

UNIVERSITA' DEGLI STUDI DI BARI "ALDO MORO"

DIPARTIMENTO DI SCIENZE DELLA FORMAZIONE, PSICOLOGIA, COMUNICAZIONE

2021 - 2022

General information	
Academic subject	Forensic Psychology and Eyewitness Testimony
Degree course	Psychology, LS
Curriculum	-
ECTS credits	9
Compulsory attendance	No
Language	Italian

Subject teacher	Name Surname	Mail address	SSD
	Antonietta Curci	antonietta.curci@uniba.it	M-PSI/01

ECTS credit details			
Basic teaching activities	General Psychology	M-PSI/01	9

Class schedule	
Period	1st semester
Year	1st
Type of class	Lectures Thematic workshops

Time management	
Hours measured	60 minutes
In-class study hours	60
Out-of-class study hours	165

Academy calendar	
Class begins	
Class ends	

Syllabus	
Prerequisite requirements	Receptive and productive linguistic competencies Understanding and analytic reasoning abilities Synthesis and thematic elaboration Basic English language knowledge Knowledge of general psychology topics, with a special consideration for memory, attention, and emotion processes

<p>Expected learning outcomes (According to Dublin Descriptors)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acquiring knowledge and understanding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Knowledge of the models of decision making in forensic context Knowledge of the profiles of criminal responsibility Knowledge of the main issues and characteristics of the memory functioning in adulthood and childhood with reference to eyewitness testimony Knowledge of the main methods of investigation in forensic psychology and eyewitness testimony • Applying knowledge and understanding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ability to identify the psychological processes involved in eyewitness testimony and, more generally, in forensic contexts Knowledge of ethical norms, good practices, scientific and professional protocols most employed in the field of forensic psychology • Making informed judgments and choices <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ability to identify peculiarities and methodological flaws of expert reports in the field of forensic psychology and eyewitness testimony Ability to conduct a scientific observation of the behaviour of eyewitnesses and other actors of criminal and civil trials • Communicating knowledge and understanding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Abilities to express the contents learned during the course in a personal and competent way Ability to present cases of forensic psychology and eyewitness testimony to both expert and non-expert listeners • Capacities to continue learning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reading, analyzing, and communicating texts concerning scientific research work, verdicts, and expert reports in the field of forensic psychology Ability to employ knowledge and skills acquired from the whole psychological studies to analyze cases of psycho-forensic relevance.
<p>Contents</p>	<p>The course focuses on forensic psychology and eyewitness testimony, as an interface between academic research and professional application. The main goal of the course is to provide students with an overview of applications of psychology in criminal and civil trials, with a special attention to eyewitness testimony. Practical activities will be done, concerning reading and comments of forensic cases, Court verdicts, expert testimonies, guidelines for psycho-forensic practice.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neuropsychological assessment in forensic contexts: Methods and instruments. • Free will and responsibility. • Autobiographical memory and witness testimony. • Children's capacity to testify in Courts. • Malingering, deception, and lie. • Neuroscientific evidence. • The punishment.
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Course Program	
Bibliography	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stracciari, A. Bianchi, A. e Sartori, G. (2010). <i>Neuropsicologia forense</i>. Bologna: Il Mulino. • Grandi, C. (2016). <i>Neuroscienze e responsabilità penale</i>. Torino: Giappichelli. • Conway, M. A. (2012). Ten things the law and others should know about human memory. In L. Nadel e W. Sinnott-Armstrong (a cura di), <i>Memory and Law</i> (pp.359-372). New York: Oxford University Press. • Klemfuss, J. Z. e Ceci, S. J. (2012). Legal and psychological perspectives on children's competence to testify in court. <i>Developmental Review</i>, 32(3), 268-286. • Meijer, E. H., Verschuere, B., Gamer, M., Merckelbach, H. e Ben-Shakhar, G. (2016). Deception detection with behavioral, autonomic, and neural measures: Conceptual and methodological considerations that warrant modesty. <i>Psychophysiology</i>, 53(5), 593-604. • Steblay, N. K. e Loftus, E. F. (2013). Eyewitness identification and the legal system. In E. Shafir (Ed.), <i>The behavioral foundations of public policy</i> (pp. 145-162). Princeton, NJ, US: Princeton University Press.
Notes	
Teaching methods	The course will encompass both lectures and thematic workshops, with ad-hoc contributions of experienced researchers, psychology and legal professionals.
Assessment methods	<p>The final examination will aim to verify the level of the student's mastery with respect to the contents proposed during the course with a specific consideration for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – references to theory – lexical appropriateness; – references to methods and procedures of investigation in forensic psychology and eyewitness testimony; – ability to make conceptual inferences; – ability to elaborate contents. <p>The final examination will be oral. Exoneration tests will not be proposed.</p>
Further information	Tutorial material (slides, schemes, papers, etc.) will be made available to students during the course.