**Social psychology**

Prof. Mauro Bertolotti

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

The course aim is to introduce students to the basic theoretical and empirical concepts of social psychology. The course will examine individual and group processes underlying individual, interpersonal and group behaviour, with a specific focus on the links between psychological processes and communication.

*Knowledge and understanding*

Knowledge of the main theoretical models of social psychology;

Understanding of the methods used in social psychological research.

*Applying knowledge and understanding*

Use of psychosocial categories in describing and interpreting social, economic, and political processes.

*Making judgements*

Use of insight from psychosocial research in problem-solving tasks (e.g., risk assessment, policy making, negotiation).

*Communication*

Ability to present scientific evidence from psychosocial research to potentially interested audiences (general public, interest groups, decision-makers).

***COURSE CONTENT***

1. Fundamental concepts of social psychology.

2. Attitudes and attitude change.

3. Social cognition: impression formation and attribution.

4. Self and identity.

5. Social influence.

6. Prejudice and discrimination.

7. Intergroup conflict and cooperation.

***READING LIST***

M.A. Hogg-G.M. Vaughan, *Social Psychology. Eighth edition,* Pearson, New York, 2018 (Ch. 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-10-11).

***TEACHING METHOD***

Class lectures, discussion of empirical research, use of online additional materials on the Blackboard platform.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

Students will be able to choose between two methods of assessment in the final exam.

For students attending classes the exam will consist in a written test with 12 multiple-choice questions on the main concepts and definitions in social psychology (scored 1 point each for correct answers, 0 points for wrong or missing answers), and 3 open-ended questions on psychosocial models and their application to social and political scenarios (scored 0-5 points each). Up to 5 points will be awarded for participation in group works consisting in 1 assignment to be completed outside of course hours, and 1 interactive lecture during the course hours.

For students unable to attend classes, the exam will consist in a written test focusing on the content of the textbook (see the reading list above). The written test will consist in 12 multiple-choice questions on the main concepts and definitions (scored 0-1 points), and 4 open-ended questions on psychosocial models and theories, and their application to social and political scenarios (scored 0-5 points each).

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

Students can find further information on the course program, reading list and teaching materials on the course’s Blackboard page (*http://blackboard.unicatt.it*), and the teacher's virtual classroom (*https://docenti.unicatt.it/ppd2/it/#/it/docenti/26533/mauro-maria-bertolotti/didattica)*

*Office hours*

Students can contact the teacher by email (*mauro.bertolotti@unicatt.it*) or in the consultation hours (Tuesdays 9:30-10:30) held at the Department of Psychology (Dominicanum building, third floor, room 310).