



**MASTERS OF SCIENCE IN NURSING
AND MIDWIFERY
A.A. 2021/2022**

Course: Human Sciences in Support of Community Nursing

Year: first

Period available (1°-2° semester – annual): 1° semester

University Credits: 8

Learning objectives

Integrated course objectives

Students will acquire the necessary knowledge to:

- understand human behaviour, its evolution and the social context in which it occurs, relating it to different healthcare models.

Students will be able to apply their knowledge to:

- develop appropriate healthcare pathways in personal care services, applying best management approaches, using appropriate models and monitoring care outcomes;
- elaborate complex analyses and develop, also through a multidisciplinary approach, autonomous scientific reflections and evaluations, which support the decisions to be taken when dealing with complex problems in healthcare pathways;
- manage care complexity taking into account fundamental aspects such as interpersonal and inter-professional relations

Objectives of each integrated course module:



- General Psychology M-PSI/01

Students will be able to apply their knowledge to:

Communicate appropriately to encourage motivational development in the clinical field

Autonomy of judgement: know how to analyse phenomena linked to the dynamics of the relationship between the patient and the healthcare professional and to self-care.

Communication skills: use adequate communication skills

Ability to learn: know how to adequately communicate to reach the objectives of care and self-care.

In particular:

Students will be guided to learn and apply the basic evidence-based aspects of general psychology that are involved in the relationship with the patient, in the management of the patient during the therapeutic relationship, and in patient self-care education.

The overall objective is to help the student develop scientifically based strategies to improve patients' care, to understand patients' behaviour, and favour self-care.

Objectives of the module:

- Learn the concept of interactive relationship strategy in the therapeutic relationship between healthcare professional and patient.
- Learn the concept of patient self-care education.
- Learn and apply communication skills aimed at interacting with the patient during the therapeutic relationship and the self-care education.
- Learn about emotional, cognitive, cultural and disability related factors involved in the interaction with the patient as well as in the process of patient self-care education.

- Psychometrics M-PSI/03

Students will be able to apply their knowledge to:



-use the main tools for measuring human behaviour, specifically in healthcare

Autonomy of judgement: know how to analyse human behaviour with validated tools

Communication skills: be able to support the choice of a behavioural assessment tool

Learning skills: be able to design tools to measure human behaviours

The course aims to help students develop the basic skills necessary for the critical choice and informed use of questionnaires in practice and research. The training objective consists of the acquisition of knowledge and skills in the design, development, validation and administration of instruments for the evaluation of Patient Reported Outcomes (PROs), in the adaptation of PROs from a foreign language version.

- **General Sociology SPS/07**

Students will be able to apply their knowledge to: understand new social aspects that influence health.

Autonomy of judgement: be able to analyse and recognise the social aspects which influence health.

Communication skills: justify the choice of continuing patient's care at home or with the family.

Learning ability: design care pathways that take into account people's specific social background.

General objectives:

Introduce students to the basics of Sociology following a guided process of acquisition of the subject, methodology and scientific language of the discipline.

Provide students with conceptual and methodological tools to understand the complex intertwining of society, health and care processes.

Specific objectives:

- Understand and learn the principle of Social Representation, of the basic sociological concepts related to body, integrity, health, illness, death.
- Analyse social behaviour applied to health determinants; understand deviance and social marginalisation phenomena.
- Recognise and understand the social aspects related to health professions and clinical and care practice.



- Moral Philosophy M-FIL/03

Students will be able to apply their knowledge to: understand the moral values underlying the concept of care and self-care

Autonomy of judgement: analyse moral values in relation to care and self-care

Communication skills: know the language of moral philosophy and use it to support the choices made in care within multidisciplinary teams

Learning ability: know how to build a care pathway considering the moral values of the individual and the community.

Learning objectives:

Provide students with the basic notions of Moral Philosophy following a guided process of acquisition of the subject, methodology and scientific language of the discipline.

Students will learn the conceptual and methodological aspects and tools (the origins of Moral Philosophy, from Ancient Ethics to Contemporary Bioethics, Scientific Evidence in Experimentation and Moral Implications, Ethics and Cultural Variables) to explore the complex intertwining of ethical thinking, health and the care process.

Specific objectives:

- Critical analysis of the moral categories and judgements involved in everyday life;
- Study of the ethical dimension of commitment in human practices with particular reference to care and assistance and the consequent relationship between healthcare professional and patient in its moral implications;
- Guided learning to recognise universal, individual and collective moral values;
- Understand the concepts of freedom, initiative and collective responsibility;
- Understand the notions of bonding with family members, sense of community belonging and the dynamics of recognition or exclusion of the other.

Demo-ethno-anthropological disciplines M-DEA/01

Students will be able to apply their knowledge to:

Interpret the theoretical models of nursing and related sciences, taking into account the cultural and anthropological differences of the individual and the community in the approach to planning and designing care pathways.

Autonomy of judgement: be able to analyse nursing contexts also in consideration of the demo-ethno-anthropological substrates determining them.

Communication skills: use appropriate terminology

Ability to learn: develop the ability to design and organise care pathways respecting the differences linked to culture and values of belonging.



General objectives:

- Present the peculiarities of the discipline starting from a vision of Cultural Anthropology as the study of human diversity and exploring the connection between Nursing and Multiculturalism.
- Encourage the acquisition and understanding of complex phenomena related to the dualism nature/culture in general and to the concepts of normality, pathology, health and care.

Specific objectives:

- Acquire and learn the basics of cultural processes in the evolution of Demo-ethno-anthropological disciplines.
- Analyse the concepts of ethnocentrism, cultural identity, and anthropological representation of health, illness and care in the context of nursing and healthcare professions in general.
- Recognise and understand the essential paradigms of Anthropology and their related aspects: pain, symptoms, rituals of care and limits in contemporary multicultural society.

- Sociology of cultural and communication processes SPS/08

Students will be able to apply their knowledge to: understand the sociological dimension of the concept of culture in relation to the different types of 'knowledge', to relate the problem of health and lifestyles to the cultural dimension.

Autonomy of judgement: be able to analyse and recognise cultural constructs influencing health.

Communication skills: motivate care choices taking into account the cultural background and the family of the patient.

Ability to learn: design care pathways taking into account the cultural constructs of the patient.



General objectives:

Guide the student to acquire the knowledge and skills needed to understand the complexities and connections between society, health and culture.

Analyse cultural phenomena by providing the necessary categories to understand and learn the main mechanisms of communication in contemporary society.

Specific objectives:

- Learn the definition of the concept of culture in Western society, through the presentation and discussion of the main theories which have influenced its evolution.
- Learn the main factors of human communication with specific reference to the socio-cultural relationship between healthcare professional and patient.
- Understand the processes of formation, stabilisation and dynamics of social groups and the specific characteristics of the working group.
- Analyse the processes of transmission, preservation and cultural change.
- Learn the meaning and implications of culture-shock and its influence on the healthcare professions.

- General Nursing Sciences, General Clinics and Paediatrics MED/45

Students will be able to apply their knowledge to: understand the different theories of transcultural care and adapt them to fragile patients.

Autonomy of judgement: analyse people's needs taking into account their peculiarities and characteristics

Communication skills: use appropriate language to communicate

Ability to learn: adapt nursing care to people's values, demo-ethno-anthropological and social constructs .



The aim of the module is to provide the student with the cognitive elements inherent to the nursing approach to the interpretation of social phenomena like marginalisation from an anthropological-care perspective.

At the end of the course, the student will be able to apply skills for the development of a care approach aimed at fragile and marginalised subjects.

Prerequisites

- **General Psychology M-PSI/01**
- **Psychometrics M-PSI/03**
- **General Sociology SPS/07**
- **Moral Philosophy M-FIL/03**
- **Demo-ethno-anthropological disciplines M-DEA/01**
- **Sociology of cultural and communication processes SPS/08**

No prerequisites required

- **General Nursing Sciences, General Clinics and Paediatrics MED/45**

No prerequisites required, but a basic competence and attitude to understand social aspects, in particular marginalisation are required.

Content

Specific content of each integrated course module:

- **General Psychology M-PSI/01**

- Psychology as a Science and its application in Nursing and Midwifery.
- The relationship between healthcare professional and patient, patient self-care education and communication in the clinical setting
- The evolution of the concept of health; the importance of self-care;



- The clinical approach based on the interactive relationship between the healthcare professional and the patient ("REDE" Model; Patient-Centered Model).
- The role of communication in patient relationship, patient education and self-care.
- Improvement of effective communication skills in the clinical setting (e.g., conducting and leading communication in a clinical setting).
- Improvement of the main skills for effective communication in the clinical setting (e.g. communication in the clinical setting, conducting history taking, sharing information with the patient, identifying own personal characteristics that may influence communication with the patient etc.).

4. The psychobiology of emotions and their role in communication

- Understand what emotions are and understand their role.
 - Recognize other people's emotions, through non-verbal communication.
 - Understand gender and cross-cultural differences in non-verbal communication.
 - Understand the role of emotions in clinical practice, in order to improve communication and the relationship between healthcare professional and the patient.
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- 5. Cognitive functioning, motivation and change
 - Basic elements of cognitive functioning with particular reference to functions highly implicated in learning and self-care, such as attention and memory.
 - Examples of how cognitive functions operate in everyday activities.
 - Examples of how cognitive functions can be impaired in different pathological conditions, with particular reference to mental health disorders.
 - Basic elements of the concepts of motivation and change in daily activities and clinical practice.
 - The role of cognitive functioning, its possible impairment, and motivational mechanisms, in the relationship with the patient and in the definition of self-care goals.

- **Psychometrics M-PSI/03**

- Learn and apply the principles and procedures for developing a PRO;
- Learn and apply the principles and procedures of validation of a PRO;
- Learn the principles and procedures of adaptation and cross-cultural validation of a PRO;
- Learn the use of PROs in clinical practice.

- **General Sociology SPS/07**

Part 1

- Introduction - The foundations of Sociology
- Introduction to the discipline through a brief social-historical excursus
- Social Facts and Solidarity: from Durkheim to Weber
- Structuralism and Functionalism
- Main sociological paradigms: health determinants and social representation

Part 2

- In-depth study of the Sociology of Health;
- Health, illness, medicine: a sociological view;
- The social representation of the body and its reading as a text;
- Michel Foucault and the theory of bio power, utopian, docile and flexible bodies;
- Pregnancy and childbirth beyond the physiology of the human reproductive event;
- The individual and society facing death;
- Global pandemic and social uncertainty: the centrality of health and new frontiers between imagination and experience.

- Moral Philosophy M-FIL/03

- Philosophy as a cure for the soul: from the Pre-socratics and their interest in the physical world to Aristotle and the Ethics in Nicomachus. Eudaimonia coincidence of purpose and good;
- Historical consideration in Philosophy, disparity and opposition of doctrines;
- The myth of Prometheus and the symbolism in the relationship between human and divine. The cure as a metaphorical reference to the myths of Ancient Philosophy;
- Modern western society and the birth of Bioethics;
- Role and contributions of Bioethics in care management and treatment;
- Basic principles of Philosophy of Care;
- Clinical and pharmacological experimentation;
- Ethical models and judgments relating to the beginning and end of life;
- Ethics committees, DAT and the controversial relationship between ethics and State law;
- Emblematic cases, future prospects of Moral Philosophy in its declination related to health;
- Daniel Callahan: the shattered dream. Medicalisation of human events.

Demo-ethno-anthropological disciplines M-DEA/01

- Relationship between Nature and Culture in Cultural Anthropology
- Introduction to the main demo-ethno-anthropological theories, application in health care, assistance and Nursing;
- Cultural mediation and places of care;
- Body, health, illness: metaphors and symbolic representations in different anthropological contexts;
- The relationship between self and other;
- Disease, sickness, illness: beyond the disease. Implications and definitions;
- Pain, symptoms and culture;
- Therapeutic rituals;
- Anthropology of death.

- Sociology of cultural and communication processes SPS/08



- Introduction to the foundations of the Sociology of Cultural and Communicative Processes (key words, object of study, methodology);
 - The genesis of the scientific concept of culture and the ambiguities of interpretation;
 - Dimensions and components of Western culture;
 - Cultural differentiation in contemporary society;
 - The main axioms of human communication and the influence of cultural processes on understanding;
 - The phenomenon of culture shock: description and analysis;
 - Social groups: formation, leadership, relational dynamics.
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- The team in the healthcare context;
 - Reflections and recent theoretical contributions of the schools of thought;
 - The future of the Sociology of cultural and communicative processes between contradictions and new frontiers to be explored.
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- **General Nursing Sciences, General Clinics and Pediatrics MED/45**
 - Theories of transcultural care (Leininger, Purnell, Giger-Davidhizar, Campinha-Bacote);
 - The concepts of fragility and freedom of choice;
 - Care for homeless people, migrants, political refugees, foreigners;
 - Models of territorial, social and health integration.

Teaching and learning activities and teaching methods

- General Psychology M-PSI/01

The teaching activity will consist of lectures of 2 or 3 hours in the classroom or online and interactive class discussions.

- Psychometrics M-PSI/03

The teaching activity will consist of lectures in the classroom or online, interactive class discussions and practical activities.

- General Sociology SPS/07

- Moral Philosophy M-FIL/03

- Demo-ethno-anthropological disciplines M-DEA/01

- Sociology of cultural and communication processes SPS/08

The teaching activity will consist of lectures in the classroom or online and interactive class discussions.

General Nursing Sciences, General Clinics and Paediatrics MED/45

The teaching activity will consist of lectures in the classroom or online. Group work will also be used in the classroom.

- **Assessment method**

- **General Psychology M-PSI/01**

Written test with 16 multiple choice questions (4 options, with only one correct answer for each question). 2 points are awarded for each correct answer (15 correct answers: mark 30/30, 16 correct answers to be awarded the cum Laude); candidates must score at least 18 points (9 correct answers) to pass this module of the integrated course.

- **Psychometrics M-PSI/03**

- 3 points are awarded for the student's contribution in the development and validation of a specific tool during the lessons.

- Test with 14 multiple choice questions for a total of 28 points (2 points for each correct answer)

The maximum score of 31 points will be part of the final weighted average together with the other modules of the integrated course.

- **General Sociology SPS/07**

- **Moral Philosophy M-FIL/03**

- **Demo-ethno-anthropological disciplines M-DEA/01**

- **Sociology of cultural and communication processes SPS/08**

Essay: instructions and deadlines will be provided during the lessons. The essay will be discussed during the final exam.

- **General Nursing Sciences, General Clinics and Paediatrics MED/45**

- 3 questions to be answered in maximum 10 lines (10 points for each question),

- 1 question for the cum Laude.

The examination will be passed if a pass mark (18/30) is achieved in each module.

The marks from the different modules will be combined to form a single final mark weighted according to the university credits in each discipline.

In order to obtain the "cum laude" the student will have to reach a mark of more than 30/30. The results will be published in 15 working days.

Recommended readings

- **General Psychology M-PSI/01**

• Neil Niven, The psychology of nursing care, 1994 and 2006, Macmillan Education UK

• Margaret Lloyd, Robert Bor, Lorraine Noble, Clinical communication skills for medicine, 4th Edition, Elsevier, 2019

• During the course, background texts about specific topics will be recommended. Additional scientific articles and other useful materials will be provided.

- **Psychometrics M-PSI/03**

• Materials provided by the professor.

General Sociology SPS/07

• Bucchi-Neresini: Sociologia della Salute – Ed. Carocci



- Oltre la soglia – Ed. Unicopli
- Galimberti: Il Corpo – Ed. Feltrinelli
- Articoli tratti da: Encyclopedia of Death and the Human Experience – Sage 2010
- During the course, background texts about specific topics will be recommended. Additional scientific articles and other useful materials will be provided.

- **Moral Philosophy M-FIL/03**

- Daniel Callahan – Ethics in hard times – Oxford University Press
- Beauchamp T., Childress J. – Principi di etica biomedica – Ed. Lettere Firenze
- H. Jonas – Il principio di responsabilità – Ed. Einaudi
- During the course, background texts about specific topics will be recommended. Additional scientific articles and other useful materials will be provided.

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- **Demoethnoanthropological disciplines M-DEA/01**

- B.J. Good: Narrare la malattia, lo sguardo antropologico sul rapporto medico-paziente, Ed. Comunità
- J. Birk, A. Destro: Cosmology and Mythology, Ed. Sage, 2011
- D. Peck, A. Destro et al: Encyclopedia of death and human experience, Ed. Sage 2010
- UCL London Anthropology Dept Library A. Destro: body and other related issues (Convention 2017)
- Boston Nursing International Convention 2008: A.M. Destro: The Natural Death Paradigm (paper)
- During the course, background texts about specific topics will be recommended. Additional scientific articles and other useful materials will be provided.

- **Sociology of cultural and communication processes SPS/08**

- Loredana Sciolla – Sociologia dei Processi Culturali – Ed. Il Mulino
- E. Goffman – IL mondo come rappresentazione- Ed. Il Mulino
- During the course, background texts about specific topics will be recommended. Additional scientific articles and other useful materials will be provided.

- **General Nursing Sciences, General Clinics and Paediatrics MED/45**

- Materials provided by the professor.