

Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences



PSY2910 Psychopathology of the periods of maturity and senescence

[30h] 3 credits

This course is taught in the 2nd semester

Teacher(s): Philippe Meire
Language: French
Level: Second cycle

Aims

- to introduce the students to the clinical psychology of maturity and senescence: description, understanding, therapeutic and prevention

Main themes

- specific psychopathological displays of these life ages
- psychic consequences of the biological, familial and social evolution
- evolution of the psychic disorders and of the dysfunctions of personality during ageing
- pathology of the links and roles proper to these ages
- situation of these people inside the society and social reaction towards them in a perspective of "quality of life"

Content and teaching methods

1. Perspectives of the clinical approach of the life ages: stereotypes and prejudices. Demographical and social dimension (the most important social group)
2. Maturity (or rather "maturescence" as a process):
 - crisis of maturity ("mid-life crisis", psycho-pathological and psychosomatic decompensations of these ages: psychology of the 40's or 50's is not the same than the 20's...)
 - evolution of the affective life: couple and sexuality: influence of ageing, menopause, andropause, couple crises, sexual pathologies
 - effects of work on psychic health in its positive and negative aspects (stress, burn-out, harassment...)
3. Thresholds or stages, or even rituals of ageing:
 - retirement, early retirement: psycho-social effects
 - modifications of family life: consequences
 - illness, addiction...
4. Senescence and the varying characters of old age:
 - descriptive approaches (biological, social, cultural...)

Other information (prerequisite, evaluation (assessment methods), course materials recommended readings, ...)

Lectures, reading portfolio, videos.
 Participation of clinicians.

Other credits in programs

PSY23/9	Troisième licence en sciences psychologiques (Psychologie clinique : âges de la vie et systèmes humains)	(3 credits)	Mandatory
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