UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Cognitive and Developmental Aspects of Deafness

2627-1-E2007P006

Learning area

Study of the psychological and cognitive aspects of deafness

Learning objectives

Knowledge and Understanding
Plasticity of the brain following sensory deprivation
Sensitive periods of development
Evolution of language
Cochlear implants

Ability to apply knowledge and understanding
Being able to discuss the topics covered through the presentation of further material
Critical discussion of potential applications of the material covered
Being able to inform on the basis of scientific studies on the use of cochlear implants

Autonomy of judgement
Development of the ability to evaluate the consequences of sensory deprivation and its reaffirmation on brain development
Development of the ability to evaluate experimental methodologies and data interpretations

Communicative skills
Enhancement of the ability to communicate content clearly and effectively by presenting in-depth articles of the student's choice

Learning skills

Development of the ability to pursue learning independently, with critical awareness.

Translated with DeepL.com (free version)

Contents

The course is represented by lectures and interactive activities, the latter represented by presentations that students will make at the end of the course to put into practice the notions learned in the lectures.

Detailed program

- Physiology of sound
- Brain plasticity
- Cognitive and brain changes following deafness in deaf children and adults
- Behavioural and physiological techniques for measuring cognition in the hearing and deaf individual
- Evolution of oral and sign language
- Cochlear implants

Presentation of in-depth articles and a project by each student.

Prerequisites

None.

For the academic year 2026/2027 it will not be possible to select this course as a single-course entry.
Exam not selectable from the study plan by students not enrolled in Interpretariato e Traduzione in Lingua dei Segni Italiana (LIS) e Lingua dei Segni Italiana Tattile (LIST) *(Italian Sign Language (LIS) and Tactile Italian Sign Language (LIST) Interpretation).*

Teaching methods

The acquisition of the knowledge described above will be pursued through both didactic delivery (lectures, 90%) and interactive teaching (10%).
During interactive teaching, students will be given the opportunity to acquire some basic operational and methodological tools necessary for the development of professional skills through active experimentation. This will result in the preparation and presentation of an in-depth topic of the student's choice.

Assessment methods

The examination consists of an oral test of approximately 30 minutes on the content of the lectures. Effective

acquisition of the material covered, the ability to make connections, and expository ability will be assessed.

Grading rubric:

18: barely sufficient knowledge, minimal application and analytical skills;
19–22: sufficient knowledge of the core contents, with some hesitation in application;
23–26: fair knowledge, good application skills with a few inaccuracies;
27–30: solid knowledge, good command of the contents and critical thinking skills;
30 with honors (30 e lode): fully comprehensive knowledge, complete command of the subject, and excellent fluency of language.

There are no mid-terms for this course.

Textbooks and Reading Materials

The text and any further details will be provided at the beginning of the course.

Sustainable Development Goals

QUALITY EDUCATION