



UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

SYLLABUS DEL CORSO

Cognitive Traps and Medical Decision Making

2324-3-H4102D124

Aims

Human decision-making is under continuous threat from a myriad of psychological phenomena throughout the process. Understanding and learning how to safeguard decision-making in the medical profession is crucial for medical students. This course will give students the foundations and the tools needed to gain greater awareness and control over their decision-making.

Contents

This course explores the decision-making processes through the lens of social science. We will examine why people make the decisions they do and, in a framework promoting a shared decision-making approach in medicine, we will consider research-based ways to make better decisions in healthcare settings. Topics covered will include basic notions of normative and descriptive theories of decisions, cognitive biases in decision-making, moral psychology of choice, and insights from behavioural economics.

Detailed program

The following contents will be covered:

- Dealing with uncertainty: Introduction to decision theory
- The subjective expected value
- Cognitive traps: heuristics and biases in medical decision-making
- Shared decision-making in medicine and the role of decision aids

Prerequisites

None, but a basic understanding of probability is helpful.

Teaching form

Frontal lessons

Textbook and teaching resource

A selection of scientific journal articles will be provided; ppt slides and other relevant material will be uploaded on the e-learning website.

Semester

Second

Assessment method

The students' level of knowledge and problem-solving abilities will be assessed through analysis and discussion of cases and fictional scenarios or multiple-choice questions.

Office hours

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Sustainable Development Goals

GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING
