

Università degli Studi di Roma "Tor Vergata"

School of Medicine and Surgery

DEGREE COURSE IN MEDICINE AND SURGERY - taught in English

PROGRAM OF THE COURSE

Dublin descriptors:

The specific learning outcomes of the program are coherent with the general provisions of the Bologna Process and the specific provisions of EC Directive 2005/36/EC. They are represented within the European Qualifications Framework (Dublin descriptors) as follows:

- **Knowledge and understanding**

Graduates in Medicine and Surgery will:

- demonstrate the extent of the basic knowledge acquired in secondary education, as verified at the time of enrolment to the degree programme, to basic biomedical sciences; in particular they will possess knowledge of scientific data, concepts and methods which build the foundations for the acquisition and application of all aspects of clinical medical sciences. They will be able to understand that even the most vocational aspects of professional activities are determined by the development of personal tools, based on solid scientific knowledge.

Specifically, graduates will know:

- 1) the normal morphological characteristics of individuals and the alterations caused by tissue and cell pathologies, physiological mechanisms and fundamental pathologies which, at molecular, tissue, organ and system level, determine the condition of wellbeing or development of disease at any age or state of human development;
- 2) the natural history of acute and chronic diseases, defense systems of the organism and the pathological consequences of such responses;
- 3) the fundamental bases and mechanisms of diagnostics and pharmaceutical action.

The above knowledge is acquired through lectures, laboratories, practical exercises and clinical internships, and assessed through oral and written exams.

- **Applying knowledge and understanding**

Graduates in Medicine and Surgery will know how to apply their knowledge and understanding to skilfully solve the problems arising in their own professional context, both directly and applied in an interdisciplinary field.

In particular they will be able to:

- 1) gather relevant information on their patients;
- 2) establish the diagnostic and treatment procedures to manage the state of illness or promote the state of health, reducing pathological risk;
- 3) recognize all conditions of imminent danger to the patient's life;
- 4) integrate their activities within the general and specific organization of the various healthcare systems operating in the territory.

Much of the knowledge and understanding is developed and assessed through the intense clinical internship activities.

- **Making judgements**

Graduates in Medicine and Surgery will know how to acquire and autonomously interpret the relevant data to solve both simple and complex problems in their professional context. They will be able to form opinions even when the available information is insufficient due to the technical and scientific development of medicine. In such contexts, when forming their conclusions they will be able to consider the ethical and social responsibilities that this implies.

In particular they will be able to:

- 1) critically use the information produced by fundamental and clinical biomedical research, including the principles of evidence-based medicine;
- 2) dedicate sufficient time to examining the ethical contents of the profession in terms of both general code of conduct and the social context of the patient.

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The acquisition of this knowledge is assessed principally through the autonomous preparation of the dissertation produced for the final examination. It is assessed through oral exams.

- **Communication skills**

Graduates in Medicine and Surgery will be able to use their knowledge and skills to relate to the typical figures of their professional context: colleagues, collaborators, patients and relatives. In this context, comprised of both specialist and generic stakeholders, they are able to clearly and directly communicate the rational bases and knowledge lying behind their judgments.

In particular they will know how to:

- 1) simply and clearly express information concerning their professional activity orally and in writing according to the cultural level of their interlocutors;
- 2) interact respectfully and with intellectual honesty both with patients, to provide the best possible support for their health decisions, and with relatives to assure the informed understanding of the patient's point of view and attitudes.

As the most appropriate environment for acquiring such skills lies in clinical internship activities, characterized by a wide variety of interactive situations, this knowledge will be assessed through oral exams. Communication skills are also developed through the presentation of an original dissertation for the final examination.

- **Learning skills**

Graduates in Medicine and Surgery will have developed learning skills which allow them to continue their studies in an autonomous manner, with a view to lifelong learning in their specific professional sector. In particular, they will put their ability to consult all kinds of scientific documentation to full use in order to apply the results of their research to the treatment of patients in a reliable manner. Finally, graduates will be able to correctly exercise their profession in compliance with all related and applicable laws and ethical standards.

The learning outcome referred to here is represented by the final result of the whole study programme. Therefore, the acquisition of these skills is assessed through the methods described above.

Educational organization of the degree course:

Current legislation (DM 16 March 2007 GU 155 July 6 2007 - Suppl. Ordinario n. 153) lays down six years of study for the degree course in Medicine and Surgery with a total of 360 credits including credits for Vocational Training to be acquired in educational activities designed to promote the acquisition of specific vocational skills. Attendance at these educational activities (lectures and training) is compulsory and is a prerequisite to taking exams. Semesters: The Degree course is divided into 12 semesters. The average duration is 14 weeks each, based on a teaching progression starting with basic science in the first two years and progressing with medical and clinical methods, health care organization in Italy, ethical and legal aspects of medicine. Courses and exams: Individual courses are grouped into modules in keeping with the principle of integrated teaching with a total of 36 examinations (esami di di profitto) undertaken in the six-year course. Continuous assessment may be prescribed for courses held across two terms. Internship: The period of Vocational Training functions to all intents and purposes as an integral part of the Degree course. The internship takes the form of tutorial teaching in which practical activities are conducted under the supervision of a Tutor-Teacher. Elective activities: Credits are assigned to elective educational activities (ADO) chosen by students. There are no exams. Thesis: Credits are assigned to thesis preparation.

Assessment of learning- Examination sessions:

Assessment is either by: • exams without marks (idoneità) designed to determine the effectiveness of learning and teaching processes; • exams with marks (esami di profitto) designed to assess course objectives have been fulfilled, to certify an individual student's preparation and quantify the outcome with a mark. All exams are taken during specific exam periods. Official exam sessions are: First session in January-February; Second session in June - July; Third session in September. Special sessions are planned annually by the Academic Board. Degree exam To be eligible to take the Degree exam, students must: • have followed all the courses and have passed all the exams; • have obtained a total of 360 credits in the course of the six years; • have delivered to the Segreteria Studenti a) an application to the Rector; b) a copy of the thesis before the Degree session. Students must check dates and deadlines at

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the Students' Secretariat. Degree Exams are held in the summer, fall and specially scheduled sessions.
Final Degree mark / Degree thesis discussion

To reach 110 (full legal marks), the curriculum should be an average of no less than 101.

To reach 110 cum laude, the curriculum should be an average of no less than 102.5 and have achieved at least one "laude" distinction in the curriculum.

The discretion in the range of scores depends on the commitment shown by the candidate during the thesis preparation, the exposition the student gives on the subject and ability to respond to the questions raised by Thesis Board members during the discussion.

A student who interrupts enrolment in this course for more than 6 consecutive years or who has not complied with the compulsory attendance for more than 6 consecutive years or who has not passed exams for more than 6 consecutive academic years, must apply to the Medical Teaching board for career reassessment. Provided they are no longer obsolete, credits earned previously will be accepted.