

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

Code: 34456
Name: University, health and society
Cycle: Undergraduate Studies
ECTS Credits: 4.5
Academic year: 2025-26

STUDY (S)

Degree	Center	Acad. year	Period
1204 - Degree in Medicine	Facultat de Medicina i Odontologia	1	Second quarter

SUBJECT-MATTER

Degree	Subject-matter	Character
1204 - Degree in Medicine	Social medicine and communication skills	COMPULSORY

COORDINATION

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SUMMARY

The subject of Health, University and Society offers a contextualized view of the current problems of health, illness and healthcare assistance and the current model of university professionalization. It includes reasoned, critical and founded knowledge of the present signification of medical and health sciences and their practice, including good understanding of scientific methods in medicine.

Therefore, the subject expects the students to recognize the social, cultural and environmental factors of health and disease, as well as elements that give cohesion and identity to the health professions as a result of a historical process. The student should understand the health science and medical practice as a reality in construction, subjected to rapid and continuous change, so he can analyze the challenges and opportunities of health of the XXI century.

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

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



OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Other previous specific knowledge to the general college student are not necessary.

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.

Develop ones professional practise with a respectful attitude towards other health professionals, acquiring team work 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.

Is aware of healthcare planning administration at a global scale, in Europe, Spain and the autonomous communities.

Know how to use IT in clinical, therapeutic and preventive activities, and those of research.

Know how to use the sources of clinical and biomedical information available, and value them critically in order to obtain, organise, interpret and communicate scientific and sanitary information.

Knows, evaluates and uses technology and sources of clinical and biomedical information to obtain, organise, interpret and communicate clinical, sanitary and scientific information.

Knows how to evaluate risk factors and disease prevention. Recognises health determinants in population. Health indicators.

Knows the economic and social implications which medical practise entails, considering effectiveness and efficiency criteria.

Knows the principles and applies methods of preventive medicine and public health.

Knows the strategies which exist in health and environment, food safety and occupational health care

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

Recognise ones limitations and the necessity of maintaining and updating ones professional competence, giving special importance to an autonomous way of learningnew content and techniques, and the importance of motivation for quality achievement.



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

Understands basic concepts of epidemiology and demographics.

Understand the importance and the limitations of scientific thinking in the study, prevention and management of diseases.

Working capacity to function in an international context.

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS

THEORY

Health and Illness in Today's World

1. Health and Illness
2. The Social and Cultural Dimension of Illness
3. Illness and Population
4. The Distribution of Dominant Diseases
5. Health Inequalities
6. Gender and Health
7. Health, Environment, and Globalization
8. Migration and Health

Today's Medicine

9. Modern (Western) Medicine
10. Complementary and Alternative Medicine (CAM)
11. Folk Medicine
12. Medical-Healthcare Pluralism

The Actors

13. Health Occupations and Professions
14. Medical Training
15. Medical Specialization
16. The Relationship Between Patients and Health Professionals

Institutions

17. Healthcare Models
18. Healthcare Institutions
19. International Health Organizations
20. Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)

Challenges

21. New Technologies
22. Global Health



PRACTICES

Seminars

1. The Experience of Illness (groups)
2. The Language of the Health Sciences
3. Health Inequalities
4. Health, the Environment, and Globalization
5. Medical-Healthcare Pluralism
6. Healthcare Models
7. New Technologies and Medicine
8. Presentation of Group Work

Regulated tutoring

WORKLOAD

PRESENCIAL ACTIVITIES

Activity	Hours
Tutorials	4,00
Theory	25,00
Seminar	16,00
Total hours	45,00

NON PRESENCIAL ACTIVITIES

Activity	Hours
Attendance at other activities	2,50
Individual or group project	20,00
Independent study and work	18,00
Preparation of lessons	15,00
Preparation for assessment activities	12,00
Resolution of case studies	0,00
Total hours	67,50

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

- **Theory classes** (22 Thematic Units)

The lessons use a model of interactive exposition through a slide presentation available for the students and a series of complementary materials: texts, audiovisual documents and websites. The "Aula Virtual" is used for the exchange of teaching materials.

- **Seminars** (8 Thematic Units)



They are developed as a seminar with two groups of students (between 30 and 45). These groups will make a presentation and discussion session of each of the topics: medical terminology, primary health care, health national systems, etc. The session is made through slides, texts and other materials. The students develop their work and deliver it in the folder of tasks in the Aula Virtual in the deadline established in the teaching guide.

- Tutorials

The students form groups of 4 students to fulfil a research work around one of the proposed topics, related with the teaching program. A tutored session is established to discuss the draft of their proposal and at the end of the course, a session with an oral presentation of their work, which is delivered also under the format of a research report.

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

EVALUATION

Theoretical assessment: 60% of the final grade.

It is carried out by means of a written test which assesses the knowledge of the contents of the program. Six questions are proposed to the student, of which she/he must choose and develop four of them. They are open questions that require a broad development of the topic, structuring, ordering of ideas and content. The student has 90 minutes to take the exam.

Practical assessment: 40% of the final grade.

It is done through the permanent and continuous evaluation of the work done by the students in the practice sessions and tutored work, which are submitted to the Aula Virtual and evaluated in full and individually. The originality, the knowledge, the reasoning ability, the expository order and the formal aspects according with the patterns of an academic work are evaluated.

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.

In order to pass the subject, it is necessary to obtain at least 40% of the maximum mark in each part of the subject (theory and practice).

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



REFERENCES

Basics

- Barona Vilar, J.L. (coord.) (2023). Manual de historia de la medicina. Valencia: Tirant Humanidades.
- Birn, A.-E., Pillay, Y. & Holtz, T.H. (2017). Textbook of Global Health. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Carel, H. (2018). Illness. The Cry of the Flesh, 3^a ed. Londres: Routledge.
- López Piñero, J.M. & Terrada Ferrandis, M.L. (2000). Introducción a la medicina. Barcelona: Crítica.
- Proyecto Saberes en Acción (IILP/SCHCT) (<https://sabersenaccio.iec.cat/es/>).
- Saborido, C. (2020). Filosofía de la medicina. Madrid: Tecnos.

Additional

- Barona Vilar, J.L. (1991). Introducció a la medicina. Valencia: Universitat de València.
- Barona Vilar, J.L. (2004). Salud, tecnología y saber médico. Madrid, Editorial Universitaria Ramón Areces.
- Cooter, R. & Pickstone, J. (eds.) (2003). Companion to Medicine in the Twentieth Century. Londres/Nueva York: Routledge.
- McKeon, T. (1990). Los orígenes de las enfermedades humanas. Barcelona: Crítica.
- Pons, J. & Silvestre, J (eds.) (2011). Los orígenes del Estado de Bienestar en España, 1900-1945: los seguros de accidentes, vejez, desempleo y enfermedad. Zaragoza: Prensas Universitarias de Zaragoza.
- Vicens, J. (1995). El valor de la salud. Una reflexión sociológica sobre la calidad de vida. Madrid, Siglo XXI.
- World Health Statistics Report 2024 (2024) Ginebra: World Health Organisation.

RECURSOS e-Salut:

- ClinicalKey Student Medicina, Odontologia 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]