

Psychological Sciences

General information		
Academic subject	Techniques of observation of child behaviour	
Degree course	Psychological Sciences	
Academic Year	III	
European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System(ECTS)	6	
Language	Italian	
Academic calendar (starting and ending date)	First semester; lessons starting in October 2021	
Attendance	Not mandatory	
Professor/ Lecturer		
Name and Surname	Gabrielle Coppola	
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Department and address	Bari	
Virtual headquarters	Teams, virtual room: Ricevimento Coppola faqb4yr	
Tutoring (time and day)	Monday 10-12 a.m., room n. 314, Palazzo Chiaia - Napolitano	

Syllabus			
Learning Objectives		See below at the section Expected learning outcomes	
Course prerequisites		Basic knowledge in the disciplines of Developmental and Educational Psychology (SSD M-PSI/04)	
Content		<p>The first part of the course will be devoted to the following topics: introduction to the observation of child behavior, with the analysis of the theoretical frameworks of child observation; basic choices in systematic observation (who, how and where to observe); different types of observations (qualitative descriptive approach, coding systems, check-lists, evaluation scales); strategies to collect observational data and test reliability.</p> <p>The second part of the course will be devoted to the training of the use of a Q-Sort methodology to assess child social functioning.</p>	
Books and bibliography		<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Baumgartner, E. (2018). <i>L'osservazione del comportamento infantile</i>. Roma: Carocci.➤ D'Odorico L. e Cassibba R. (2001). <i>Osservare per educare</i>. Roma: Carocci.➤ Coppola G., Camodeca M. (2010). <i>La metodologia Q-Sort. Valutare la competenza sociale nella scuola dell'infanzia</i>. Roma: Carocci Editore.	
Additional materials			
Work schedule			
Total	Lectures	(Laboratory, working groups, seminars, field trips)	Out-of-class study hours/ Self-study hours
Hours			
150	40		110
ECTS			
6			
Teaching strategy		Frontal lessons, practical exercises in the classroom; discussion of videos	

Expected learning outcomes	
Knowledge and understanding on:	Methodological knowledge of the observation of child behaviour
Applying knowledge and understanding on:	Knowledge of the basics of the techniques for observing child behaviour such as: organizing the setting, choosing the means for conducting a correct observation, choosing the adequate unit of analysis, the correct strategy to collect the data and to test reliability and lastly, treating the observational data to extract measures.
Soft skills	<p><i>Making informed judgments and choices:</i> Capacity to distinguish between spontaneous observation and systematic observation applied in developmental psychology; capacity to identify correctly the behaviours to observe; capacity to choose the unit of analysis and the strategy to collect the data, in relations to the aims; capacity to select the correct method to test reliability.</p> <p><i>Communicating knowledge and understanding:</i> expertise in using the topic's specialized language.</p> <p><i>Capacities to continue learning:</i> Capacity to project, implement and communicate on systematic observations in the field of developmental and educational psychology; capacity to select opportunities and continue learning and training in relation to the topics.</p>

Assessment and feedback	
Methods of assessment	Written exam, with open and closed questions and exercises
Evaluation criteria	<p><i>Knowledge and understanding.</i> The following knowledge will be assessed through practical exercises and cases: Methodological knowledge of the observation of child behaviour.</p> <p><i>Applying knowledge and understanding.</i> The following abilities will be assessed through practical exercises and cases: knowledge of the basics of the techniques for observing child behaviour such as organizing the setting, choosing the means for conducting a correct observation, choosing the adequate unit of analysis, the correct strategy to collect the data and to test reliability and lastly, treating the observational data.</p> <p><i>Autonomy of judgment.</i> The following abilities will be assessed through practical exercises and cases: capacity to distinguish between spontaneous observation and systematic observation applied in developmental psychology; capacity to identify correctly the behaviours to observe; capacity to choose the unit of analysis and the strategy to collect the data, in relations to the aims; capacity to select the correct method to test reliability.</p> <p><i>Communicating knowledge and understanding and communication skills.</i> The following abilities will be assessed through practical exercises and cases: expertise in using the topic's specialized language.</p> <p><i>Capacities to continue learning.</i> The following abilities will be assessed through practical exercises and cases: Capacity to project, implement and communicate on systematic observations in the field of developmental and educational psychology; capacity to select opportunities and continue learning and training in relation to the topics.</p>
Criteria for assessment and attribution of the final mark	Based on the criteria described above, a score on a 30-point scale will be given.
Additional information	Books must be studied entirely. For those following lessons and attending the intermediate exams, there will be a selection of chapters