

**COURSE DATA****DATA SUBJECT****Code:** 34729**Name:** Health, society and culture**Cycle:** Undergraduate Studies**ECTS Credits:** 4.5**Academic year:** 2026-27**STUDY (S)**

Degree	Center	Acad. year	Period
1206 - Degree in Dentistry	Facultat de Medicina i Odontologia	2	First quarter

SUBJECT-MATTER

Degree	Subject-matter	Character
1206 - Degree in Dentistry	Society and communication	COMPULSORY

COORDINATION

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SUMMARY

This subject aims to introduce the student to the university and professional world they have chosen to join, in an integrative way in the face of the increasing diversification and current complexity of university studies and professional reality.

To achieve this, it will provide a contextualized view of current health, disease, and healthcare issues, as well as the current model of university professionalization, including reasoned, critical, and well-founded knowledge of the current significance of medical-health sciences and their practice, with special reference to dentistry.

It will also provide resources and tools to understand other ways of conceiving the world, health, and disease, which can be used when necessary for the practice of their profession.

All this undoubtedly contributes to the application of professional values of excellence, altruism, sense of duty, responsibility, integrity, and honesty in the practice of the profession, to recognize the need to maintain professional competence, and to know how to approach professional practice respecting the autonomy of the patient, their beliefs, and their culture.



It is a mandatory semester-long subject taught in the second year of the Dentistry degree. The area of history of science is responsible for its teaching.

The subject has a theoretical-practical nature; the contents developed generally or schematically in the theoretical classes are complemented with the activities proposed or developed in the seminars and practical classes.

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

1206 - Degree in Dentistry

Comprender la importancia de desarrollar una práctica profesional con respeto a la autonomía del paciente, a sus creencias y cultura.

Comprender y reconocer los aspectos sociales y psicológicos relevantes al tratamiento de pacientes.

Conocer del método científico y tener capacidad crítica para valorar los conocimientos establecidos y la información novedosa. Ser capaz de formular hipótesis, recolectar y valorar de forma crítica la información para la resolución de problemas, siguiendo el método científico.

Conocer e identificar los problemas psicológicos y físicos derivados de la violencia de género para capacitar a los estudiantes en la prevención, la detección precoz, la asistencia, y la rehabilitación de las víctimas de esta forma de violencia.

Conocer los efectos del tabaco en la salud oral y participar en las medidas que ayuden al paciente que desea cesar el hábito tabáquico. Igualmente, conocer las complejas interacciones entre los factores ambientales, sociales y conductuales con la salud oral y general.

Conocer los elementos esenciales de la profesión de dentista, incluyendo los principios éticos y las responsabilidades legales.

Proporcionar un enfoque global de los cuidados orales y aplicar los principios de promoción de la salud y prevención de las enfermedades bucodentarias.

Reconocer los determinantes de la salud bucal en la población, tanto los genéticos como los dependientes del estilo de vida, demográficos, ambientales, sociales, económicos, psicológicos y culturales.

Reconocer que el paciente es el centro de atención y que todas las interacciones, incluyendo prevención, diagnóstico, planificación y ejecución del tratamiento y mantenimiento, deben buscar su mejor interés, evitando cualquier tipo de discriminación y respetando la confidencialidad.



DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS

1. University and Professionalization

- 1.- The current university and professional model.
- 2.- Origins of universities and their role in healthcare professionalization.
- 3.- The position of dentistry among healthcare professions. Professional plurality and its social function.
- 4.- Structure and internal organization of the current Spanish university. The University of Valencia.
- 5.- Social, scientific, and technical factors of medical and dental specialization. Clinical specialties. Surgical specialties.

2. The Science and Practice of Dentistry

- 6.- Structure of medical and dental knowledge and practice.
- 7.- The scientific foundations of the study of health and disease. The scientific method in dentistry.
- 8.- Dental terminology.
- 9.- The study of the structures and functions of the body, mind, and social dimension of the human being: The basic sciences.
- 10.- Pathology and clinical practice. General pathology and special pathology. Diagnosis, prognosis, and therapeutic indication.
- 11.- Therapeutics: its elements or objects and techniques: Pharmacotherapy, Physical therapy, Psychotherapy, and Surgery. Dental technique.
- 12.- Healthcare in dentistry. The clinical act and the dentist-patient relationship.
- 13.- The social organization of care and prevention. The different models of collectivized care.
- 14.- International Organizations: from Health Conferences to the WHO. The role of non-governmental organizations in promoting health, preventing diseases, and providing healthcare.

3. Health in the Modern World (Introduction to the Sociology and Anthropology of Health)

- 15.- The concept of health and disease. The cultural dimension of health and disease. Health indicators.
- 16.- The right to health as a fundamental right.
- 17.- The unequal distribution of health, disease, and death. Factors that determine it.
- 18.- Child health. Women's health. Gender relations, health, and society. Clinical manifestation of gender relations. Gender biases in diagnoses and treatments. Sexual health and reproductive rights. Violence against women.
- 19.- Health and globalization: immigration, environment, and poverty. Immigration and health in Spanish society.
- 20.- Medical plurality and pluralism. Medical and dental plurality in the Valencian Community



4. Dentistry and Medical Systems

20.- Medical plurality and pluralism. Medical and dental plurality in the Valencian Community
21.- Popular dentistry, complementary medicines, and multiculturalism

5. Resources for study and research

- 1.- Methodological analysis of dental texts and introduction to experimental pathology
- 2.- Structure of modern dental language. Terminological analysis of current dental texts
- 3.- Sociocultural determinants of health and disease. Case study
- 4.- Analysis of the socio-economic and cultural factors determining prevalent diseases in society. Case study
- 5.- Social repercussions of diseases. Case study
- 6.- Material, iconographic, and anthropological sources on empirical-belief medical systems and scientific systems
- 7.- Material, iconographic, and bibliographic sources on the development of the dental profession, science, and technique in Spain
- 8.- Social research in dentistry I: Guide for data collection on popular dentistry: The patient and their environment
- 9.- Social research in dentistry II: Guide for data collection on the social image of different healthcare professionals in the Valencian Community. Differences and similarities with the dentist. University and professionalization.

WORKLOAD

PRESENCIAL ACTIVITIES

Activity	Hours
Theory	25,00
Classroom practices	20,00
Total hours	45,00

NON PRESENCIAL ACTIVITIES

Activity	Hours
Attendance at other activities	0,00
Individual or group project	25,00
Independent study and work	25,00
Preparation of lessons	12,50
Preparation for assessment activities	0,00
Resolution of case studies	5,00
Total hours	67,50



TEACHING METHODOLOGY

The face-to-face activities are of a theoretical-practical nature:

On one hand, lectures that will introduce students to basic knowledge and provide a conceptual overview of the different thematic blocks.

On the other hand, practical exercises that will be conducted individually to solve practical cases or to issue brief reports in the questionnaires proposed during seminars.

Supervised group projects will involve preparing an oral presentation or a written report. Their development will be monitored by the professor in mandatory tutorials.

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

EVALUATION

The final grade will be based on the evaluation of attendance and active participation (continuous theoretical-practical assessment) (30%), the evaluation of supervised work (30%), and a written exam (40%).

It is a requirement to be eligible for advancing to the next examination session that the student has successfully completed all practical activities.

Attendance at practical activities is mandatory. A student is considered to have met this requirement if they have attended at least 80% of these activities and have properly justified any absences from the remaining sessions due to force majeure. Fulfilling this requirement is essential in order to pass the course.

Students are reminded of the importance of completing evaluations for all faculty teaching this course.

REFERENCES

BASIC

- Fresquet, J.L. Aguirre, C.P. (2004) Salut, malaltia i cultura, Valencia, PUV.
- Fresquet, J.L. et al. La colección históricomédica de la Universidad de Valencia: exposiciones y



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- Jablowsky, S. (1992) Diccionario ilustrado de odontología, Madrid, Panamericana.
- Kanner, L. (1928) Folk Lore of the Teeth, New York, McMillan.
- Klinge, B.; Ericson, D.; Matsson, L. (1992) La boca: dientes y tratamiento dental, Barcelona, Doyma, 112 pp.
- López Piñero, J.M. (1990) Lecciones de historia de la odontología, Valencia, IEDHC.
- López Piñero, J.M.; Terrada, M.L. (1990) Introducción a la terminología médica, Barcelona, Salvat.
- Rosen, G. (1944) The specialization of medicine, New York, Froben Press.

e-Health Resources:

- 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