

Degree in Medicine And Surgery

Integrated teaching: **Psychiatry**

SSD: M-PSI/08, MED/45, MED/25

Professor responsible: [Stefania Chiappini](#) e-mail: stefania.chiappini@unicamillus.org

Total CFU: 4

Module: **Psychiatry**

SSD: **MED/25**

Professors: [Stefania Chiappini](#) (2 CFU) e-mail: stefania.chiappini@unicamillus.org

Professors: [Giovanni Martinotti](#) (1 CFU) e-mail: giovanni.martinotti@gmail.com

CFU: 3

Module: **Clinical Psychology**

SSD: **M-PSI/08**

Professor: [Rogier Guyonne](#) e-mail: guyonne.rugier@unicamillus.org

CFU: 2

PREREQUISITES

Although there are no prerequisites, in order to understand the course, the student is required to have a basic knowledge of human biology and physiology, elements of medical pathology, and pharmacology.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The course aims to provide the fundamentals of psychopathology and the history of psychiatry, as well as an in-depth understanding of the pathophysiology, clinical presentation, nosographic classification, and treatment of major psychiatric disorders. Additionally, it will offer an overview of the organization of community psychiatric care.

The degree program trains graduates to work in institutions, companies, and public and private organizations, typically as part of multidisciplinary teams in the field of psychological sciences and techniques. The educational objectives of the course include acquiring systematic and up-to-date knowledge in the field of clinical psychology, as well as biological disciplines (molecular, metabolic, physiological) and clinical disciplines (neurological, psychiatric, neurobiological) that underpin the understanding of mental processes. It also encompasses anthropological, epistemological, and ethical disciplines that are essential for understanding the cultural and ethical dimensions of interventions aimed at promoting, maintaining, and restoring mental health and well-being within public and private institutions for individuals across all stages of life.

The curriculum allows students to acquire operational and practical skills, including diagnostic and psychiatric consultation competencies for individuals with psychiatric, cognitive, and emotional disorders. It also provides updated tools and skills for communication and information management, along with professional experiences and abilities in services directed at individuals, groups, organizations, and communities within their specific area of expertise and for the exchange of general information. Furthermore, the course aims to provide theoretical and practical knowledge that will enable students to effectively establish and manage the therapeutic relationship. Graduates may find employment within healthcare facilities and medical and psychiatric services, private third-sector agencies, and public entities, working as psychiatrists.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Knowledge and Understanding

At the end of the course, the student must have acquired:

- The main concepts of descriptive psychopathology.
- Knowledge of the historical evolution of psychiatry and clinical psychology: models and schools of thought, the definition, and the role of the psychiatrist.
- Systematic, operational, and applied competencies regarding the main psychiatric disorders, their nosography, and their clinical aspects.
- Knowledge of psychopharmacological, psychotherapeutic, and psychosocial interventions for psychiatric disorders.
- Knowledge of the territorial organization of psychiatric services and psychiatric care.
- Understanding of the main psychological and relational dimensions involved in the helping relationship.
- Knowledge of the main theoretical models explaining burnout and resilience in professionals working in the field of mental health.

Applying knowledge and understanding

At the end of the course, the student must have acquired:

- The ability to recognize and diagnose the main psychiatric, psychological, cognitive, and emotional disorders.
- The ability to describe the main psychiatric disorders from both a clinical and psychopathological perspective.
- The ability to propose appropriate treatments for both acute and chronic conditions.
- The ability to plan the psychiatric evaluation process and formulate case assessments.
- The ability to communicate and manage information within mental health services directed at individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities.
- The ability to work in institutions, companies, and public or private organizations, either as an employee or a freelancer, typically as part of multidisciplinary teams in the mental health sector.
- The ability to evaluate the quality, effectiveness, and appropriateness of interventions.
- Updated skills and tools for communication and information management, as well as professional experiences and abilities, within mental health services aimed at individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities.
- Systematic and up-to-date knowledge in the field of clinical psychology to implement interventions that promote, maintain, and restore mental health and well-being for individuals across all life stages, as well as for families, groups, communities, institutions, and workplaces.
- The ability to observe and analyze the main dynamics of the therapeutic relationship (ruptures, successes, repairs) and plan strategies to improve it.
- The ability to regularly stay updated on advancements in knowledge related to the topics covered in the module.
- The ability to identify signs of burnout in oneself and others and implement strategies to promote resilience.
- The ability to recognize and respond to signs of self-directed and/or outward-directed aggression in patients.

Communication skills

At the end of the course, the student will be expected to:

- Use specialized terminology appropriately.
- Properly apply the main terms of psychopathology.

Making judgements

By the end of the course, the student will be able to make basic evaluations related to the topics covered.

Learning skills

The student will have acquired the skills and methods needed to deepen and improve their competencies in psychiatry, including through the consultation of scientific literature.

COURSE SYLLABUS

PSYCHIATRY

Introduction to Psychiatry

- Overview of the history of psychiatry
- Elements of psychopathology

The Main Psychiatric Disorders:

- Schizophrenia
- Mood disorders
- Anxiety disorders
- Obsessive-compulsive disorder
- Disorders associated with traumatic or stressful events
- Personality disorders
- Hysteria and somatic symptom disorders
- Eating behavior disorders
- Substance use disorders and behavioral addictions

Treatments in Psychiatry:

- Principles of psychopharmacology

CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY:

- Historical and epistemological foundations of clinical psychology
- Current models of perspectives and applications in clinical psychology
- Assessment in clinical psychology: interview, questionnaire, and behavioral evaluation
- Fundamentals of developmental psychopathology
- The therapeutic relationship and alliance
- Cultural competence in mental health
- Burnout
- Assessment and management of self-directed and other-directed violence

COURSE STRUCTURE

The course is structured into lectures with both traditional and participatory teaching methods (e.g., in-class exercises on clinical cases), divided into sessions lasting 2 to 4 hours based on the academic calendar. The traditional teaching component includes theoretical lectures and occasional seminars on the topics covered.

COURSE GRADE DETERMINATION

The assessment of students' preparation will take place through a written exam which will consist of:

- 20 multiple-choice questions (21 on Psychiatry and 10 on Clinical Psychology);
- 1 question regarding a clinical case where the student has to specify the psychiatric diagnosis and the best pharmacological approach for treatment;
- 1 question regarding a clinical case where the student has to provide a psychological assessment.

31 Students who achieve a written exam score of 26 or higher will have the option to take an additional oral examination if they wish.

The exam will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

- **Not sufficient:** Significant gaps and/or inaccuracies in the knowledge and understanding of the topics.
- **18-20:** Barely sufficient knowledge and understanding of the topics with possible imperfections; sufficient ability to form independent judgments.
- **21-23:** Routine knowledge and understanding of the topics; correct analytical skills.
- **24-26:** Good knowledge and understanding of the topics; solid analytical skills.
- **27-29:** Comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the topics; remarkable analytical and synthesis skills; good independence in judgment.
- **30-30L:** Excellent level of knowledge and understanding of the topics; exceptional analytical, synthesis, and independent judgment skills.

READING MATERIALS

Psychiatry

- Martinotti G. Handbook of Psychopathology. Ed. Fila 37, 2023
- Siracusano A., Niolu C. Manuale di psichiatria. Terza edizione, 2023. Il Pensiero Scientifico Editore. ISBN: 9788849007541
- Kaplan & Sadock's Synopsis of Psychiatry Twelfth, North American Edition

Clinical Psychology

The essential material will be provided by the instructor during the course (lecture slides). For students who wish to delve deeper into the topics covered, the following materials are recommended for study:

- Trull TJ., Prinstein NJ. (2013) *Clinical Psychology* (eighth edition). Wadsworth cengage learning.
- Ebook. (Chapters 2, 5 and 12)
- Barlow, D. H. (Ed.). (2014). *The Oxford handbook of clinical psychology: updated edition*. Oxford University Press. (Chapters 12, 33, 34 and 38)
- Hunsley, J., & Lee, C. M. (2017). *Introduction to clinical psychology*. John Wiley & Sons. (Chapters 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6)