



Syllabus Master's Degree Course in Medicine and Surgery

ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE KNOWLEDGE

First year, second semester (3 academic credits [CFU])

Teachers

Subject	Academic credits (CFU)	Lecturer
Additional language knowledge	3	PALAZZOLO Giuseppe

Learning outcomes

Subject	Learning outcomes
Additional language knowledge	<p>By the end of the course, students are expected to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Demonstrate a proficient understanding of basic medical terminology, including prefixes, suffixes, and root words.• Apply medical vocabulary in a clinical context to facilitate effective communication with patients.• Employ appropriate communication techniques to conduct patient interviews with clarity and empathy.• Handle sensitive medical topics and patient emotions with professionalism and cultural sensitivity.• Develop communication strategies tailored to various cultural contexts.• Recognize the ongoing importance of language knowledge and cultural competence in medical practice.• Continuously seek opportunities for professional development in this area. <p>These learning outcomes are designed to ensure that students not only acquire the necessary language skills but also develop the cultural awareness and ethical considerations essential for providing high-quality healthcare to patients from varied linguistic backgrounds.</p>

Prerequisites

Subject	Prerequisites
Additional language knowledge	Attainment of the educational objectives set by prerequisite courses.

Course contents

Subject	Course contents
Additional language knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Module 1: Language and communication in healthcare. The role of culture in healthcare communication. Introduction to basic medical terminology: prefixes, suffixes, and root words. The lexicon. Specialisms and common language. Syntax and textuality. Specialised and informative discourse. • Module 2: Medicine and Literature. Introduction to Narrative Medicine. The role of patient stories in healthcare. Techniques for eliciting and documenting patient narratives. Using patient narratives to enhance understanding and empathy. • Module 3: Project presentations and peer feedback. Production of a presentation on the course topics. Strategies for continuing professional development in language, literature, cultural competence, and Narrative Medicine. <p>The interplay between Literature and Medicine encourages students to explore the power of patient narratives in healthcare, fostering better understanding and empathy between medical professionals and patients.</p>

Assessment methods

Subject	Assessment methods
Additional language knowledge	<p>The assessment of the acquired knowledge takes place by means of a presentation on the course topics and an oral examination. The examination aims to certify eligibility rather than assigning a numerical grade.</p> <p>The oral examination consists of an interview during which questions will cover at least three different topics from the course curriculum. The assessments aim to evaluate: i) the level of knowledge of the Italian language; ii) the clarity of presentation; iii) the property of medical-scientific language. The assessment of learning can also be conducted remotely if the conditions necessitate it.</p> <p>The exam is not passed if the student lacks the minimum required knowledge of the core content of the course. Also, the exam is not passed if their ability to use specific language is minimal or nonexistent, and they are unable to independently apply acquired knowledge.</p>

Examples of common questions and/or exercises

Subject	Examples of common questions and/or exercises
Additional language knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does a solid grasp of medical terminology enhance communication between healthcare professionals and patients? Provide an example. • After providing students with a patient case study that includes a narrative or personal story shared by the patient, they will be asked to analyze the narrative, identify key emotions or themes, and discuss how understanding the patient's narrative can inform their medical approach. Why is it important for medical professionals to incorporate patient narratives into their

	<p>practice, and how can patient narratives impact healthcare outcomes?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a scenario where students must use narrative medicine techniques to encourage a patient to share their personal health story.
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Reference texts

Subject	Textbooks
Additional language knowledge	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Luca Serianni, <i>Un treno di sintomi I medici e le parole: percorsi linguistici nel passato e nel presente</i>, Milano, Garzanti, 2005, pp. 284. 2. Riccardo Gualdo, Stefano Telve, <i>Il linguaggio della medicina, in Linguaggi specialistici dell'italiano</i>, Roma, Carocci, 2021, pp. 283-355. 3. Giovanni Boccaccio, <i>Decameron</i>, Proemio. 4. Alessandro Manzoni, <i>I promessi sposi</i>, capp. XXXI-XXXVI. 5. Dino Buzzati, <i>Sette piani</i>, in Id., <i>I capolavori</i>, Milano, Oscar Mondadori, 2005, pp. 505-522. 6. Giuseppe Pontiggia, <i>Nati due volte</i>, Milano, Mondadori, 2021, pp. 252. 7. Rita Charon, <i>Medicina narrativa. Onorare le storie dei pazienti</i>, a cura di M. Castiglioni, trad. it. di C. Delorenzo, Milano, Raffaello Cortina, 2019, pp. 300 (R. Charon, <i>Narrative Medicine. Honoring the Stories of Illness</i>, New York, Oxford University Press, 2006).

Course format

Subject	Textbooks
Additional language knowledge	The teaching will primarily be conducted through in-person lectures with a blend of theory and practical exercises. In the event that teaching is delivered in a blended or remote mode, necessary adjustments may be introduced compared to what has been previously stated, in order to adhere to the planned program as outlined in the Syllabus.

Attendance

Subject	Textbooks
Additional language knowledge	Mandatory attendance.

Course schedule

Subject	Course schedule
Additional language knowledge	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Module 1: Language and communication in healthcare. Textbooks 1, 2. 2. Module 2: Medicine and Literature. Textbooks 3, 4, 5, 6, 7. 3. Module 3: Project presentations and peer feedback. Textbooks 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7.