# Special Module with Workshop: Clinical Interventions in Cases of Criminal Procedures

## Prof. Francesco Scopelliti

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

It can be said that the intervention of a psychologist in the criminal area came with the introduction of the Gozzini law in 1990. Initially, psychologists were expected to be exclusively in charge of the clinical observation and treatment of detainees.

Over time other skills were added aimed at the prevention of self-inflicted injuries and in result to support the care and treatment of individuals with drug dependencies.

The course will discuss what the work of psychologists inside prisons and in Court consists of in the reality of today. What are the areas for which psychologists must plan their interventions; within which regulatory and legal contexts they must operate.

The principal aim is to examine the methods of clinical interventions on individuals subject to criminal enforcement. Special attention will be paid to the actual possibilities of care within prison and on how this can be implemented.

The diagnosis and treatment of people with substance or gambling addiction problems is undoubtedly a very complicated field which requires complex and multi-disciplinary methodologies for intervention.

This complexity is increased when there is the need to carry out intervention for individuals subject to criminal proceedings.

Part of the course will explore precisely this particular type of intervention.

It has been thirty years since the psychologist began to be one of the key figures responsible for the treatment and protection of the mental health of detainees.

The role of the psychologist as an expert in diagnostic clinical intervention for individuals with drug addiction, during the summary criminal proceeding, will be considered.

*Intended learning outcomes*

At the end of the course, students will be able to understand the clinical, diagnostic and treatment methods used with prisoners. Students will know the multidisciplinary method of clinical intervention and will learn the legislative contexts that allow criminals to atone for part of their conviction outside of prison.

The course includes interventions by experts who will deal with the health, educational and criminological interventions involved in the diagnosis and treatment of people subjected to criminal proceedings. Students will learn the diagnostic method and treatment interventions for prisoners suffering from a pathological addiction to substances or behaviours.

***COURSE CONTENT***

The topic of the role and method of intervention by the psychologist and multidisciplinary team within the Prison system and the Court will be tackled during the course.

Special attention will be paid to the areas of diagnosis, certification, early intervention, of treatment and multidisciplinary care programmes for individuals suffering from pathological substance and gamble dependence.

All the areas to be analysed take into account the specific laws that regulate the area and the outcome of the intervention.

The intervention of the psychologist within the Court: the clinical interview as a diagnostic tool during the summary processes for drug addicts.

The psychologist and his/her functional relationship with: magistrates, lawyers and the police.

Comparisons with other current European situations.

***READING LIST***

*“Dipendenze Patologiche in Area penale”* interventi multidisciplinari di cura e contesti legislativi, edited by Francesco Scopelliti, Renato Rizzi e Rossana Giove.

Edizioni Materia Medica, Pavia 2018

Files of course material will be distributed during the course.

Information on the reading list will be given during lectures.

***TEACHING METHOD***

Lectures in the lecture room. Visits to Prisons in Milan and the Milan Court. Training meetings with prison workers.

Taking part in the meetings of multidisciplinary treatment Teams of services working inside prisons.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

A written exam to be followed by a final oral.

The written exam will cover the legislative criminal contexts regulating the execution of the sentence, and will comprise a questionnaire of 30 multiple choice questions; students will have to achieve a minimum of 20/30 correct answers in order to be admitted to the oral exam.

The oral exam will be on the topics covered in the course and will include the analysis of a clinical case.

There is one final mark which is expressed as either PASSED or FAILED.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

No specific knowledge is required.

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.