# Specialist Module with Workshop: Visual Expression Techniques

## Prof. Gabriella Gilli

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

The course proposes:

– the observation and use of expressive and artistic artefacts;

– personal experimentation with expressive activities centred on graphic-pictorial, photographic, video images. The activities are intended as a tool for learning and self-expression, as well as a means of intervention for promoting well-being applicable in different contexts (school, playful, rehabilitative, corporate).

*Intended learning outcomes*

At the end of the Specialist Module with Workshop, students will be able to:

– Know, through both their theoretical reflection and workshop experiences, the basics of image psychology and art.

– Understand the psychic dynamics connected to each of the proposed and tested activities.

– Develop the appropriate methodology for developing projects that include proposal about graphic, pictorial, video and photographic activities.

– Apply each activity to public and private, formal and informal contexts, and to the categories of interlocutors to whom it may be proposed.

***COURSE CONTENT***

The Specialist Module with Workshop will provide the basic theoretical and experiential guidelines for understanding the characteristics and role of expressive images (artistic and non-artistic) in knowledge processes. Each meeting will begin with a practical exercise that will see students involved and actively experimenting in certain expressive activities. This will be followed by a brief theoretical framework of the psychology of the arts that will highlight the perceptive dimensions as well as the expressive and communicative meanings of the activity carried out. The possible contexts of use (educational, recreational, school, rehabilitation, promotion of well-being, personal/group/cultural growth) and optimal methodological paths of each activity will also be discussed.

***READING LIST***

M. Della Cagnoletta, *Arteterapia,* Carocci*,* Rome, 2010.

***TEACHING METHOD***

Guided practical work, short theoretical lectures, and reflections on the applicability criteria of each activity.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

Students will have to produce an individual written paper (between 10,000 and 15,000 characters including spaces and excluding images) on one of the proposed activities, discussing the objectives, the theoretical, methodological and applicative values, the aims and contexts of use, as well as proposing a project in a specific context.

Students will be assessed on the following points:

* their knowledge of the theoretical concepts related to the chosen activity;
* their use of specialised vocabulary;
* adequacy and feasibility of the project presented;
* correctness of their reflection and justification of the applicability of the chosen activity in specific contexts;
* their ability to adequately communicate the project to the identified recipients.

The exam is written; on demand of the exam board and/or the student, it is possible a supplementary oral exam to undergo according to methods the board sets up.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

As a workshop, there are no prerequisites for attending the Specialist Module with Workshop. However, interest, motivation to get personally involved and intellectual curiosity in the proposed topics is assumed.

Attendance at the Specialist Module with Workshop meetings is compulsory.

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.