UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Nursing Care in Penitentiary

2526-2-I0101D122

Aims

The elective course: “Nursing in the Prison Setting” aims to provide students in the Bachelor of Science in Nursing program with the knowledge and critical judgment necessary to approach and manage nursing care for the incarcerated person in the prison setting and in Protected Medicine facilities, understanding the specifics of the setting, organizational dynamics and ethical dilemmas, and recognizing the importance of multidisciplinary collaboration to ensure the health of the inmate.

The specific objectives, formulated in accordance with the Dublin Descriptors, are as follows:

1. Knowledge and Understanding
   Knowledge the health care frailties, organizational models, and care peculiarities of the inmate population and prison setting

2. Ability to Apply Knowledge and Understanding
   Manage nursing care in complex prison settings and in Protected Medicine facilities.

3. Autonomy of Judgment
   Develop critical judgment about ethical dilemmas and the crucial importance of interprofessional collaboration for holistic care of the inmate.

4. Communicative Skills
   Communicate professionally and effectively with the detained person and prison system workers, respecting confidentiality and promoting the caring relationship.

5. Learning Skills
   Learn about emerging issues and best practices in prison nursing.

Contents

Reflect on health and fragility in the penitentiary context

Understand the reality of healthcare in the penitentiary system, including some organizational models currently present in the Lombardy region

Reflect on potential value conflicts that may arise in the care of incarcerated individuals

Reflect on the importance of collaboration between the healthcare team (nurses, doctors, etc.) and security staff (prison officers) in order to create synergistic actions to ensure the health of incarcerated individuals

Understand some peculiar care situations that characterize the life of incarcerated individuals

Detailed program

Reflecting on health and frailty in the prison environment
-Physical and psychological conditions of prisoners >> Examine studies and statistics on the prevalence of mental disorders in prisons, considering stress factors, isolation and lack of social support. Analysing reports on chronic diseases, malnutrition, and access to medical care within prisons.

- Prison health policies >> Reflect on current health policies and their impact on prisoners' health, with a focus on initiatives to improve health care.

Understand the reality of healthcare in the penitentiary system, including some organizational models currently present in the Lombardy region

- Health care organisational models in prisons in Lombardy >>Examine some of the existing health care structures, the personnel employed, and the resources available.
- Integration with the National Health Service (SSN) >> Study how prisons collaborate with the SSN to provide health and psychological care to inmates.
- Case studies >> Analysing examples of good practice and critical issues

Reflect on possible conflicts of values that may arise in the care of the detained person

- Ethics and deontology in prison care >> Examine the ethical dilemmas faced by healthcare and security professionals, such as patient confidentiality versus security.
- Human rights >> Reflect on how prisoners' human rights are respected or violated in daily practice and how conflicts between security and prisoner welfare are managed.

Reflect on the importance of collaboration between health teams (nurse, doctor, etc.) and security teams (prison police) in order to implement synergetic actions to guarantee the health status of the detained person

- Collaboration models >> Study of effective collaboration models between health and security personnel.
- Joint training >> Analysis of joint training programmes and their impact on collaboration and prisoners' health.
- Practical experiences >> testimonies and case studies illustrating how collaboration has improved prisoners' health management.

Getting to know some peculiar care situations that characterise the life of the detained person

- Hunger strike >> Study of care guidelines and practices for dealing with hunger-striking inmates.

- Solitary confinement >> Analysis of the psychological and physical effects of prolonged isolation and mitigation strategies.
- Emergency situations >> Insight into how health emergencies are handled in prisons, including protocols and available resources.

Prerequisites

Defined by teaching regulations

Teaching form

4 hours delivered in face-to-face mode
4 hours delivered in face-to-face interactive mode (debate, case discussion, meeting with experts)

Textbook and teaching resource

DECRETO LEGISLATIVO 22 giugno 1999, n. 230 Riordino della medicina penitenziaria, a norma dell'articolo 5 della legge 30 novembre 1998, n. 419. https://www.normattiva.it/uri-res/N2Ls?urn:nir:stato:decreto.legislativo:1999-06-22;230!vig=

DECRETO DEL PRESIDENTE DEL CONSIGLIO DEI MINISTRI 1 aprile 2008 Modalita' e criteri per il trasferimento al Servizio sanitario nazionale delle funzioni sanitarie, dei rapporti di lavoro, delle risorse finanziarie e delle attrezzature e beni strumentali in materia di sanita' penitenziaria. (GU Serie Generale n.126 del 30-05-2008) https://www.gazzettaufficiale.it/eli/id/2008/05/30/08A03777/sg

Enggist, Stefan, Møller, Lars, Galea, Gauden & Udesen, Caroline. (2014). Prisons and health. World Health Organization. Regional Office for Europe. https://iris.who.int/handle/10665/128603

Ministero della Salute "Linee guida per l'assistenza sanitaria in carcere" https://www.salute.gov.it/imgs/C_17_pubblicazioni_781_ulteriorieallegati_ulteriorealegato_1_alleg.pdf

Internet sites for further information
https://www.sanitapenitenziaria.org/ Società Italiana di Medicina e Sanità Penitenziaria
https://www.who.int/europe/health-topics/prisons-and-health – OMS Europa Salute e Carcere
https://www.coe.int/en/web/cpt European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT)

Semester

second semester

Assessment method

frequency

Office hours

The lecture is available by appointment, which can be scheduled via email at massimo.alberio@unimib.it.

Sustainable Development Goals

GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING | QUALITY EDUCATION | PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS