



EPA COURSE TITLE	Applied phenomenological psychopathology
COURSE DIRECTOR	Giovanni Stanghellini, Italy
COURSE CO-DIRECTORS	N/A
COURSE LEVEL	Basic
EDUCATIONAL INTENTIONS/ COURSE OUTCOMES	Write a Clinical File Use Psychopathology for Diagnosis Use Psychopathology for Drug Prescription Use Psychopathology as the basis for Understanding and for Psychotherapy.
COURSE DESCRIPTION	Phenomenological psychopathology (PP) provides psychiatrists with basic knowledge about abnormal mental phenomena and with a valid method to appraise them. Its main 'object' is human subjectivity. PP reveals aspects of experience that other approaches tend to overwrite or eclipse with their strong theoretical claims. There are at least six reasons for PP to be at the heart of psychiatry:1) Mental health care (MHC) is heterogeneous discipline. PP is the shared language that allows clinicians with different theoretical backgrounds to understand each other when dealing with mental disorders.2) MHC care aims at establishing rigorous diagnoses. PP is highly useful in a field where the major disorders cannot be neuroscientifically defined as disease entities, but are exclusively syndromes that can be defined according to characterising symptoms. 3) MHC is about understanding disturbed human experience, in addition to diagnosing and classifying that experience. PP functions as a bridge between human and clinical sciences, thus providing the basic tools to make sense of mental suffering. 4) MHC addresses abnormal human subjectivity. PP attempts to define what is abnormal (rather than taking for granted common-sense views) and to grasp which elements of mental life remain normal in the context of illness. 5) MHC is about caring for troubled human existence, rather than judging, marginalizing, or stigmatising it. PP connects understanding with caring, and endeavours to establish a methodological and ethical framework for this.6) MHC looks for a way to connect first-person subjective experience with brain functioning. PP is about bridging meaningfulness and causality.
PREREQUISITE KNOWLEDGE	Basic knowledge in clinical psychiatry
COURSE METHODS AND MATERIAL	Case studies Vignette Debate Slides Handouts
TARGET AUDIENCE	Young psychiatrists, particularly Early Career Psychiatrists
RECOMMENDED READINGS	N/A
LANGUAGE(S)	English, Italian, French