

МЕДИЦИНСКИ УНИВЕРСИТЕТ - ВАРНА
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FACULTY OF MEDICINE

Approved:

Dean:

(Prof. Yoto Yotov, MD, PhD)



SYLLABUS

IN

for the mandatory discipline **"Ophthalmology"**

included in the curriculum of the specialty "Medicine"

for fourth-year students pursuing the educational qualification degree "Master"

with the professional qualification "Doctor"

Specialty	MEDICINE
Educational - qualification degree	master
Organizational form of education	full-time
Auditorial activity (Lectures/Seminars)	75 (30/45)
Extra-auditorial activity	15
ECTS- credits	3
Discipline type	compulsory
Semester/s of education	VIII
Semester of examination	VIII
Developer(s) of the Syllabus:	Assoc. Prof. Yana Manolova, M.D, PhD
	Assist. Prof. Dimitar Gunev, MD, PhD

Varna, 2025

ANNOTATION

Aims of the course

Outcomes for students at the end of the course:

Competences

Competence group

1. Patient Care that is compassionate, appropriate, and effective for treating health problems and promoting health.

Knowledge

- Fundamental principles of diagnosing and treating eye diseases.
- Understanding the anatomy, physiology, and pathology of the visual system.
- Recognition of symptoms and diagnoses of socially significant diseases such as cataracts, glaucoma, and retinopathies.

Skills

- Performing basic ophthalmological examinations (biomicroscopy, ophthalmoscopy, refraction, tonometry).
- Identifying emergency ocular conditions and taking appropriate measures.
- Conducting basic medical procedures, such as tear duct irrigation and prescribing optical correction.

Competence group

2. Medical Knowledge about established and evolving biomedical, clinical, and cognate (eg, epidemio-logical and social-behavioral) sciences and the application of this knowledge to patient care.

Knowledge

- Theoretical and practical aspects of essential ophthalmological diagnostic methods.
- Current therapeutic approaches, including pharmacological, laser, and surgical treatments.
- Interaction between systemic diseases and ocular manifestations, including diabetes, hypertension, and thyroid disorders.
- Basics of epidemiology and socio-behavioral factors influencing eye disease prevalence and prevention.

Skills

- Clinical case analysis applying medical knowledge.
- Utilizing modern diagnostic and therapeutic methods in ophthalmology.
- Recognizing ocular symptoms related to systemic diseases and coordinating with other medical specialists.
- Implementing evidence-based medicine for clinical decision-making.
- Educating patients about diseases, prevention, and condition management.

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

- Evidence-based medicine application in clinical decision-making.
- Interpretation of research results and correlation with clinical findings.

Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Self-assessment of performed medical procedures and development of a professional improvement plan. - Applying scientific evidence for patient care optimization.
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"> - Principles of ethical communication with patients and their families. - Methods for explaining diagnoses and treatment in an accessible manner.
Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establishing therapeutic relationships with patients. - Effective teamwork with healthcare professionals.
Competence group	5. Professionalism , as manifested through a commitment to carrying out professional responsibilities, adherence to ethical principles, and sensitivity to a diverse patient population.
Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ethical standards in medical practice. - Sensitivity to cultural and social differences among patients.
Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Demonstrating humanity and responsibility in patient care. - Adhering to professional and ethical norms.
Competence group	6. Systems-Based Practice , as manifested by actions that demonstrate an awareness of and responsiveness to the larger context and system of health care and the ability to effectively call on system resources to provide care that is of optimal value.
Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Healthcare system organization and resource management. - Basics of quality control and patient safety in clinical practice.
Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Coordination of patient care within a multidisciplinary team. - Advocacy for quality and effective healthcare services.

Key competencies for lifelong learning¹, that the discipline develops:	
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.	

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))

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.

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.

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.

X**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.

X**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.

X**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.

X**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.

Methods of education

- lectures
- seminars
- practicals and laboratory exercises, practical and creative problem solving, case studies, consultations, discussions, work with scientific literature, regulatory documents, databases, analyses, presentations.

Links with other courses from the curriculum of the specialty

- Builds upon knowledge acquired in/Depends on:

- - Anatomy and Physiology: Detailed study of the visual system.
- Pathology: Understanding disease mechanisms affecting the eye.
- Pharmacology: Knowledge of ophthalmic drugs.
- **Necessary for the following disciplines:**
- - Clinical Ophthalmology: Application of basic ophthalmologic techniques.
- Surgical Disciplines: Preparation for basic and advanced ophthalmologic procedures.

Other related disciplines:

- - Neurology: Diagnosis and management of conditions affecting visual pathways and nerves.
- Endocrinology: Understanding ocular manifestations in diabetes and thyroid disorders.
- Infectious Diseases: Recognition of infectious processes affecting the eye.
- General Surgery: Basics of surgical interventions, including ocular trauma.
- Pediatrics: Diagnosis and treatment of pediatric eye conditions (e.g., amblyopia, strabismus).
- ENT (Ear, Nose, Throat): Coordination in diagnosing orbital and sinus conditions.