Psychopathology

## Dr. Davide Maria Cammisuli

COURSE AIMS AND INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES

The course has the following objectives:

1. to illustrate the study of psychopathology within the life span from the perspective of the diagnostic models most frequently used in clinical practice;
2. to introduce the methodology and techniques of clinical reasoning in a descriptive-dimensional sense and, more specifically, in a structural-dynamic sense;
3. patient intake and diagnostic judgement construction;
4. to study in-depth cognitive deficits considered as core features in a specific psychiatric condition, in order to better understand nosographic classification and provide validated techniques able to support rehabilitation.

At the end of the course, students will be able to arrange a global clinical judgement in relation to the complexity of the patient and to capture characteristic elements of the personality.

COURSE CONTENT

The course topics will be divided into four teaching units.

1. An introduction on the neurodevelopmental disorders starting from the bio-psycho-social perspective of the ICF;
2. The main diagnostic systems (ICD, DSM, PDM) will be compared in order to better clarify the field of adult psychopathology and the turning points along the psychopathological *continuum* in its multiple conceptual alternatives (e.g. neurosis–borderline–psychosis):
3. The main clinical disorders and the entire range of personality organisations will be analysed from both the nosographic-categorical and dynamic-functional point of view; The topic of psychopathology will then be outlined from the dynamic perspective and extended to psychodynamic diagnosis;
4. Finally, cognitive psychopathology will be investigated as a fruitful ground for critical exchange and union between clinical neuropsychology and psychiatry.

The presentation of a number of clinical cases will supplement the theoretical-conceptual pathway outlined above.

READING LIST

Gabbard, G.O. (2015). *Psychodynamic Psychiatry, 5th Edition based on the DSM 5*, Raffaello Cortina, Milan; (Chapters will be indicated by the Lecturer during the course);

McWilliams, N. (2012, revised and expanded 2nd ed.). *La diagnosi psicoanalitica*, Astrolabio, Rome;

ZANOBINI, M. & USAI, M.C. (2019). *Psychology of Disability and of Development Disorders. Rehabilitation and Intervention elements*. Franco Angeli, Milan (Chapters will be indicated by the Lecturer during the course).

TEACHING METHOD

Frontal lectures.

ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA

Oral exam. Both the students’ theoretical and critical learning will be assessed, in relation to the various topics addressed during the course. In addition to this, their mastery of the clinical-psychopathological vocabulary will be assessed, as well as their ability to establish links between different concepts.

NOTES AND PREREQUISITES

As this is not an introductory course, students will require an in-depth knowledge of the basic notions of clinical psychology, dynamic psychology, and developmental psychology. Specific suggestions will be provided during the course on readings that will help consolidate this preliminary knowledge.

*In case the current Covid-19 pandemic does not allow frontal teaching, remote teaching will be carried out following procedures that will be promptly notified to students.*

Further information can be found on the lecturer’s webpage at https://docenti.unicatt.it/ppd2/it/docenti/85082/davide-cammisuli/didattica, or on the Faculty notice board.