UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Clinical Psychology

2526-1-F5111P006

Learning area

COURSE SYLLABUS
Clinical Psychology
Code: 2425-1-F5107P006

Area of Learning
Models and Techniques for the Assessment of Psychological Functioning

Learning objectives

Learning Objectives (in line with the Dublin Descriptors)

1. Knowledge and Understanding

Acquisition of the main theoretical approaches in clinical psychology.

Understanding of the fundamental aspects of psychiatric and psychodynamic diagnosis.

Knowledge of the general principles of clinical treatment.

2. Applying Knowledge and Understanding

Ability to formulate a clinical framework for patient assessment.

Critical analysis of psychopathological conditions through theoretical and clinical diagnostic tools.

Understanding of the methodological foundations of clinical work.

3. Making Judgements

Development of evaluative skills regarding different models of psychological functioning.

Ability to integrate clinical and theoretical information to formulate diagnostic and therapeutic hypotheses.

4. Communication Skills

Ability to clearly and appropriately present clinical concepts, even in multidisciplinary contexts.

Use of appropriate technical and scientific language for academic and clinical communication.

5. Learning Skills

Development of tools for autonomous and continuous learning in the field of clinical psychology.

Promotion of a reflective and critical attitude toward theoretical and practical sources.

Contents

Summary of Contents
The course aims to provide advanced competencies related to clinical diagnosis and the understanding of psychological dynamics, with particular attention to defense mechanisms and personality organizations/disorders, especially within the narcissistic and borderline areas. Affective disorders will also be addressed, along with an in-depth exploration of contemporary models relevant to clinical practice.

Detailed program

Extended Program

General aspects of clinical practice – theoretical foundations

Descriptive framework according to the DSM-5

Defense mechanisms

Psychodynamic assessment: personality organizations and disorders

Clinical presentation of affective, anxiety, and personality disorders

Narcissism and narcissistic disorders

Prerequisites

Basic knowledge of Psychopathology (DSM-5) and Dynamic Psychology is required. Students who do not possess this background are encouraged to inform the instructor in order to receive supplementary reading materials.

Teaching methods

Teaching Methods

Lectures (approximately 70%)

Interactive activities and clinical applications (approximately 30%)

Use of clinical materials, videos, and guided discussions

Assessment methods

Assessment Methods

Written exam (30 multiple-choice questions; a minimum score of 18/30 is required to access the oral exam)

Oral exam covering the entire course content, including prerequisites

Multiple-choice questions are intended to extensively assess the student’s knowledge, while open-ended questions aim to evaluate the ability to think critically and make connections between acquired knowledge. The assessment criteria are: accuracy of answers for multiple-choice questions; adequacy of content, logical and formal organization, and use of terminology for open-ended responses.

Textbooks and Reading Materials

1. Lingiardi V., Madeddu F. (2023). I meccanismi di difesa. Raffaello Cortina (cap 1, cap 3, cap 4, appendice)
2. Gabbard G.O. (2014). Psychodynamic Psychiatry in Clinical Practice. American Psychiatric Press (cap 1,2,3,4,5,6,8,9,14,15,17,18,19)
3. Madeddu F. (2020). I mille volti di Narciso. Raffaello Cortina (cap 1,2,3,6,11,12,14)
4. Any other materials will be provided during the lesson."

Sustainable Development Goals

GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING