UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Social Psychology - 2

2627-1-E2403P007-T2

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, conducted about 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 independent orientation. The examination method, which consists of an oral interview following multiple-choice answers, stimulates independent judgment 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 lessons aim to stimulate the reflexivity of students and students on the topics covered and their articulations also through questions and enjoyment of films or other mass media material: each lesson includes both didactic and interactive teaching.

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

Assessment methods

The exam is based on a written test and an oral exam, which focus on the entire program of the course and which are mandatory (written test and an oral exam are mandatory).

The written test, which consists of a multiple-choice exam to be performed on the computer in an IT laboratory, is aimed at ascertaining the acquisition of the basic knowledge of the discipline. The outcome of the written test consists of a suitability or non-suitability assessment for the subsequent oral examination.

Once the student has passed the written test, can therefore access the oral exam. The objective is to ascertain the acquisition of knowledge related to the main theories and research topics of the discipline, as well as the ability to understand the psychosocial processes through which it is possible to describe individual, group and social functioning.

The answers will be evaluated in relation to the correctness of the contents, the capacity to synthesize, to argue, and to identify the connections between the different areas, to the development of skills concerning a critical reading of the phenomena discussed.

The final assessment will be assigned according to the following scale:

- 18: barely sufficient knowledge, minimal ability to apply and interpret;
- 19-22: sufficient knowledge of fundamental concepts, with some uncertainty in application;
- 23-26: fair knowledge, good ability to apply concepts with some minor inaccuracies;
- 27-30: solid knowledge, good command of the subject matter, and critical analysis skills;
- 30 cum laude: fully adequate knowledge, complete mastery, and excellent command of language.

Please note that no intermediate examinations are scheduled.

Textbooks and Reading Materials

Hogg M.A.; Vaughan G. M. *Psicologia sociale. Teorie e applicazioni*. Milano: Pearson (Chapters 10 and 11 excluded)

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

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

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.

Sustainable Development Goals

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