# Child and Adolescent Psychology: Legal and Social Aspects

## Prof. Edoardo Bracaglia; Prof. Eleonora Crapolicchio

***COURSE AIMS AND INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES***

The course aims to provide students with the basic elements useful for understanding, from the point of view of social and legal psychology, the main educational contexts in which children develop their knowledge of themselves and of the social world. The course will also present the most relevant aspects of the contexts and psycho-social and legal problems with which professionals working with minors are confronted.

At the end of the course, students will be able to identify the main theoretical orientations useful for reading and understanding the different child educational contexts and to enhance in educational interventions the tools and results made available by research in social and legal psychology.

***COURSE CONTENT***

The course is organised in two modules.

**I Module: Prof. Edoardo Bracaglia**

The module will focus on the main contributions of legal psychology relating to minors, in order to provide knowledge of the theoretical concepts and operational tools that make it possible to guarantee children rights in different life contexts, with reference to the factors of risk and protection that can characterise their life paths. Specifically, the following issues will be addressed:

* psychology and law;
* minors and fragile parenting;
* minors at risk and child protection services;
* tools for the protection of minors;
* child maltreatment;
* foreign minors.

**II Module: Prof. Eleonora Crapolicchio**

The second part of the course will provide an exhaustive picture of the characteristics and consequences of abuse in the couple (Intimate Partner Violence) and the characteristics of witnessing violence. The course will also focus on the tragic epilogue of domestic violence: cases of femicide and consequences on minor children. The following topics will be addressed in detail:

* The roots of gender-based and domestic violence
* The characteristics of domestic violence in the couple
* The effects and consequences of domestic violence
* The social perception of abuse
* Characteristics and effects of witnessing violence: the intergenerational transmission of violence
* Cases of femicide and effects on minors
* Guidelines for intervention with children orphaned by feminicide

The theoretical discussion of these issues will be supplemented with the presentation of case studies.

***READING LIST***

*For I module*

P. Patrizi (edited by), *Manuale di psicologia giuridica minorile,* Carocci, Rome, 2012*.*

A textbook chosen form the following:

P. Di Blasio*, Psicologia del bambino maltrattato,* il Mulino, Bologna, 2000.

M. Puliatti*, Comunità per minori. Selezione, formazione e supervisione degli educatori,* Alpes Italia, Rome, 2014*.*

F. Zamengo - N. Valenzano*, Protezione e rischio nei processi educativi,* Edizioni Junior, Bergamo, 2019.

*For II module*

Anna Costanza Baldry *Orfani speciali: Chi sono, dove sono, con chi sono. Conseguenze psicosociali su figlie e figli del femminicidio.* Franco Angeli, 2013

Slides and course material will be available on the Blackboard platform.

***TEACHING METHOD***

During the course, lectures will alternate with practical exercises and group discussions on the application materials presented by the lecturers. The course will also include talks and seminars held by experts.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

Learning will be verified through an oral exam consisting in the assessment of the students’ knowledge of the topics covered by the course programme, their acquisition of the specific language of the discipline, the reasoned and consistent structuring of the speech and ability to make connections between the topics presented. The oral interview includes a first part aimed at assessing the knowledge and skills covered the first module, and a second part aimed at assessing the knowledge and skills covered in the second module. The final mark results from the average of the assessments of the two parts.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

The course is introductory and there are no content-related prerequisites for attending it.

Further information can be found on the lecturer's webpage at <http://docenti.unicatt.it/web/searchByName.do?language=ENG> or on the Faculty notice board.