# Psychology of Leadership and Coordination

## Prof. Claudia Manzi

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

The aim of the course is to offer students a theoretical reference framework and tools in regard to the main topics which characterise the role and function of a leader for the dynamics of a group, with particular emphasis on the function of leaders in services.

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

– communicate and collaborate efficiently with other professional figures;

– co-operate, negotiate and mediate with other professional figures, with public and private audiences etc.;

– make contact with and talk to various people involved in activities implicated by the profession of co-ordination, planning, research and consultancy in terms of their skills, competencies and specificity;

– liaise with other professional figures according to their shared objectives;

***COURSE CONTENT***

Today, organisations providing services to individual people are beginning to show a need for efficient organisational functioning. This poses specific educational requirements regarding leadership within services, so that organisations are able to face many challenges.

Today’s dominant cultural model is anchored to power and authority. This vision risks being threatened by care and listening duties required by organisational scenarios within the social services.

The course intends to analyse the significance of the leader figure while taking into consideration skills required by the co-ordinator of services. Specifically, the course explores the following topics:

– identity issues linked to leadership;

– team building;

– the management of human resources;

– leading work groups with particular reference to conflict management;

– diversity management.

***READING LIST***

1. A. Haslam-S. Reicher-M. Platow, *Psicologia del Leader,* Il Mulino, 2013.
2. Slides and study materials available on BlackBoard and practical classes.

Students may replace 2 with the following if they wish:

A. Lo Iacono-P. Milazzo*, La sala degli specchi: comunicazione e psicologia gruppale. Strumenti di lavoro per la comunicazione di gruppi in ambito psicoterapeutico e psicosociale*, Franco Angeli, 2015.

***TEACHING METHOD***

In order to encourage learning from experience students are required to be actively involved: there will be lectures, case analyses, exercises including audiovisual material, and presentations by experts and trainers in the field of leadership.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

There will be an oral examination and it will assess the following: students’ developed knowledge of course topics; students’ ability to consider various topics, and discuss how applicable they are to specific contexts; detailed knowledge of study material from the examination programme.

Duing the oral examination students should also demonstrate their ability to use language and methodology which are appropriate for the subjet.

The final mark will take into account the accuracy and quality of answers, the communication skills shown during the interview, the ability to motivate adequately statements, analyses and judgments, as well as the internal coherence and the relevance of conceptual and application contents expressed.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

This is an introductory course and therefore there are no prerequisites for attendance. However, previous knowledge of a good textbook on Social psychology and/or Group Psychology would facilitate students’ understanding of certain concepts.

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.