



Course: SOCIAL MEDICINE

Course Coordinator: Tomislav Rukavina MD, PhD

Department: Social Medicine and Epidemiology

Study program: Integrated Undergraduate and Graduate University Study of Medicine in English

Study year: 1st

Academic year: 2021./2022.

SYLLABUS

Course description (a brief description of the course, general instructions, where and in what form the lessons are organized, necessary equipment, instructions for attendance and preparation for classes, student obligations, etc.):

The course **Social Medicine** is a first year compulsory course of Medical Studies in English. The course consists of 15 hours of lectures and 20 hours of seminars, leading to a total of 35 hours (2 **ECTS**). The course is conducted in the lecture rooms of the University of Rijeka, Faculty of Medicine. The lectures will be held online.

The mode and form of teaching may be changed depending on the epidemiological situation related to the COVID-19 epidemic. Students will be informed of any changes in time.

The goals of the course are introducing the students to the basic development of social medicine, the promotion of health and prevention of diseases. Lectures and seminars will explore the determinants of health and health inequalities between populations, how social factors influence medical knowledge, health care, health promotion and disease prevention. Students will learn about basic communication skills and the creation of population based preventive programs. They will get an overview of specific features of community-based organization of healthcare in disasters, the basics of health care and social care organization.

Course content:

This course will introduce students to the theory and practice of social medicine to enable them to recognize social influence on population health, organization of health and social care in regular and emergency conditions, most important health risks, ways of preventive action and health improvement.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

I. COGNITIVE DOMAIN - KNOWLEDGE

- Understand how social medicine can contribute to care by recognizing how social and economic forces influence who gets sick, what disease afflict them, which treatments are available to them
- Appreciate how knowledge of a community can enhance their ability to provide care to people from that community, recognize the social factors influence to health and the influence of population health on the society
- Understand and describe the meanings of health and disease, risk factors and evaluation of population health
- understand the complex origins of global health problems and how specific strategies can be implemented to change both global health policy and health care delivery
- recognize the types of disparities that exist according to race, gender, geography, and other parameters

II. PSYCHOMOTORIC DOMAIN – SKILLS

- Apply the insights of social medicine to develop solutions that could improve the delivery of health care on local, national and global scales.
- Imagine system of medicine and public health that might best eclipse the burden of disease
- Examine the influence of the determinants of health as well as ways and possibilities for population preventive actions

The way the classes are organized:

Classes are organized in form of lectures and seminars. Students will actively participate in the course through seminars, which they will prepare in collaboration with the instructors. The lectures will engage students by actively reflecting on various issues. Seminars will prepare students for independent problem solving and integrative thinking. Through seminars, students will be introduced to the impacts of social determinants and their negative influence on health as well as preventive measures. Active participation of students throughout the course will be encouraged through independent reading and seminars.

Students need to prepare the reading, which will be discussed in lectures and seminars. The final grade will be the sum of acquired points throughout the course and the final exam.

Each student will be assessed on class participation during seminars (demonstrated knowledge, understanding, problem solving, concluding, etc.). Other student activities are also evaluated such as

Assigned reading:

1. Social medicine (the script). University of Rijeka, Faculty of Medicine, Rijeka, 2017.
2. A Conceptual Framework for Action on the Social Determinants of Health. Social Determinants of Health Discussion Paper 2 (Policy and Practice). World Health Organization, Geneva, 2010. (Available at: http://www.who.int/sdhconference/resources/ConceptualframeworkforactiononSDH_eng.pdf)

Optional/additional reading:

1. Selected articles from relevant journals and books available on the Internet

COURSE TEACHING PLAN:**The list of lectures (with topics and descriptions):****Lecture 1: Definition and Tasks of Social Medicine**

Learning outcomes: Understand basic terminology and concepts of social medicine. Describe historical overview. Present the most important roles and tasks of social medicine.

Lecture 2: Determinants of Health

Learning outcomes: Identify and describe the most important factors that affect health.

Lecture 3: Health Inequalities

Learning outcomes: Recognize social inequalities and their impact on health.

Lecture 4: Special Populations and Their Specifics

Learning outcomes: Define special population groups. Recognize health needs and health care of special population groups.

Lecture 5: Health Promotion and Disease Prevention

Learning outcomes: Present and list organized ways of population – wide health promotion and disease prevention at the population level.

Lecture 6: Health Education

Learning outcomes: Define and describe basic health education concepts in terms of improving the health status of the population.

Lecture 7: Communication Skills

Learning outcomes: Learn basic communication skills for health professionals.

Lecture 8: Health in the Community - "Healthy Cities", "Healthy Counties"

Learning outcomes: Describe the basics of maintaining and improving health in community. Outline the features of local and regional projects in the organization of public health projects and their impact on community health. Recognize current trends in health promotion at the local and regional level.

Lecture 9: Health and Health Indicators

Learning outcomes: Define health indicators. List the most important indicators and measures of population health.

Lecture 10: International Health Organizations

Learning outcomes: Describe the organization and understand the tasks of the most important international health organizations.

Lecture 11: The Most Significant Health Problems of the Modern World

Learning outcomes: Identify the most significant risks for the health of the population. Describe the most important leading causes of mortality and morbidity. Recognize selected health statistics data of population and health condition (Croatia, world). List the main causes of global and local morbidity.

Lecture 12: Health Care

Learning outcomes: Understand and describe the organization of health care.

Lecture 13: Social Care

Learning outcomes: Define and describe legal frameworks of social welfare.

Lecture 14: Health Care in Emergencies

Learning outcomes: Understand the role of health care in emergencies situation.

Lecture 15: Globalization and Health

Learning outcomes: Recognize the influence of the modern world and globalization on the health status.

The list of seminars with descriptions:**Seminar 1: Lifestyle as Health Determinant**

Learning outcomes: Recognize the impact of lifestyle on health

Seminar 2: Quality of Life

Learning outcomes: understand the measurements of quality of life

Seminar 3: Healthy Ageing

Learning outcomes: recognize determinants of healthy ageing

Seminar 4: Poverty as Determinant of Health

Learning outcomes: understand the impact of poverty on health and healthcare acces

Seminar 5: Health Care System

Learning outcomes: recognized the strengths and weaknesses of different model of health care organizations

Seminar 6: Health Promotion

Learning outcomes: understand the value of health promotion

Seminar 7: Case study – debate

Students will work in subgroups on a given thematic unit with the help of a mentor and present the final seminar paper.

Students' obligations:

Students have to prepare seminars based on the assigned reading and participate in discussions. The mentor will evaluate students' participation in and preparation of the seminars (demonstrated knowledge, understanding, conclusions, seminar paper, etc.). The final grade will be the sum of acquired credits throughout the course and the final exam.

The final exam is in the form of multiple-choice test.

Assessment (exams, description of written / oral / practical exam, the scoring criteria):**Assessment (ECTS credits):**

The assessment of students is carried out in accordance to the current **Regulation of studies of the University of Rijeka**, and according to the **Regulation of Student Assessment at the Faculty of Medicine in Rijeka** (adopted by the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Medicine in Rijeka).

The students are evaluated during the course and on the final exam (a total of 100 credits).

Of a total of 100 credits, a student can acquire 50 credits during the course and 50 credits on the final exam.

I. Assessment during the course (max 50 credits):

a) active participation in seminars and paper presentation (20 credits)

b) writting seminar paper (30 credits)

a) Active participation in seminars and paper presentation (20 credits)

Point distribution:

excellent	20 credits
very good	15 credits
good	12 credits
sufficient	10 credits

b) Seminar paper (max 30 credits)

Point distribution:

excellent	30 credits
very good	25 credits
good	20 credits
sufficient	15 credits

II. Final exam (50 credits)

Specific competences are assessed on the final exam. The final exam is a multiple-choice test comprising 50 questions and credits are awarded only if the student scores at least 50% on the test.

The students who can take the final exam are:

- Students who acquired min 50% credits during the course (25 credits)

The students who can not take the final exam:

- Students who achieved 0 to 49.9 % credits during the course or who have 30% and more absences from classes. That student is **unsuccessful (1) F** and can not take the final exam, i.e. the course must be re – enrolled in the next academic year.

III. The final grade is the sum of the credits obtained during the course and on the final exam.

It is determined based on absolute distribution.

Final grade	
A (90 – 100%)	excellent (5)
B (75– 89,9%)	very good (4)
C (60 – 74,9%)	good (3)
D (50 – 59,9%)	sufficient (2)
F (students who achieved less than 25 credits during the course or who scored under 50% on the final exam)	insufficient (1)

Other important information regarding to the course:

Seminars are held during the course. For each class students should be prepared for discussion. It is mandatory to consult with the mentors. Mentors follow the progress of a group and of individual students. The seminar papers will be presented in the final seminar.

Students are required to submit their seminar paper (based on the instructions for writing seminar papers) and PowerPoint presentation not later than one week before the seminar presentation. Materials and all notices related to the course are on the platform *Merlin*.

COURSE SCHEDULE (for academic year 2021./2022.)

Date	Lectures (time and place)	Seminars (time and place)	Instructor
11/10/2021	L1-2 (08–10) (online)		Prof. Tomislav Rukavina, PhD
11/10/2021	L3 (10-11) (online)		Assist. Prof. Lovorka Bilajac, PhD
12/10/2021		S1-A (13–16) lecture room 4	Assoc. Prof. Vanja Vasiljev, PhD
12/10/2021		S2-B (13–16) lecture room 5	Assist. Prof. Lovorka Bilajac, PhD
15/10/2021	L4 (14-15) (online)		Prof. Tomislav Rukavina, MD, PhD
15/10/2021	L5 (15-16) (online)		Darko Roviš, PhD
18/10/2021	L6-7 (08–10) (online)		Assoc. Prof. Vanja Vasiljev, PhD
18/10/2021	L8 (10-11) (online)		Darko Roviš, PhD
19/10/2021		S2-A (13–16) lecture room 4	Assist. Prof. Lovorka Bilajac, PhD
19/10/2021		S1-B (13–16) lecture room 5	Assoc. Prof. Vanja Vasiljev, PhD
25/10/2021	L9-10 (08–10) (online)		Prof. Đulija Malatestinić, PhD
25/10/2021	L11 (10–11) (online)		Prof. Tomislav Rukavina, PhD
26/10/2021		S3-A (13–16) lecture room 4	Assoc. Prof. Vanja Vasiljev, PhD
26/10/2021		S4-B (13–16) lecture room 5	Assist. Prof. Lovorka Bilajac, PhD
02/11/2021		S4-A (13 – 16) lecture room 4	Assist. Prof. Lovorka Bilajac, PhD
02/11/2021		S3-B (13 – 16) lecture room 5	Assoc. Prof. Vanja Vasiljev, PhD
08/11/2021	L12-13 (8-10) (online)		Assoc. Prof. Vanja Vasiljev, PhD
09/11/2021		S6-A (13–16) lecture room 4	Darko Roviš, PhD

09/11/2021		S5-B (13-16) lecture room 5	Denis Juraga
15/11/2021	L14 (8-9) (online)		Assoc. Prof. Vanja Vasiljev, PhD
15/11/2021	L15 (9-10) (online)		Prof. Tomislav Rukavina, PhD
16/11/2021		S6-B (13-16) lecture room 4	Darko Roviš, PhD
16/11/2021		S5-A (13-16) lecture room 5	Denis Juraga
will be agreed with students		S7-A lecture room	Assist. Prof. Lovorka Bilajac, PhD
will be agreed with students		S7-B lecture room	Assoc. Prof. Vanja Vasiljev, PhD

List of lectures and seminars:

	LECTURES (Topics)	Teaching hours	Location/Lecture room
L1	Definition and Tasks of Social Medicine	1	
L2	Determinants of Health	1	
L3	Health Inequalities	1	
L4	Special Population Groups and Their Peculiarities	1	
L5	Health Promotion and Prevention of Disease	1	
L6	Health Education	1	
L7	Communication Skills	1	
L8	Health in the Community- "Healthy Cities", "Healthy Counties"	1	
L9	Health and Health Indicators	1	
L10	International Health Organizations	1	
L11	Leading Health Challenges of the 21. century	1	
L12	Health Care	1	
L13	Social Care	1	
L14	Health Care in Emergencies	1	
L15	Globalization and Health	1	
	Total	15	

	SEMINARS (Topics)	Teaching hours	Location/Lecture room
S1	Lifestyle as Determinant of Health	3	
S2	Healthy Ageing	3	
S3	Quality of Life	3	
S4	Poverty as a Health Determinant	3	
S5	Health Care System	3	
S6	Health Promotion	3	
S7	Case study - debate	2	
	Total	20	

	FINAL EXAM DATES
1.	02/02/2022
2.	16/02/2022
3.	07/09/2022
4.	21/09/2022
5.	