



UNIVERSITÀ  
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

## COURSE SYLLABUS

### Medicina e Società

1819-2-H4101D254

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#### Aims

The primary goal of the course is to provide students with the tools for understanding the cultural, social and relational aspects of medicine, taking into account its history, evolution, sanitary structure, and patient- doctor relationship. The students will also be introduced to the international and specialized language of the biomedical research. This whole set of knowledge represents the basis for the understanding of individual medical praxis in order to adequately locate the physician activity in the general and more complex social environment

Biomedical english aims are understanding, writing and commenting reports on biomedical subjects, using the correct rules of grammar and syntax and specialized language

#### Contents

**HYSTORY:** Overview of the history of western medicine from Hippocrates to experimental and modern medicine; patients and their bodies from Renaissance to bio-imaging; technology in medicine, the evolution of clinical diagnosis and investigation; cultural and ethical aspects of health; public health development; the differences between unconventional medicine and evidence-based medicine; biomedicine and biotechnology, applications and problems.

**COMMUNICATION SKILLS:** psychological and relational elements in the patient-doctor relationship; therapeutic alliance; communication skills; verbal and non verbal communication; counselling techniques; motivational interview; illness and emotions; how to manage relational skills. disease-centred medicine and patient-centred medicine; subjective elements in medical education; interpersonal sensitivity and caring relationship.

**PATIENT- DOCTOR IN PRIMARY CARE:** differences between disease, illness, sickness, and subjective and objective aspects of medicine; biopsychosocial model of illness and care; individual, social and economic aspects in medicine and health behaviours; media and medicine; frail patients: elderly people, the chronically

## Detailed program

Hystory: The birth of Western medicine, from Hippocrates to the experimental Method, the discovery of the human body from the Renaissance to bioimaging. the advent of technology in medicine and the therapeutic revolution, history of clinical methodology, biomedicine and biotechnology, the concept of health, cultural and ethical implications, the evolution of public health, the concept of Evidence Based Medicine (EBM), some open questions in medicine (e.g., tumors and palliative care, emerging infectious diseases, medical genetics, substances for abuse, end-of-life care). Communication skills: General aspects: Doctor centered vrs Patient Centered Medicine, from "curing" to "caring", psychological and relational components in the doctor-patient relationship; "therapeutic alliance", compliance and concordance. Psychological complexity of medical interview. The placebo and the nocebo effect. Communication techniques: language and gestures , verbal and not verbal communication. Communication guidelines and protocols: the Calgary Cambridge Interview, breaking bad news (the SPIKES protocol), error disclosure (the CONES protocol), managing conflict and escalation (the HARD protocol); The role of emotions in communication and in the doctor / patient relationship, emotion regulation and self-regulation . The subjective dimension of illness perception and experience: patient's emotional reaction, psychological response to illness and treatment. Cognitive and affective bias that condition clinical reasoning

Biomedical englishThe on line course presents dialogues on biomedical subjects, with specialized language. The student should know the English language in order to write, read, understand and edit scientific articles correctlyThe on line course presents dialogues on biomedical subjects, with specialized language. The student should know the English language in order to write, read, understand and edit scientific articles correctly

## Prerequisites

Knowledge of English language at B2 level or higher. To be admitted to the exam of communication skills, hystory and patient-doctor in primary care, students must have received a positive score at the on-line english examination

## Teaching form

Lectures, active teaching methods, tutorials, internships with MMGs, small group exercises with video recorded Role-Playing, debriefing and video analysis

## Textbook and teaching resource

Cesana G, Riva MA. Medicina e Società. Firenze: Società Editrice Fiorentina, 2017

Communication Skills for Medicine, 4e Lloyd et al., Elsevier, 2018 (UK)

Silverman - Kurtz - Draper - Del Piccolo , Competenze per comunicare con i pazienti

2015., Piccin

R. Buckmann, La comunicazione della diagnosi. In caso di malattie gravi. 2003. Cortina Editore

J. Groopman 2008. Come pensano i dottori, Mondadori;

L. Sanders 2009; Ogni paziente racconta la sua storia, Einaudi;

Articoli selezionati dal docente sulla comunicazione non verbale e altri argomenti

Biomedical English: Mandatory on line course

## **Semester**

I term

## **Assessment method**

Written exam, with questions aimed at assessing both the acquisition of knowledge, the capacity for inductive-deductive reasoning and argumentative skills; open questions and multiple choice questions Inglese biomedico: Test online. The possible results are: passed or not passed

## **Office hours**

To make an appointment, please contact the teachers by e-mail:

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