UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

History of Dentistry

2425-4-H4601D019-H4601D052M

Aims

The aim of the module History of Dentistry is to provide students with the tools for understanding the cultural and social aspects of modern dentistry, through the analysis of its historical and epistemological evolution. The knowledge provided is the basis for knowing how to properly place the activity of the dentist in the current socio-cultural context.

Contents

The course provides students with notions about the history of Greco-Roman Dentistry, Medieval Dentistry, Dentistry in Renaissance, Baroque and Enlightenment, Dentistry in the Nineteenth century and in the Twentieth Century.

Detailed program

Medicine and dentistry in ancient civilizations and in the Greco-Roman world. Teeth and their pathologies in the works of Hippocrates and Galen. The development of hospitals in the Middle Ages. Monastic and Arab medicine: references to mouth diseases. The development of universities. The Black Plague. Medieval dentists: Giovanni d'Arcoli and Michele Savonarola. The invention of the pelican. Medicine and dentistry in the Renaissance and in the Baroque age. The rediscovery of the human body. The cadaveric dissections. Vesalius and his followers on the anatomy of the mouth. Parè and the development of dental surgery. Galilei and the scientific method. William Harvey and blood circulation. The microscopic anatomy. Iatrophysics, iatrochemistry and neo-hippocratism. A baroque dentist: Pierre Dionis. The century of Enlightenment and social medicine (Ramazzini, Tissot, Frank) and Medical policy. The French Revolution. Morgagni and pathological anatomy. Medical systems and alternative medicines (animal magnetism, homeopathy, phrenology). Smallpox vaccination. Regulation of the dental

profession under Louis XIV. Pierre Fauchard and French dentistry. John Hunter and Anglo-Saxon dentistry. Two Italian dentists: Antonio Campani and Bartolomeo Ruspini. The discovery of dental fluoride (Morichini), The birth of the clinic. General and specialist hospitals. A new semeiotics. Biochemistry, physiology and pathology: Virchow's cell pathology. The contribution of dentistry to medicine: anesthetic gases. Antisepsis and the development of a new surgery. The germ theory. Koch and Pasteur. The discovery of X-rays. The first dental schools in Europe. G.V. Black and the classification of caries. Willoughby D. Miller and the microbial origin of caries. The development of dental legislation in the United Italy. The development of scientific dentistry. The "Boselli Decree" and the affirmation of the stomatological principle. Carlo Platschick and the Italian Dental Institute. The Fascist turnaround on dental autonomy. Dental technicians and medical plethora. European directives and the reform of dental education. Notes on the development of the Italian health organization in the twentieth century. The fight against infectious diseases (vaccines, serotherapy, antimicrobial chemotherapy and antibiotics). The effects of the First and Second World Wars. Birth of WHO and the British NHS. The genetic revolution. The epistemological revolution from disease determinant to disease risk factor. The technological and IT development of medicine. Medicine in the 21st century

Prerequisites

Dental pathology and clinics

Teaching form

Lectures. The teacher promotes discussion among students on problems related to modern dentistry and medicine, involving students and asking them to reflect on the historical evolution of the relationship between patient and healthcare worker and on the evolution of the concept of health.

All classes are conducted in-person in a lecture format: 6 lectures of 2 hours each, held in-person.

The language is Italian.

Textbook and teaching resource

Zampetti P. Storia dell’Odontoiatria Roma: Aracne editrice, 2009
Cesana G, Riva MA. Medicina e Società. Firenze: Società Editrice Fiorentina, 2017

Semester

Year 4, Second Semester

Assessment method

Final exam: written test with closed multiple-choice questions with only one correct answer and 1 open question (15 questions), in order to evaluate the cognitive and interpretative skills.

Each multiple-choice question is worth 2 points, and each open question is worth 3 points.

Office hours

On appointment to be arranged by e-mail, writing to michele.riva@unimib.it

Sustainable Development Goals

GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING