



UNIVERSITÀ  
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

## COURSE SYLLABUS

### Human Sciences

2627-1-I0103D006

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#### Aims

The course aims to provide students with the theoretical knowledge concerning psychological, social and anthropological elements of nursing profession in order to help them to adequately perceive their professional role in a complex context of networks and relationship, in a historical-anthropological perspective and understand psychological and social mechanisms of human behaviour.

#### Knowledge and Understanding

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

Know the fundamental principles of the social, anthropological, and clinical-psychological aspects pertinent to the midwifery profession.

Identify the main individual and collective psychological mechanisms that influence human functioning.

#### Applying Knowledge and Understanding

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

Apply acquired knowledge in social, anthropological, and psychological fields to adequately contextualize their profession within complex operational networks and relational contexts.

Utilize psychological concepts and humanistic perspectives to understand and respond to the individual and collective emotional and behavioral needs of patients and families in the obstetric setting.

#### Making Judgements

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

Critically evaluate the social, cultural, and psychological factors that influence health choices and patient experiences in obstetrics.

Formulate independent and informed judgments regarding the most appropriate approaches in complex relational situations encountered in professional practice, considering diverse humanistic perspectives.

#### Communication Skills

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

Communicate effectively with patients, families, and multidisciplinary team members, conveying complex information related to humanistic and psychological aspects clearly and empathetically.

#### Learning Skills

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

Develop the learning skills necessary to autonomously continue their professional and personal development in the human sciences, staying updated on new research and best practices in the social, anthropological, and psychological aspects of midwifery.

Reflect critically on their own professional practice from a humanistic perspective, identifying areas for continuous improvement and personal development

## **Contents**

Topic of the Human Sciences course is to give students an overview of the anthropological, social and psychological aspects of health care professions.

## **Detailed program**

CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY - Psychology as a science of human behaviour, methodological aspects of psychological research, with specific attention to health care professions; main concepts of general and clinical psychology (structure of the mind, cognitive and dynamic processes, mental disorders, clinical relationship and psychotherapy) and the self-evaluation tools (anxiety, stress, burnout and quality of life tests), the psychological challenges of the nursing profession in relation to emergency services, primary care, intensive care and end-of-life care. The placebo effect in the care relationship and its implications. ANTHROPOLOGY - Medical anthropology, human health and disease; social processes and cultural representations of health, illness and related nursing/care practices; Disease, Illness and Sickness; narrative medicine: general principles; popular medicine and health anthropology in the developing countries. SOCIOLOGY - The course is an introduction to sociology: basic concepts and who is the 'sociologist'; social research – basic tools; the concept of culture, values and cultural diversity; social organization, action, and power; interaction, groups, organizations; welfare systems and inequalities; moreover, specific topics related to sociology of health and medicine will be deepened (social inequalities in terms of health; process of medicalisation of society; professionalisation in health systems; health cultures; social construction of pregnancy; health communication).

## **Prerequisites**

## **Teaching form**

In-person lectures, small group activities with final written report.

## **Textbook and teaching resource**

CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY: Antonio Loperfido, Barbara Muzzatti "Elementi di psicologia per le professioni di aiuto", Carocci, 2022; Fabrizio Benedetti "L'effetto placebo. Breve viaggio tra mente e corpo", Carocci, 2018. SOCIOLOGY - Bagnasco A., Barbagli M., Cavalli A., 2013, Elementi di Sociologia, Il Mulino, Bologna; Bucchi M., Neresini F. (a cura di), 2001, Sociologia della salute, Carocci, Roma; Vicarelli G. (a cura di), 2013, Cura e Salute. Prospettive sociologiche, Carocci, Roma. ANTHROPOLOGY - Pizza G., Antropologia medica. Saperi, pratiche e politiche del corpo. Carocci ed.; Fainzang S., Farmaci e società. Il paziente, il medico e la ricetta. Franco Angeli

ed.; Quaranta I. (a cura di) Antropologia medica. I testi fondamentali, Raffaello Cortina Ed.

## **Semester**

1st Year, 2nd Semester

## **Assessment method**

Written examination with multiple choice, "fill-the-gap" questions and open ended questions. The exam is unitary and every module contribute to the overall grade. Allocated time: 100 minutes

## **Office hours**

All the teachers are available by appointment (online and in-person); details on how to contact every professor are available on modules' page.

To contact the coordinatore of the integrated course:

by appointment: [marco.bani1@unimib.it](mailto:marco.bani1@unimib.it)

online or in presence (Building U38, 5° floor, room 5041)

## **Sustainable Development Goals**

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

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