

SOCIOLOGY OF MEDICINE	
GENERAL INFORMATIONS	
Course coordinator	Asst. Prof. Ivan Miškulin, MEng, PhD
Assistant/Associate	Prof. Maja Miškulin, MD, PhD Nika Pavlović, MEngProc, PhD
Study Programme	Undergraduate University Study of Medical Laboratory Diagnostics
Status of the course	mandatory
Year of study, semester	1 st year, 2 nd semester
ECTS	2
Workload (hours)	Lectures: 15; Seminars: 5; Exercises: 10
Expected number of students	30-35
COURSE DESCRIPTION	
Course objectives	
To enable students to understand and to interpret the impact of various social factors on the health of the population and to effectively manage the health risks arising from these impacts, all for the purpose of improving and preserving the health of the population.	
Enrolment requirements and entry competencies	
In accordance with the conditions for enrolment in the 1 st year of this study programme.	
Learning outcomes at the Programme level	
2.6, 2.7, 3.2	
Learning outcomes	
<p>After completing lectures, seminars and exercises, independent study and passing the exam, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. present the medical and sociological concepts of normal and pathological. 2. distinguish between individual social factors of disease and social inequalities in health and health care. 3. comment on different points of view on the concept of health and different concepts of disease with an emphasis on the sociological concept of disease and to evaluate the relationship between stress and social support as well as the relationship between gender and health. 4. compare the features of the basic models of mental illnesses or disorders, to distinguish between the use of individual health indicators, and to critically evaluate different models of health systems. 5. assess the relationship between stigma and mental health, to valorize the peculiarities of domestic violence and the harassment at the workplace (mobbing). 6. review the sociological aspect of addiction and the characteristics of complementary and alternative medicine. 7. evaluate the relationship between stress and health and medicine and the media, as well as the specifics of communication in the healthcare system. 8. support patients' rights, to identify social factors of illness, and to analyze the relationship between religiosity and health. 	
Course content	
<p>Lectures: Sociology of Medicine: Introduction and Definition. The subject of study, origin and development of the sociology of medicine. Medical and sociological concepts of normal and pathological. Health. Health as an ideal and/or as a norm. Biomedical, sociomedical, laic, professional, static and dynamic definitions of health. Health promotion movement.</p>	

Disease. Pre-scientific, medical and sociological concepts of disease. Sociological concepts of disease – disease as a deviance, functionalist approach to the analysis of disease as a deviance, labeling theory, disease as a maladjustment, disease and the breakdown theory.

Mental diseases and/or mental disorders. Conceptual definition. Basic models of mental disorders - medical, psychoanalytic, sociodynamic, behavioristic, sociological.

Stress and social support. Concept and forms of social support. Methods of measuring social support. The relationship between stress and social support. Stress and disease. Physiological processes and stress. Social factors and stress. Post-traumatic stress disorder.

Social inequalities in health and health care. Social differentiation. Social stratification. Social differences and inequalities. Determining health inequalities and explaining their origin. Social determination of health. Health inequalities and principles of equity in health. Emergent forms of health inequalities.

Health indicators. Conceptual definition. Types of health indicators. Use of health indicators.

Health behavior. Definitions of basic forms of health behavior. A general theory of behavior. Theories about health behavior. Andersen's model of health care utilization.

Gender and health. Differences in health between the genders. Patterns of observed differences in individual countries. The influence of marital status and gender on health.

Sociological aspects of risky sexual behavior. Definition of risky sexual behavior. Theoretical modeling of risky sexual behavior. Adolescents as a risk group. Sexual risk factors in the adolescent and adult population.

Models of health systems. Definition of the health care system. Trends in healthcare systems. Basic goals of the health system. Organizational models of health systems. Value systems and the organization of healthcare.

Seminars:

Stigma and mental health. Definition of mental health and stigma. Mental disorder and stigma. Self-stigmatization. Stigma and human rights. Stigma within the healthcare system.

Family violence. Definition. Types. Frequency of occurrence in the world, Europe and the Republic of Croatia. Risk factors for incidence. Approach of health professionals. Prevention measures.

Harassment at the workplace (Mobbing). Definition. Types. Victims of mobbing. Reactions of victims of mobbing. Consequences of mobbing on health. An abuser. Prevention of mobbing. Legislation and situation in the Republic of Croatia.

Sociological aspects of addiction. Nicotine addiction. Addiction to psychoactive drugs. Addiction to alcohol.

Complementary and alternative medicine. Definition. Types. Effectiveness and misconceptions. Expansion in the world, Europe and the Republic of Croatia. Food additives. Functional food.

Exercises:

Stress and health. Exposure to stress in everyday life. The impact of stress on health. Social environment and stress.

The importance of cooperation and teamwork in providing health care. Definition of teamwork. Team leader. Team interactions. Cooperation of doctors and laboratory workers.

Communication in the healthcare system. Communication between healthcare professionals and patients. Communication between healthcare professionals. Communication barriers. Communication errors in the relationship with the patient. Communication with the group.

Medicine and media. The relationship between journalists and health workers. The role of the media in crisis situations. Media as a source of health information. The role of the media in preventive campaigns.

Patients' rights. The patient's right to truth and decision. Patient rights and partner relations in the healthcare system. Patients' rights and clinical trials - the meaning and importance of informed consent. European Declaration on the Advancement of Patients' Rights. The position of patients in the Republic of Croatia - legislation and practice.

Social factors of the disease. Amount of income. Education. Employment. Social position. Way of life and lifestyle.

Religiosity and health. The relationship between religion and physical health. The relationship between religion and mental health. Sociology of the relationship between religion and health.

Mode of teaching

Lectures, Seminars, Exercises.

Student obligations

Attending all types of classes is mandatory and the student is required to participate in all types of knowledge assessment. The successful performance of seminars and exercises requires prior preparation of the student. The student can be justifiably absent from 30% of each type of classes.

Monitoring student work (*Connectivity of learning outcomes, teaching methods and grading*)

Exam method: Written exam.

Teaching activity	ECTS	Learning outcome	Student activity	Assessment methods	Grade points	
					Min.	Max.
Attending classes	0.1	1-8	Class attendance	Attendance record	2	4
Seminars	0.3	5,6	Attendance and active participation in seminars by preparing a seminar presentation	Assessment of the quality of the seminar presentation	6	12
Exercises	0.6	7,8	Performing exercises	Assessment of the quality of the performed exercise	12	24
Final exam	1.0	1-8	Studying for the final exam	Written exam	30	60
Total	2.0				50	100

Evaluation of the final written exam:

Percentage of correct answers (%)	Grade points
60.00-64.99	30
65.00-69.99	35
70.00-74.99	40
75.00-79.99	44
80.00-84.99	48
85.00-89.99	52
90.00-94.99	56
95.00-100.00	60

Calculation of the final grade:

Grade points earned in the final exam are added to the grade points earned during the course. Grading in the ECTS system is done by absolute distribution, i.e. based on total achievement and is compared to the numerical system in the following manner: A - excellent (5): 80-100 grade points; B - very good (4): 70-79.99 grade points; C - good (3): 60-69.99 grade points; D - sufficient (2): 50-59.99 grade points.

Required reading (available in the library and through other media)

Title	Number of copies in the library	Availability through other media
Cerjan-Letica G, Letica S, Babić-Bosanac S, Mastilica M, Orešković S. Sociology of Medicine. Medicinska naklada, Zagreb, 2003.	12	

Additional reading

1. Selected texts: Sociology of Medicine – seminar (in Croatian). Škola narodnog zdravlja „Andrija Štampar“, Zagreb, 2009.
2. Štifanić M. Sociology of Medicine (in Croatian). Adamić, Rijeka, 2001.
3. Published recent scientific research in the subject area.

Course evaluation procedures

Anonymous, quantitative, standardised student survey on the course and the teacher's work implemented by the Quality improvement office of the Faculty of Medicine Osijek.

Note /Other

E-learning is not included in the class quota, but it is used in teaching and it contains links to various sites and video and audio materials available on websites.