

**COURSE DATA****DATA SUBJECT**

Code: 34453
Name: Medical psychology
Cycle: Undergraduate Studies
ECTS Credits: 6
Academic year: 2025-26

STUDY (S)

Degree	Center	Acad. year	Period
1204 - Degree in Medicine	Facultat de Medicina i Odontologia	2	First quarter

SUBJECT-MATTER

Degree	Subject-matter	Character
1204 - Degree in Medicine	Psychology	BASIC

COORDINATION

BALANZA MARTINEZ VICENTE

SUMMARY

The content of this subject is referred to:

- The description of the psychological mechanisms that operate in the behaviour and its determinants (biological, psychological and social).
- The description of the main psychical functions and their psychopathology.
- Content applied to health psychology: hospitalization, behaviour of disease and death.
- The relations of stress-disease.

PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE**RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER SUBJECTS OF THE SAME DEGREE**

There are no specified enrollment restrictions with other subjects of the curriculum.



OTHER REQUIREMENTS

COMPETENCES / LEARNING OUTCOMES

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Acknowledge diversity and multiculturality.

Be able to formulate hypothesis, gather information and evaluate it critically in order to solve problems by following the scientific method.

Capacity for communicating with professional circles from other domains.

Consideration of ethics as a fundamental value in the professional practise.

Criticism and self-criticism skills.

Establish a good interpersonal communication which may allow professionals show empathy and talk to the patients efficiently,as well as to their relatives, the media and other professionals.

Knows how to evaluate modifications in clinical parameters at different ages.

Knows how to perform a complete anamnesis, focused on the patient and orientated to various pathologies, interpreting its meaning.

Knows the biological, psychological and social foundations of personality and behaviour.

Proper organisation and planning of the workload and timing in professional activities.

Recognise the standards of normal human behaviour and its alterations.

Team-working skills and engaging with other people in the same line of work or different.

Understand and recognise the effects of growth, development and aging which affect individuals and their social environment.

Understands the processes of cognitive, emotional and psychosocial development of childhood and adolescence.

Working capacity to function in an international context.

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS



1. THEORY

1. Introduction to Medical Psychology: teaching guide presentation.
2. Concept of medical psychology. Psychological normality and abnormality. Models of disease.
3. Biological foundations of the human behaviour.
4. Psychodynamic foundations of the behaviour.
5. Cognitive and behavioral foundations of the behaviour.
6. Social and familiar foundations of the behaviour.
7. Evolutionist foundations of the human behaviour.
8. Personality: biological, psychological and social foundations.
9. Personality: motivational, dynamic and cognitive component.
10. Evolutive psychology: the child. Family as protective and risk factor.
11. Evolutive psychology: the teenager.
12. Evolutive psychology: the adult. The old age.
13. Introduction to psychopathology exploration.
14. Evolutive psychology: attention and consciousness. Psychopathology.
15. Psychological functions: the perception. Psychopathology.
16. Psychological functions: memory and learning. Psychopathology (I).
17. Psychological functions: memory and learning. Psychopathology (II).
18. Psychological functions: thinking and language. Psychopathology (I).
19. Psychological functions: thinking and language. Psychopathology (II).
20. Psychological functions: intelligence. Psychopathology.
21. Psychological functions: affectivity. Psychopathology (I).
22. Psychological functions: affectivity. Psychopathology (II).
23. Psychological functions: Sexuality. Psychopathology.
24. Psychological functions: nutrition. Psychopathology.
25. Psychological functions: psychomotricity. Psychopathology.
26. Psychological functions: impulse control. Addictive behaviour.
27. Psychological functions: the pain.
28. Psychological functions: sleeping and waking.
29. Disease behaviour. Psychological aspects of hospitalization.
30. Death: psychological and psychopathological reactions before death. Suicidal behaviour
31. Stress and disease: social support, vital events and coping mechanisms.

2. PRACTICES

a) Through the approach and problem solving and analysis of psychopathology in clinical cases that promote maximum student participation, the following topics are addressed in mandatory attendance seminars:

- S1: Impact of the disease on everyday life (I).
- S2: Impact of the disease on everyday life (II).
- S3: Impact of the disease on everyday life (III).
- S4. Evaluation of psychopathology in children.
- S5. Evaluation of psychopathology in adults: personality.
- S6. Evaluation of psychopathology in the elderly: cognition.



- S7. Evaluation of psychopathology in adults: affectivity and anxiety.
- S8. Evaluation of psychopathology in adults: perception.
- S9. Evaluation of psychopathology in adults: thinking.
- S10. Evaluation of psychopathology in adults: grief and suicide.

b) Training in clinical cases of psychopathology. Video (up to 9 hours). This training will be done at the end of the semester during in-person hours, including tutorials.

WORKLOAD

PRESENCIAL ACTIVITIES

Activity	Hours
Theory	33,00
Seminar	27,00
Total hours	60,00

NON PRESENCIAL ACTIVITIES

Activity	Hours
Attendance at other activities	0,00
Individual or group project	25,00
Independent study and work	55,00
Preparation of lessons	10,00
Preparation for assessment activities	0,00
Resolution of case studies	0,00
Total hours	90,00

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

All the theoretical classes are taught by the same professor in the four groups, to ensure the homogeneity of the contents.

For the Psychopathology syllabus, the flipped classroom methodology will be applied in a flexible way. Flipped classroom consists of three stages: (1) autonomous study of the theory contents by the student before the face-to-face class; (2) during the face-to-face hours, teaching-learning activities other than the master class are developed; (3) subsequent autonomous consolidation of learning.

To that end, the theoretical contents will be available in the virtual classroom before the face-to-face class. The time of the face-to-face class will be used in a flexible way Inverted Classroom, with the possibility of
a) Resolving students' doubts and controversial aspects of the theoretical content
b) Highlighting the essential aspects of each thematic unit
c) In the Psychopathology syllabus, learning will be based on the presentation and discussion of real clinical cases (videos) and clinical vignettes that illustrate the psychopathology of each psychic function.

In the rest of the theory syllabus, the traditional methodology (master class) will be followed.



The gender perspective, the respect for diversity, and the sustainable development goals (SDGs) will be incorporated into teaching, whenever possible.

EVALUATION

a. Traditional theoretical evaluation.

This part represents 60% of the final grade. It will be carried out by means of a written test that deals with the contents of the theoretical program and aims to evaluate knowledge acquisition. The contents of the test will be the same for all groups. This exam will consist of 40 multiple choice test questions. Each correct question will be worth 1 point, unanswered questions will be worth 0 points and every 3 questions answered incorrectly will subtract 1 point.

b. Assessment of practical skills.

This part represents 40% of the final grade. On the same day of the theoretical exam, a practical exam will be held that consists of two parts:

a) Identification of psychopathological symptoms in a video portraying a clinical case (20% of the grade)

b) Identification of psychopathology in a written text of a clinical case (10% of the grade). As training, throughout the semester several texts will be provided with clinical cases and their corresponding resolution.

In the exam, students are required to briefly describe the mental symptoms that appear in the video and in the text.

The continuous evaluation of practical competences (10% of the grade) is carried out through the evaluation of participation in the following seminars:

* Seminars 1-3 are assessed by means of a presentation (in PowerPoint) delivered in class (on a voluntary basis) or handed to professors for grading. This part represents a maximum of 0.5 points out of 10 (5% of the final grade). The criteria for scoring this presentation are available in the virtual classroom.

* The objective of seminar 6 "Assessment of psychopathology in the elderly: cognition" is to sensitize students to detect cognitive impairment in older adults and train them to use a standardized instrument for screening purposes: the Mini Cognitive Examination (MEC). The seminar encompasses training in the use of the MEC, followed by a scoring exercise based on a clinical case. The exercise is delivered to the teacher at the end of the seminar for subsequent evaluation. It is assigned a maximum score of 0.5 points out of 10 (5% of the final grade) and each error made subtracts 0.05 points.

Voluntary academic activities on transversal skills will also be proposed through teaching innovation projects or other extracurricular activities outside of teaching hours. Students participating in these



activities will be able to get up to 0.25 extra points that will be added to the rest of the points in the final grade.

Of utmost importance:

- The theoretical exam (test) will be passed with the equivalent of 5 points out of 10. Passing the exam test is mandatory to pass the course.

- Should a student fail the test and passes the practical part, the course will be suspended, but the grade of the practical evaluation will be saved for the next call.

Attendance at practical activities is mandatory. The student is considered to meet this requirement if he or she has attended a minimum of 80% of these activities and has adequately justified the impossibility of attending the remaining sessions due to the occurrence of a cause of force majeure. It will be essential to comply with this requirement to pass the subject.

Students are reminded of the importance of carrying out evaluation surveys on all the teaching staff of the degree subjects.

REFERENCES

BASIC:

- Lahera Forteza, Roca Bennasar y Gilis Planas. Psicología médica: un abordaje biopsicosocial de la medicina. Madrid: Editorial Medica Panamericana, 2024.
- Kaplan-Sadock. Sinopsis de Psiquiatría. Barcelona: Waverly Hispánica. 11ª ed. 2015.
- Vallejo-Ruiloba. Introducción a la Psicopatología y la Psiquiatría. 8ª ed. Barcelona: Elsevier Masson, 2015. <https://www.clinicalkey.com/student/content/toc/3-s2.0-C20130152610>
- Sanjuan J. Tratar la Mente o Tratar el Cerebro. Hacia una integración de la Psicoterapia y los Psicofármacos. Bilbao: Desclee de Brouwer, 2016.
- Además, los textos y material audiovisual específicos que se recomienden para cada unidad teórica.
- Recursos e-Salut: ClinicalKey Student Medicina, Odontología y Enfermería [<https://uv-es.libguides.com/RecursosSalut>] Acces Medicina [https://uv-es.libguides.com/Access_Medicina] Médica Panamericana [https://uv-es.libguides.com/Medica_Panamericana]