

Degree in Medicine and Surgery

Course: Physiology II

Year of study: II

Semester: II

Course unit:

Physiology

Disciplinary scientific sector: **BIO / 09**

Number of credits (CFU): **9**

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Methods and Didactics of Motor Activities

Disciplinary scientific sector: **M-EDF / 01**

Number of credits (CFU): **1**

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GENERAL INFORMATION

Prerequisites

The treatment of the specific topics of the course requires detailed knowledge of Anatomy, Medical Physics, Biology and Biochemistry.

Educational Goals

The course aims to provide the knowledge of the fundamental physiological mechanisms of human functions. The course includes the acquisition of knowledge on the operating principles of the organs that compose the human body, and their dynamic integration into apparatus. The course will allow to acquire the ability to independently apply the knowledge of organ and system functioning mechanisms to situations of potential functional alteration. Students will also need to know the main indicators and normal parameters of human physiological functions, and the related measurement methods. These objectives will be achieved through lectures, seminars and interactive teaching activities, aimed at facilitating learning and improving the ability to solve simple physiological problems.

Expected learning outcomes

1. Knowledge and Understanding

Conceptual and methodological tools will be offered for starting up the study of human physiology, through the acquisition of knowledge and understanding of the physiological principles that govern the function of the organism's systems. To demonstrate the knowledge of organ functions and to acquire the ability for integrating physiology from the cellular and molecular level to the organ and apparatus systems. To know the adaptations of the vital functions of the human body in response to the practices of physical activity. Evaluate the consequences of alterations at organ level in the overall functioning of the human body.

2. Applying Knowledge and Understanding

To autonomously apply the knowledge of the organ and system functioning mechanisms to situations of potential functional alteration relating to the specific field to which the student will dedicate himself in the professional activity.

3. Making Judgements

At the end of the course the student will have acquired knowledge that will enable him/her to describe the mechanisms underlying the functions dealt with and to assess independently different opinions on problematic aspects of Human Physiology. To recognize the importance of a thorough knowledge of the topics covered for an adequate medical education. To identify the fundamental role of the correct theoretical knowledge of the subject in clinical practice.

4. Communication Skills

To orally present the topics in an organized and coherent way, using an adequate scientific terminology and compliant with the topic of the discussion.

5. Learning Ability

To identify the possible applications of the skills acquired for the future career and to have communication skills for conveying the learned knowledge.

SYLLABUS

Sensory Physiology

Visual system: anatomy of the visual system, the eyes, the photoreceptors, the retina, the connections between the eye and the brain, the coding of visual information in the retina, the extrastriate visual cortex, the associative visual cortex. Auditory system: ear anatomy, auditory pathway, perception of sound characteristics. Vestibular system: anatomy of the vestibular apparatus, receptor cells, the vestibular pathway. Olfactory System: anatomy of the olfactory system, transduction of olfactory information, perception of odors. Taste system: the anatomy of gustatory buttons and taste cells, the perception of gustatory information, the gustatory pathway.

Blood and hemostasis

Features and functions of the blood. Plasma composition. Red blood cells and white blood cells. Blood group and Rhesus factor. Hemostasis. Coagulation phase and coagulation factors. Mechanisms of coagulation.

Physiology of the Renal and Urinary System

Elements of renal function. Glomerular filtration. Tubular transport mechanisms. Tubular functions. Integrated renal functions. Kidney, the path of blood through the kidney; the nephron, filtration, the factors that determine it and the methods with which it is measured; secretion and reabsorption. Urinary tract. Ureter, bladder and urethra. Urination.

Physiology of the Digestive System

Digestive system. Secretory function of digestive system. Motility. and salivary glands. Role of the autonomic nervous system and gastrointestinal hormones. Nutrient digestion and absorption. Hepatobiliary function.

Endocrine system

Hormones: mechanism of action. Pituitary hormones and hypothalamic control. The Thyroid gland. The adrenal gland. Endocrin regulation of growth. Control of Calcium and phosphate metabolism. The endocrine pancreas and glucose metabolism. The female reproductive system: ovaric cycle and menstrual cycle.

Control of temperature and Energy metabolism.

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Recommended texts

- Human Physiology. Sherwood. Editore: Brooks/Cole
- Medical Physiology. Guyton and Hall. Editore: Saunders
- Neuroscience. Purves. Editore: OUP USA (to be integrated for the Nervous System)
- Fisiologia dell'esercizio. W. D. Mcardle, F. I. Katch, V. L. Katch, Casa Editrice Piccin

Teaching method

The course is structured in 200 hours of frontal teaching, divided into lessons of 2 or 4 hours based on the academic calendar. Lectures will include theoretical lessons and supplementary seminars on the topics covered. In addition, the student will be involved in critical reading, understanding and discussion of a scientific article related to the topics covered in the teaching module. The course will also provide indications on how a bibliographic search should be made and on how to read a scientific article about the human physiology.

Learning assessment procedures

The verification of the student preparation will take place with a written exam followed by an oral exam. The written test will consist of 30 questions with multiple choice answers, for each correct answer a point will be assigned. The final score of the written test will be given by the sum of the partial scores assigned to each question answered correctly. To access the oral exam, the student must have totaled at least a minimum of 18 points. During the oral exam, the examining Commission will assess the student's learning skills as well as the ability to apply the knowledge and ensure that the skills are adequate to support and solve problems of a physiological nature (50% of the score). It will also be assessed: autonomy of judgment (25% of the score) and communication skills (25% of the score) as indicated in the Dublin descriptors.

Support activity

In addition to the didactic activity, the student will be given the opportunity to attend seminars, research internships, laboratory attendance. The topics of the activities are not subject to examination.

Student reception

The course teachers can be reached by appointment via e-mail.