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FACULTY OF MEDICINE

Approved by:
Dean:

(Prof. Yoto Yotov, MD, PhD)



SYLLABUS

IN *BULGARIAN AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE* *TERMINOLOGY AND COMMUNICATION IN MEDICAL PRACTICE*

Specialty	MEDICINE
Educational - qualification degree	master
Organizational form of education	full-time
Auditorial activity (Lectures/Seminars)	180 (90/90)
Extra-auditorial activity	30
ECTS- credits	70
Discipline type	optional
Semester/s of education	fifth and sixth
Semester of examination	sixth
Developer(s) of the Syllabus:	Assoc. prof. Albena Dobрева PhD

Varna, 2024

ANNOTATION

Aims of the course	The course Terminology and communication in medical practice is designed for third-year foreign students of medicine who continue their academic studies in different specialized clinics and wards. Its aim is to develop students' communication skills which ensure their successful professional communication in Bulgarian with patients and medical colleagues.
Outcomes for students at the end of the course:	
Competences	The course is divided into two parts. The first part introduces step by step basic medical terminology, typical health questions and phrases, structure and language features of the medical interview. The second part presents medical vocabulary from different medical specialties, which is used in authentic cases. Students gain practice in taking a history; giving instructions during examinations, conversations about treatment and prevention
Competence group	1. Patient Care that is compassionate, appropriate, and effective for treating health problems and promoting health.
Knowledge	Communicative – knowledge and skills for conducting a conversation while demonstrating empathy and motivating trust in the patient
Skills	To actively listen to the patient; To use communicative tactics to calm down, persuade for cooperation, etc.
Competence group	2. Medical Knowledge about established and evolving biomedical, clinical, and cognate (eg, epidemiological and social-behavioral) sciences and the application of this knowledge to patient care.
Knowledge	Specialized language in the clinic
Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ to communicate information about the patient's condition; ▪ to deliver bad news; ▪ to give instructions for treatment, etc.
Competence group	3. Practice-Based Learning and Improvement that involves investigation and evaluation of their own patient care, appraisal, and assimilation of scientific evidence, and improvements in patient care.
Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Creating and delivering presentations and public speaking skills.
Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Work effectively in a variety of healthcare delivery environments and systems related to their clinical specialty.

Competence group	4. Interpersonal and Communication Skills that result in effective information exchange and teaming with patients, their families, and other health professionals.
Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Initiating dialogical speech in the field of healthcare; ▪ Using effective communication strategies in doctor-patient communication.
Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Listening – Understanding short professional monologues and dialogues in Bulgarian at a normal speed, clear articulation and standard pronunciation – medical interviews from different specialties; presentations of medical cases; description of symptoms, prevention and treatment of a disease or infection. ▪ Reading – Understanding key information from medical texts in standard Bulgarian. Reading passages include a history of the disease, an article and medical documents. ▪ Reading activities include finding specific information in an interview or article; transferring information from a text to a table; filling in gaps in a text; ▪ Speaking – taking a standard history from a patient by asking specific and explicit questions; giving simple instructions and explanations of procedures or prophylaxis; using various communicative strategies – asking for clarification, repeating or paraphrasing. ▪ Speaking tasks include directed practical activities with words or pictorial signs; activities related to a lack of information that require the exchange of data; role-playing.
Competence group	<p>The presentation and training of speech patterns in oral and written medical communication, with a focus on their linguistic content and issues, is carried out through paper-based teaching materials that complement the electronically based teaching content of the discipline. Interactive language tasks, carefully selected texts and colorful illustrations help with the academic adaptation and successful implementation of foreign students in various medical specialties.</p> <p>5. Professionalism, as manifested through a commitment to carrying out professional responsibilities, adherence to ethical principles, and sensitivity to a diverse patient population.</p>
Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Demonstrate professional behavior and responsibility. ▪ Demonstrate humanism and cultural competence. ▪ Maintain emotional, physical, and mental health ▪ Tactics of politeness and respect. ▪ Speech etiquette formulas.
Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Communicative – knowledge and skills for conducting a conversation while demonstrating empathy and motivating trust in the patient.

Key competencies for lifelong learning¹, that the discipline develops:	
<p>Literacy competence Literacy is the ability to identify, understand, express, create, and interpret concepts, feelings, facts and opinions in both oral and written forms, using visual, sound/audio and digital materials across disciplines and contexts. It implies the ability to communicate and connect effectively with others, in an appropriate and creative way.</p>	X
<p>Multilingual competence This competence defines the ability to use different languages appropriately and effectively for communication. It broadly shares the main skill dimensions of literacy: it is based on the ability to understand, express and interpret concepts, thoughts, feelings, facts and opinions in both oral and written form (listening, speaking, reading and writing) in an appropriate range of societal and cultural contexts according to one's wants or needs.</p>	X
<p>Mathematical competence and competence in science, technology, engineering A. Mathematical competence is the ability to develop and apply mathematical thinking and insight in order to solve a range of problems in everyday situations. Building on a sound mastery of numeracy, the emphasis is on process and activity, as well as knowledge. Mathematical competence involves, to different degrees, the ability and willingness to use mathematical modes of thought and presentation (formulas, models, constructs, graphs, charts). B. Competence in science refers to the ability and willingness to explain the natural world by making use of the body of knowledge and methodology employed, including observation and experimentation, in order to identify questions and to draw evidence-based conclusions. Competences in technology and engineering are applications of that knowledge and methodology in response to perceived human wants or needs. Competence in science, technology and engineering involves an understanding of the changes caused by human activity and responsibility as an individual citizen.</p>	X
<p>Digital competence Digital competence involves the confident, critical and responsible use of, and engagement with, digital technologies for learning, at work, and for participation in society. It includes information and data literacy, communication and collaboration, media literacy, digital content creation (including programming), safety (including digital well-being and competences related to cybersecurity), intellectual property related questions, problem solving and critical thinking.</p>	X
<p>Personal, social and learning to learn competence Personal, social and learning to learn competence is the ability to reflect upon oneself, effectively manage time and information, work with others in a constructive way, remain resilient and manage one's own learning and career. It includes the ability to cope with uncertainty and complexity, learn to learn, support one's physical and emotional well-being, to maintain physical and mental health, and to be able to lead a health-conscious, future-oriented life, empathize and manage conflict in an inclusive and supportive context.</p>	X
<p>Citizenship competence the ability to act as responsible citizens and to fully participate in civic and social life, based on an understanding of social, economic, legal and political concepts and structures, as well as global developments and sustainability.</p>	
<p>Entrepreneurship competence Entrepreneurship competence refers to the capacity to act upon opportunities and ideas, and to transform them into values for others. It is founded upon creativity, critical thinking and problem solving, taking initiative and perseverance and the ability to work collaboratively in order to plan and manage projects that are of cultural, social or financial value.</p>	X
<p>Cultural awareness and expression competence Competence in cultural awareness and expression involves having an understanding of and respect for how ideas and meaning are creatively expressed and communicated in different cultures and through a range of arts and other cultural forms. It involves being engaged in understanding, developing and expressing one's own ideas and sense of place or role in society in a variety of ways and contexts.</p>	X

¹ As defined in 2018 r. by the European Union Council ([https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/BG/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:32018H0604\(01\)&from=EN](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/BG/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:32018H0604(01)&from=EN))

Methods of education

- seminars
- practicals and seminar exercises, case studies, consultations, discussions, work with scientific literature, presentations, work with patients under observation, medical documentation ect.

Links with other courses from the curriculum of the specialty

Bulgarian language - preclinical terminology;
Bulgarian language - medical communication;
General Bulgarian language - A1 and A2;
General Bulgarian language - B1 and B2;
Medical English for communication in the clinic;
Medical German for communication in the clinic;
Medical communication in Russian
Foreign language - English;
Foreign language - German