



PS 340 ITALIAN AND AMERICAN APPROACHES TO MENTAL HEALTH: A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF THE BIO-PSYCHO-SOCIAL MODEL
IES Abroad Milan

DESCRIPTION:

The course will analyze the interaction of biological, psychological and social determinants of the individual's mental functioning and behavior and different approaches to mental healthcare; emphasis being placed on both the theoretical and practical aspects. The bio-psycho-social-cultural model to diagnosis and care and its theoretical and therapeutic implications will be brought into discussion, taking into account the scientific world's most current perspective. We will also undertake a close study of the Italian and American approaches, drawing comparisons and highlighting the difference in methods and outlook between them.

The course is divided into different areas, firstly covering notions of clinical Psychology with a comparative analysis of the different psychological and biological models in Europe and in the US, rehabilitation approaches to mental illnesses and also correlation factors between severe mental disorders and criminal offence.

The course will also focus on the changes that have come about in this field in different countries in the last 50 years; they represent the result of a crisis and upheaval in the area of mental health in the western world and the way it was addressed. The resulting reforms (e.g. the introduction of the Basaglia community centers in '62 in Italy etc.) and the introduction of new drugs marked the beginning of the deinstitutionalization process and the establishment of psycho-social services in each territory with more direct contact with the community. Italy has been one of the countries in the forefront of these changes with a unique formula for its mental health reforms, which have been studied as a field leader.

Analysis will be undertaken of mental health issues and their social implications such as crime, risk and protective factors in criminal behavior and treatment of offenders within the penitentiary and psychiatric systems. During the course, emphasis will be placed on the practical aspect with the participation of guest speakers, discussion of clinical cases, field studies involving student visits of both private and public institutions, research and/or rehabilitation centers where this model is being represented.

CREDITS: 3

CONTACT HOURS: 45

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION: English

PREREQUISITES: None

METHOD OF PRESENTATION:

Lectures and discussions, Field trips, Critical analysis of assigned readings, Lectures with guest speakers

REQUIRED WORK AND FORM OF ASSESSMENT:

- Course participation - 10%
- Midterm Exam - 20%
- Final Exam - 30%
- Attendance - 10%
- Home Assignments - 30%

A 100-93 Excellent Performance A- 92/90 Very good Performance B+ 89-88 Good Performance

B 87-83 Nearly Good Performance

C+ 79-78 More than Adequate Performance

C 77-73 Adequate Performance

C- 72-70 Not Completely Adequate

D 69-60 Inadequate Performance

F 59 and below Really unsatisfactory Performance



LEARNING OUTCOMES:

By the end of the course students will be able to:

- Students will learn the foundations of the Italian Healthcare system, focusing on Mental Health Care. Special emphasis will be given to the process of deinstitutionalization and critical comparative analysis will be drawn with the U.S. Healthcare System. An in-depth study of economic, social and clinical implications of the current American model of healthcare will be carried out in the light of the recent changes in the U.S. political scenario.
- Starting from the study of stress related disorders and in particular of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), students will analyze the relationship between mental illness and criminal behavior in the penitentiary sector. Students will acquire theoretical and clinical skills on the bio-psycho-social model and its applications in the international scientific community with special emphasis on the study of Personality Disorders, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, Mood Disorders and Psychoses.
- The final objectives of the course are twofold. On the one hand, to enable students to learn about the Italian model of healthcare, which is currently regarded as the second best health care system in the world according to the latest world health report by the World Health Organization as well as differences and similarities with the U.S. model. On the other hand, through the analysis of hands-on clinical cases, students will develop critical thinking on psychopathology in particular from a transcultural clinical perspective.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Regular class attendance is mandatory. Students are expected to attend classes each day, including course-related excursions.

IES ABROAD MILANO allows a maximum of TWO excused absences per semester. Each further absence will automatically result in a penalty of two points off (2/100) on the final grade. SEVEN absences per course (including the two excused absences) will result in a failing grade for that course. Furthermore, absence on the date of scheduled tests, presentations or quizzes does not entitle you to recover/reschedule such tests. Failure to attend your midterm and/or final exam will result in an F grade on that paper/exam.

It is your responsibility to manage your absences during the term. If you are sick, you will need to apply your absence to the two excused absences allowed for the term. If you use up your two excused absences for personal travel and then are sick at the end of the semester, those sick days will not be excused. Please plan wisely!

Seminar Attendance policy

Regular class attendance is mandatory for the seminar too.

IES ABROAD MILANO allows a maximum of ONE excused absence per semester. Each further absence will automatically result in a penalty of two points off (2/100) on the final grade. FOUR absences per course (including the one excused absence) will result in a failing grade for that course

CONTENT:

Week	Content	Assignments
Week 1 <i>Session 1</i>	Introduction to the course	

<i>Session 2</i>	An introduction to the Italian Healthcare System	
Week 2 <i>Session 1</i>	Towards the Deinstitutionalization Process: Franco Basaglia and 180 law	
<i>Session 2</i>	Introduction to Abnormal Psychology: classification and diagnosis. Is it the same worldwide?	
Week 3 <i>Session 1</i>	DSM 5 (USA 2013): a descriptive, nosological approach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PDM (USA 2006): a psychodynamic approach
<i>Session 2</i>	Introduction to Personality Disorders. An overview of current scientific contributions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clinical Case Study
Week 4 <i>Session 1</i>	Mood Disorders	
<i>Session 2</i>	Clinical Case Study	
Week 5 <i>Session 1</i>	Review	
<i>Session 2</i>	Mid-Term Exam	
Week 6 <i>Session 1</i>	Correction of Mid-term Exam	
	Introduction to the 2nd part of the course	
<i>Session 2</i>	Traumatic Stress and Post Traumatic Stress Disorders (dr. Roberto Biella B.)	
Week 7 <i>Session 1</i>	The current Healthcare System in the U.S.: organizational and economic aspects (dr. Charles Zaiontz, PhD)	
<i>Session 2</i>	The business of getting sick in the U.S.: aspects of the Italian and U.S. systems of healthcare (dr. Charles Zaiontz, PhD)	
Week 8 <i>Session 1</i>	From the Affordable Care Act to the future of Healthcare in the U.S. (dr. Charles Zaiontz, PhD)	

Session 2	Clinical Case Study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clinical Case Study
Week 9 Session 1	Elements of the Italian Judicial System	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Field study to San Vittore Criminal Jail
Session 2	The Notion of Social Dangerousness: a comparative analysis from a psychopathological and Transcultural perspective	
Week 10 Session 1	Deinstitutionalization and Crime: is there a correlation?	
Session 2	Crime and PTSD: risk and protective factors	
Week 11 Session 1	Clinical Case Study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demo on Dog Assisted Therapy (Part 1)
Session 2	Assessment tools in the clinical settings	
Week 12 Session 1	Review	
Session 2	Final Exams	

COURSE-RELATED TRIPS:

- San Vittore Criminal Jail

REQUIRED READINGS:

- Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, DSM 5.** (2013) American Psychiatric Association (selected Chapters)
- Psychodynamic Diagnostic Manual, PDM** (2006) American Psychoanalytic Association (selected Chapters)
- Bhugra D., Bhui K., **Textbook of Cultural Psychiatry** (2007) Cambridge University Press (selected Chapters)
- Romme M., Escher S., et al **Living with Voices (2007)** PCCS Books (selected Chapters)
- The Essential Book of Offenders Assessment and Treatment** (2004) Edited by C. R. Hollin, John Wiley & Sons Ltd. (selected Chapters)
- Gunderson J., **A BPD Brief An introduction to Borderline Personality Disorder, Diagnosis, Origins, Course and Treatment** (2006) (The Borderline Personality Disorder Resource Centre, New York, Presbyterian hospital; (selected Chapters)
- Scott, C.L., Quanbeck C.D., and P.J. Resnick **Assessment of Dangerousness** (2008) (The American Psychiatric Publishing Textbook of Psychiatry; 5th Edition; American Psychiatric Publishing Inc (selected Chapters)
- Ascoli M., Tennyson L., et al Race, culture and personality disorder. Group Careif position paper (2011) World Cultural Psychiatric Research Review
- Forti, A. (2014) "Mental Health Analysis Profiles (MhAPs): Italy" OECD Health Working Papers, No 71. OECD Publishing

- Lora A., (2009) An overview of the Mental Health System in Italy Ann Ist Super Sanita'2009, Vol. 45 No 1:5-16
- Rucci P., Piazza A., et al (2012) Integration between primary Care and Mental Health Services in Italy: Determinants of Referral and Stepped Care International Journal of Family Medicine, Volume 2012 Article ID 507464
- Altamura C., Goodwin G., (2010) How Law 180 in Italy has reshaped psychiatry after 30 years. Past attitudes, current trends and unmet needs The British Journal of Psychiatry 2010, 197, 261-262
- Mastrobuoni G., Terlizze D. Rehabilitating rehabilitation: prison conditions recidivism, Einaudi Institute for Economics and Finance (EIEF), 2014
- Ardino V., Milani L., PTSD and re-offending risk: the mediating role of worry and the negative perceptions of other people's support, European Journal of Psychotraumatology, 2013, vol. 4:1
- Ardino V., Zaiontz C., Introduction to the special issue "Trauma and Culture: implications for research and treatment" Clinical Neuropsychiatry 2014, 11, 1, 3-6
- Ardino V. Offending behavior: the role of trauma and PTSD, European Journal of Psychotraumatology, 2012, vol. 3
- National Report on Italy, Reducing prison population: advanced tools of justice in Europe, University of Bologna, 2013

RECOMMENDED READINGS:

- Birmingham L., et al. **Mental Illness at Reception into Prison** (2000) Journal Criminal Behaviour and Mental Health
- Dhami M.K., et al. **Adaptation to Imprisonment: Indigenous or Imported?** (2007) Journal Criminal Justice and Behaviour
- Vuolo M. Kruttschnitt C., **Prisoners' Adjustment, Correctional Officers, and Context: the Foreground and Background of Punishment in Late Modernity** (2007) Law and Society Review ProQuest Psychology
- Shepherd-Hughes, A.Lovell M., **Breaking the Circuit of Social Control: Lessons in Public Psychiatry from Italy and Franco Basaglia** (1986) Soc. Sci. Med.
- Banti S., Borri V., et al **Perinatal mood and anxiety disorders, Clinical assessment and management. A review of current literature** (2009) Giornale Italiano di Psicopatologia
- Herpertz S., Zanarini M., et al **World Federation of Biological Psychiatry (WFBP) Guidelines for Biological Treatment of Personality Disorders** (2007) The World Journal of Biological Psychiatry