UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Psychology

2627-1-I0302D004-I0302D013M

Aims

Introduction to Health Psychology.
To describe the concept of “difficult patient” in terms of the caregiver’s narrative;
To recognize and describe the characteristics of different attachment styles and the implications for the care relationship in the healthcare setting;
To recognize and describe interpersonal motivational systems in relation to activation and deactivation signals, goals and the emotions that signal them;
To describe the placebo phenomenon in relational terms and the mechanisms through which it acts
To describe the concept of trauma and its implications.

Contents

? The difficult patient and personal narrative
? Relationship, observation and communication
? Interpersonal motivational systems
? Attachment in the relationship with patients
? The placebo effect
? Trauma

Detailed program

The difficult patient and personal narrative.
Interpersonal motivational systems (attachment, caregiving, predatory, competitive, sexual, play and affiliation, cooperative)

Attachment in the relationship with patients (secure, avoidant, ambivalent, disorganized attachment); attachment-based care approach.
The placebo effect and implications for the relationship with the patient; the mechanisms through which the placebo effect acts
Traumatic experiences and their impact on mental functioning with a focus on the relationship with patients in conditions of increased vulnerability

Prerequisites

None

Teaching form

4 lessons of 2 hours each, delivered in person. The module is based on a delivery teaching method (frontal lessons).
During the lessons, the teacher encourages the active participation of students through classroom discussions and providing examples to stimulate critical thinking and encourage direct involvement in the topics covered, allowing students to apply the theoretical knowledge acquired to different healthcare fields. The module is delivered in Italian.

Textbook and teaching resource

Liotti G., Fassone G., Monticelli F. (2017). L'evoluzione delle emozioni e dei sistemi motivazionali. Raffaello Cortina Editore. Capitoli 1,2,3
Wilhelm K., Tietze T. (2016). Difficult doctor-patient interactions. Applying principles of attachment-based care. Medicine Today, 17(1-2), 36-44
Benedetti F. (2018). L'effetto placebo. Breve viaggio tra mente e corpo, Roma, Carocci editore.
In-depth materials (videos, recommended readings) will be uploaded to the e-learning platform
Educational and in-depth materials will be provided by the Teacher.

Semester

Second semester

Assessment method

9 multiple choice questions and 1 open question on topics covered in class to check knowledge.

Office hours

By appointment required by mail

Sustainable Development Goals

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