# Personality and Deviance: Individual and Psycho-Social Aspects

## Prof. Daniela Villani; Prof. Sonia Ranieri

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

The aim of the course is to provide students the understanding of the basic concepts related to individual and psycho-social aspects connected to the development of the personality, to deviance and at-risk behaviours through analysis of the principal theoretical approaches.

At the end of the course, students will be able to describe the main personality characteristics, and identify methodologies and tools aimed at evaluating these characteristics. Moreover, students will be able to identify and critically analyse fundamental theoretical models and intervention strategies in the field of risk prevention and well-being promotion and apply their acquired knowledge to designing and evaluating psychosocial interventions.

***COURSE CONTENT***

The course will be held in two modules.

Module I (30 hours): *Prof. Daniela Villani*

The module will discuss the main theoretical methods related to the personality and to individual differences and the pertaining methods and instruments of investigation. The following perspectives in the study of personality will be discussed: psychoanalytic, humanistic, trait and social-cognitive approaches. Two in-depth analyses will be offered. The first intends to present a recent model (Values in Action – VIA), which relates the strengths of character with psychological well-being. The second aims to analyse some risk behaviours in adolescents and adults will be addressed by taking in consideration different personality theories, with particular reference to online behaviours.

Modulo II (30 hours): *Prof. Sonia Ranieri*

This module will provide theoretical and practical understanding and skills related to social problems, the theme of maladjustment, marginality, and deviance in adolescence. In particular, the subject of risk behaviours will be studied in depth, through an analysis of the main functions that occur, their affective meaning and the protective and risk factors. Theoretical and methodological-operative indications will also be provided for planning and assessing interventions in the area of risk prevention and promotion of well-being in the psycho-social field.

***READING LIST***

For module I

M. Giampietro-P. Iannello-C.S. Carver-F.M. SCheier, *Psicologia della Personalità. Prospettive teoriche,* *strumenti e contesti applicativi* (esclusi capitoli 5, 6 e 8), Pearson, Milano, 2023.

Furthermore, the reading list includes the study of a text chosen from the following:

D. Villani-S. Triberti, *La personalità online. Tracce digitali dell’identità.* Giunti, Milano, 2018.

L. Bellardita-D.Villani,  *Punti di forza del carattere: le leve della personalità per il benessere psicologico,* Maggioli Editore, Milano, 2024

For module II

E. Cattelino, *Rischi in adolescenza. Comportamenti problematici e disturbi emotivi,* Carocci, Roma, 2010 (or later reprints).

F. Cristini-M. Santinello, *Reti di protezione. Prevenzione del consumo di sostanze e dei comportamenti antisociali in adolescenza,* FrancoAngeli, Milano, 2012.

The set of materials used during lectures and made available to students on the Blackboard platform is an integral part of both modules of the course.

***TEACHING METHOD***

Lectures in the lecture room, discussions on some topics with experts. Guided practical exercises to be held in small groups are also planned.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

Oral exam aimed at verifying the students’ understanding, personal critical re-elaboration and ability to apply the course contents. More specifically, the assessment will be based on the relevance of the students’ answers, their appropriate use of specific terminology, the reasoned and consistent structuring of the speech and the ability to identify conceptual links between the two course modules. The oral interview includes a first part for the assessment of knowledge and skills of the first module and a second part for the assessment of knowledge and skills of the second module. The final mark results from the average of the assessments of the two parts.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

There are no prerequisites for attending the course. However, a basic knowledge of general and social psychology will facilitate the understanding of some 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.