UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

SYLLABUS DEL CORSO

Deontologia Professionale

2526-3-I0101D018-I0101D056M

Aims

- Understand the ethical and professional principles that guide the nursing profession and the key concepts related to ethics, values, conflicts of values, problems and ethical dilemmas specific to the nursing context (knowledge and understanding)
- Apply the ethical and professional knowledge acquired using a structured analysis method to identify and analyse complex situations that present ethical problems or dilemmas, identifying the values at stake and the various implications (knowledge and applied understanding).
- Critically analyse the ethical decisions to be made with independent and well-considered judgements, justifying them on the basis of ethical and deontological principles (autonomy of judgement).
- Participate in ethical discussions in a constructive and respectful manner, communicating one's ethical analyses clearly and effectively (communication skills).
- Develop a reflective and critical approach by being able to continue learning and updating oneself on nursing ethics and deontology, continuously improving one's method of analysis and ethical decision-making process (ability to learn).

Contents

Insights into the Code of Ethics of the Nursing Professions, revised (2025) and the Code of Ethics issued by ICN (2021) will be provided, as well as knowledge regarding a method for the ethical deontological analysis of clinical situations where conflicts of values, problems and ethical dilemmas emerge.
Contents useful for approaching arguments related to fairness of care and rationality of services, ethical issues at the end of life, clinical and care research and experimentation will be covered.
Aspects of bioethics will be explored, with particular reference to current problems arising in the context of care.

Detailed program

Recalls on the main ethical theories.
Professional ethical principles, concepts and values with in-depth study and exercises on nursing cases.
Knowledge, reflection and analysis of the Code of Ethics of the Nursing Professions - revision 2025 and the ICN Code of Ethics, 2021.
Development of ethical decision-making skills through knowledge of a method for ethical deontological analysis of clinical situations presenting problems and conflicts of values: Fry and Johnstone's decision-making model, 2004 (ethical dilemmas, conflicts of values and care problems encountered in professional practice).
Topics related to bioethics: ethical issues at the end of life (death and dying - palliative care - pain - dignity in the care of the elderly person).
Ethical aspects relating to research and clinical and care experimentation, equity of care and rationality of services.
The function, composition and usefulness of ethics committees in nursing practice and research.

Prerequisites

Defined in the teaching regulations.

Teaching form

All lessons are held in person. Four 2-hour lectures are scheduled, conducted mainly in lecture mode: some lectures, at the teacher's discretion, may include the possibility of guided discussion of clinical cases, teaching videos, narrations, group work.
The teaching language is Italian.

Textbook and teaching resource

Fry S.T., Johnston M.J. (2004) Etica per la pratica infermieristica, CEA, Milano.
Benci L. (2019) Aspetti giuridici della professione infermieristica, Mc Graw-Hill, Milano; cap. 18.
Filippini A., Baccin G. (2014). L'etica e la deontologia. In: IPASVI. Guida all'Esercizio della Professione di Infermiere. Torino: C. G. Edizioni Medico Scientifiche s.r.l. p. 191-205.
FNOPI: Revisione del Codice Deontologico delle Professioni Infermieristiche, 2025. Testo approvato dal Consiglio Nazionale 22/03/2025; reperibile da:
https://www.fnopi.it/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/2025.03.22-Presentazione-al-Congresso-Nazionale.pdf.
Consiglio Internazionale degli Infermieri: Codice deontologico degli infermieri, ICN (revisione 2021).
Legge 22 dicembre 2017, n. 219 Norme in materia di consenso informato e di disposizioni anticipate di trattamento.
FNOPI (2019) La disciplina infermieristica all'interno della legge 219/17 "Norme in materia di consenso informato e di disposizioni anticipate di trattamento".
Legge 15 marzo 2010, n 38 "Disposizione per garantire l'accesso alle cure palliative e alla terapia del dolore".
IN-DEPTH BIBLIOGRAPHY
Comitato Nazionale per la bioetica – Presidenza del Consiglio dei ministri, reperibile da: https://bioetica.governo.it/it/

Semester

2nd Semester 3rd academic year

Assessment method

There are no in itinere tests.
The final examination is aimed at assessing extensive checking of the preparation of the syllabus and intensive checking of the ability to reflect independently on critical points of the syllabus.
Achievement of the aptitude level is mandatory for all three teaching modules in order to pass the examination.
The final grade is the average of the three teaching modules.
The total time allocated to the examination is 90 minutes.
The test consists of 11 multiple-choice questions (0-2 points awarded for each question) and 3 open-ended questions, referring to a case study, requiring a concise answer or a very short essay (0-3 points awarded for each question).
The pass mark for the test is set at 18 points out of a total of 31 points (corresponding to 31/30, thirty with honours).
Answers to the open-ended questions are mandatory.

Office hours

By appointment

Sustainable Development Goals

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