in short essays (exposition of topics covered in class and described in study material/book chapters)

Textbooks and Reading Materials

Please see the info saved for each of the 2 modules

Sustainable Development Goals