**Family Ties Psychology**

## Prof. Sonia Ranieri

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

The course aims to teach students the foundations and the main theories of psychology of family ties via the analysis of the internal dynamics of the family, of the relationship with the surrounding social system and the main critical transitions faced during the human life cycle.

At the end of the course, students will be able to recognize and understand the main characteristics and dynamics of family ties from a psycho-social perspective, and to develop the ability to apply concepts learnt during the course to educational intervention.

***COURSE CONTENT***

During the course, after a presentation of the evolution of the main theoretical approaches of the psychology of family ties, two fundamental issues will be addressed: the family identity (what the family is) and its changes (how the family evolves). The critical transitions of the family life cycle will then be analysed, from a relational-symbolic perspective: the creation of the couple and the marital bond, the origin and development of the parental bond, the transition to adulthood, and the transition to the old age. The course will also highlight some possible practical implications with regard to research and intervention.

***READING LIST***

E. Scabini-R. Iafrate, *Psicologia dei legami familiari,* il Mulino, Bologna, 2019.

Choose one of the following:

D. Bacchini, *Il ruolo educativo della famiglia,* Erickson, Trento, 2013.

D. Bramanti-E. Carrà, *Famiglia e povertà relazionale. Studi interdisciplinari sulla famiglia,* 32. Vita e Pensiero, Milano, 2021.

O. Greco-I. Comelli-R. Iafrate, *Tra le braccia un figlio non tuo. Franco Angeli,* Milan, 2011.

O. Greco-S. Ranieri-R. Rosnati, *Il percorso della famiglia adottiva. Strumenti per l'ascolto e l'accompagnamento,* Unicopli, Milan, 2003.

M. Lanz- C. Regalia, *La famiglia di fronte alla sfida del COVID-19. La costruzione di una nuova normalità. Studi interdisciplinari sulla famiglia,* 33. Vita e Pensiero, Milano, 2023.

C. Marzotto, *Gruppi di parola per la cura dei legami familiari,* FrancoAngeli, Milan, 2015.

R. Rosnati - R. Iafrate, *Psicologia dell’adozione e dell’affido*,Vita e Pensiero, Milano, 2023.

***TEACHING METHOD***

The course includes frontal classroom lectures, in which the various theoretical topics and some research will be presented in order to enable an in-depth study of the content covered. The course will also include guided practical exercises both individually and in small groups, to encourage active learning of the topics covered and discussions on some issues with experts on the topic.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

Oral exam aimed at assessing the knowledge and understanding of the topics included in the course content. Specifically, the assessment will be based on the students’ clarity of presentation, the relevance of their answers, the acquisition of the subject-specific language, and the ability to relate the topics covered, applied to different contexts.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

This is an introductory course and so there are no prerequisites for attendance.

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.