

UNIVERSITA' DEGLI STUDI DI BARI "ALDO MORO"

DIPARTIMENTO DI SCIENZE DELLA FORMAZIONE, PSICOLOGIA, COMUNICAZIONE

2017 - 2018

General Information	
Academic subject	Methodology of Psychological Research
Degree course	Psychological Sciences and Techniques
Curriculum	-
ECTS credits	6
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	6

Class schedule	
Period	1st semester
Year	2nd
Type of class	Lectures Thematic workshops

Time management	
Hours measured	60 minutes
In-class study hours	40
Out-of-class study hours	110

Academy calendar	
Class begins	
Class ends	

Syllabus	
Prerequisite requirements	Receptive and productive linguistic competencies Understanding and reasoning abilities Synthesis and thematic elaboration Basic English language knowledge Basic mathematical computation

<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"> Overview of the epistemological fundamentals of scientific psychology Knowledge of the main methodological approaches to the study of human behaviour and cognitive processes Knowledge of the main techniques and procedures of data collection in psychology • Applying knowledge and understanding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understanding the logical processes underlying research work Translating psychological constructs into empirical variables and reproducing psychological processes through research procedures and models Defining uni- and bivariate research designs • Making informed judgments and choices <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Critical approach to the analysis of models and procedures adopted in psychology Problem finding and non-naïf observational skills for dealing with daily-life psychological phenomena • 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 • Capacities to continue learning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reading, analyzing, and communicating texts on general psychology themes, in order to facilitate subsequent studies and enhance the student's autonomy.
<p>Contents</p>	<p>Students will be given a general epistemological introduction to the course. The main methodological approaches in psychology, validity and control issues, experimental design issues will then be presented. More specifically, the contents of the course will be the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The psychological science between descriptive and demonstrative approaches - Epistemological paradigms in psychological studies - Setting a research question - Ethical issues in psychological research - Types of variables - Measurement issues - Reliability and validity of psychological measures - Validity issues in research work (internal, external, construct and statistical validity) - Control

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Random error and bias - Research methods: Archival research, systematic observation, sociometric approach, scales of attitudes, questionnaires and surveys, ethnographic research, evaluation methods, qualitative methods, quasi-experimental approaches, experiments - Setting research hypotheses - Pre-experimental designs, experimental research with one independent variable, factorial research designs.
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Course Program	
Bibliography	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pedon, A. e Gnisci, A. (2004). <i>Metodologia della ricerca psicologica</i>. Bologna: Il Mulino. • Mannetti, L. (Ed.) (2001). <i>Strategie di ricerca in psicologia sociale</i>. Roma: Carocci. • Schachter, S. e Singer, J. E. (1962). Cognitive, social and physiological determinants of emotional state. <i>Psychological Review</i>, 69, 379-399.
Notes	
Teaching methods	The course will encompass both lectures and thematic workshops, with ad-hoc contributions of experienced researchers and psychology professionals.
Assessment methods	<p>Intermediate assessments of students' learning will be scheduled during the course.</p> <p>The assessment (intermediate and final) will consist of a written paper and 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"> - lexical appropriateness; - references to methods and procedures of investigation in scientific psychology; - ability to understand the methodological characteristics of a research study; - ability to make conceptual inferences; - ability to elaborate contents.
Further information	Tutorial material (slides, schemes, papers, etc.) will be made available to students during the course.