# Social Psychology (Module 2)

## Prof. Cristina Giuliani

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

The course aims to guide students through the social psychology of groups, with an in-depth analysis of the role played by group dynamics (real and virtual) in the social construction of reality (self-perception and perception of others, beliefs, etc.) and in human behaviours.

***Knowledge and understanding***

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

* define the main intragroup and intergroup processes;
* describe the interactions between an individual and his context, finding differences between interpersonal, intergroup, and social dimensions;
* identify the psycho-social factors influencing human behaviour within groups.

***Ability to apply knowledge and understanding***

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

* generalise a psycho-social perspective to different fields and contexts, in order to analyse group phenomena;
* make use of relevant tools and research templates to carry out activities related to intragroup and intergroup relationships;
* analyse group phenomena, as well as their own group experiences (also at work).

***COURSE CONTENT***

The origins and the different approaches of the social psychology of groups.

The relationship between the individual and the group: identification processes.

Structural aspects of groups and their functioning.

Social norms and conformity.

The role of active minorities.

The dynamics at the basis of social influence and leadership.

Group performance and social inertia.

Relational and communicative dynamics among groups.

***READING LIST***

The teaching material will be made available on Blackboard starting from the first lecture. During the course, the reading list will be integrated with further information on the chapters and the monographs for the exam (also in relation to the different curricula and class attendance).

- M.A. Hogg- G.M. Vaughan (2016), *Psicologia sociale. Teorie e applicazioni*, 2nd edition, Milan, Pearson.

- In addition, students are invited to choose a monograph from the list on Blackboard.

***TEACHING METHOD***

Frontal lectures; practical exercises individually or in group; audio-visual material; case studies; lectures held by experts.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

Oral assessment (duration: 20 minutes). Students will be tested on: a) their knowledge of the subject, b) their understanding of the key concepts of this course, c) correctness of their argumentation (these three assessment methods are worth the 70% of the final evaluation mark); d) their ability to apply what they have learnt to different social life contexts and phenomena (30% worth the final assessment).

For students attending classes, the final assessment regarding abilities pointed as “d” obtained during the practical exercises carried out in class, and in a written assignment proposed by the lecturer during the course (maximum length: two pages; it will consist in the summary and discussion of a research article published in a scientific magazine).

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

There are no prerequisites for attending the course. Active participation in class will be highly appreciated.

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.