UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Surgical Specialty Nursing

2526-2-I0101D012

Aims

By the end of the course, the student will be able to:

Knowledge and Understanding
Plan nursing care for patients undergoing surgical interventions in selected specialized surgical fields, identifying care priorities and contextualizing nursing interventions according to the clinical condition and specific surgical pathway.
The surgical specialties covered include:
Thoracic Surgery, Gynecology, Cardiac Surgery, Vascular Surgery, Abdominal Surgery, Urology, Neurosurgery, Otolaryngology, Bariatric Surgery, Maxillofacial Surgery, and Wound Care (surgical approach).

Applying Knowledge and Understanding
Apply clinical and theoretical knowledge to address the complex care needs of patients across various specialized surgical settings, integrating scientific evidence into nursing practice.

Making Judgements
Exercise autonomous judgement in the assessment and management of surgical patients, recognizing clinical priorities and critically reflecting on one's professional role.

Communication Skills
Communicate effectively with members of the interprofessional team and the scientific community, sharing care plans, clinical data, and findings from nursing research.

Learning Skills
Develop autonomous learning skills by deepening knowledge and competencies in response to the evolving clinical practice and scientific production, promoting evidence-based nursing care.

Contents

The course aims to give elements to provide nursing to patients undergoing to surgical interventions in different fields: Thoracic, Gynecological, Heart, Vascular, Abdominal Surgery, Urology, Neurosurgery, Otorhinolaryngology, Bariatric Surgery, Vulnology, Maxillo-facial surgery

It also provides the theoretical basics for the research in a scientific field by consulting biomedical literature.

Detailed program

See Syllabus of the Course Modules

Prerequisites

Defined by the academic regulations.

Teaching form

See Syllabus of the Course Modules

Textbook and teaching resource

See Syllabus of the Course Modules

Semester

2nd Year, 2nd Semester

Assessment method

The course includes a final examination consisting of a written test with compulsory oral. There are no in-between tests

Written Exam: The first part consists of a series of closed-ended questions, with multiple-choice answers, covering topics discussed during the course and additional topics not addressed in class. This section comprises 28 questions, with 20 focusing on General Surgery 2 and 8 on Nursing Research Methodology. There are also 4 open-ended questions, 2 centered on General Surgery 2 and 2 on Nursing Research Methodology. The written exam

aims to assess understanding of the surgical approach to program-specific pathological conditions, including primary symptoms, diagnostic tests, surgical options, and post-operative complications. Additionally, it evaluates knowledge of the theoretical foundations of nursing research for designing and implementing interventions aimed at improving patient outcomes and healthcare quality. Allocated time: 50 minutes.

**Oral Exam: **This is an oral examination on topics covered during the course and on areas of further study, through the discussion of three questions.. This part focuses on the Nursing in Specialist Surgery module. During the interview, the ability to analyze surgical clinical cases is evaluated, assessing the capacity to provide a comprehensive and concise description of the related nursing care process. This includes identifying significant data, primary diagnoses, nursing interventions, and expected outcomes, using appropriate disciplinary terminology.

Final GradeThe final grade results from the weighted average of the scores obtained in the written and oral examinations. The final result is communicated to the student by the examination board at the end of the oral test.

Assessment Criteria
18–23 | *Essential Knowledge and Basic Competencies*
The student demonstrates an overall but limited understanding of the course topics, with conceptual gaps.
In the written examination, the student correctly answers the minimum required number of multiple-choice questions and provides at least one accurate and complete open-ended response related to General Surgery 2 and at least one related to Nursing Research Methodology.
During the oral examination, the student provides simple and occasionally uncertain explanations; the analysis of clinical–nursing cases is mainly descriptive, with inconsistent use of appropriate disciplinary terminology.
Overall judgement: the student achieves the minimum learning outcomes, demonstrating basic knowledge and limited ability to apply concepts.

24–26 | *Good Knowledge and Reasoned Application*
The student demonstrates adequate and well-structured knowledge, with the ability to connect key concepts.
In the written test, the student correctly answers most questions and provides coherent and well-argued open-ended responses.
During the oral examination, the student presents content clearly, showing good ability to analyse clinical cases and appropriately identify nursing diagnoses and interventions.
Overall judgement: the student shows solid mastery of the contents and a fair level of autonomy, although critical depth may still be limited.

27–29 | *In-Depth Knowledge and Operational Proficiency*
The student demonstrates extensive, articulated, and in-depth knowledge of the course content, effectively integrating concepts from General Surgery 2 and Nursing Research Methodology.
The written examination shows confidence and synthesis skills; open-ended responses are precise, clear, and conceptually rich.
At the oral examination, the student provides a fluent and well-reasoned presentation; clinical case analysis is accurate, using appropriate technical–scientific terminology and correctly structuring the nursing care process.
Overall judgement: excellent mastery of the subject matter and the ability to apply knowledge in a competent and well-justified manner.

30–30L | *Excellence, Critical Integration, and Maturity*
The student demonstrates complete and confident mastery of both theoretical and applied contents, integrating disciplinary knowledge with strong critical analysis skills.
The written test is outstanding, with complete and original answers showing personal reflection and interdisciplinary integration.
During the oral examination, the student communicates clearly and rigorously, using precise technical terminology; clinical cases are analysed with independence of judgement, and interventions proposed are consistent with evidence-based practice.
Overall judgement: excellent level of competence, autonomy, and critical thinking; full achievement of the course’s learning outcomes.

Office hours

Faculty members are available by appointment, which can be requested via email:

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Sustainable Development Goals

GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING | QUALITY EDUCATION | GENDER EQUALITY