

Faculty of Medicine in Rijeka

**Curriculum
2025/2026**

For course

Psychological medicine II

Study program:	Medical Studies in English (R) University integrated undergraduate and graduate study
Department:	Department of Psychiatry and Psychological Medicine
Course coordinator:	izv.prof.dr. sc. Kaštelan Ana, dr. med.
Year of study:	3
ECTS:	2
Incentive ECTS:	0 (0.00%)
Foreign language:	Possibility of teaching in a foreign language

Course information:

Psychological medicine is a clinical discipline that helps doctors and patients improve the ways to deal with the disease and the treatment process. This is important in all medical disciplines because no clinical practice can ignore the psychological and emotional reactions of patients and doctors. Psychological medicine emphasizes the position of the patient as an integral human being, in a specific social environment, through different life phases and in all life circumstances.

The main goal of the course is to develop the sensitivity and understanding of the psychological aspects of physical illness and the ability to observe and recognize emotional interactions between patients and doctors.

Course objectives are:

- Understanding the relationship between patient - physician - disease
- Identifying the psychological components of the disease
- Explaining and defining transference and countertransference
- Assessment of the factors that shape attitudes towards the disease and the patient
- Explaining the significance of empathy
- Explaining the psychological reactions to the disease
- Explaining the psychological factors that contribute to the onset of the disease
- Explaining the psychological factors as the disease modulators

Upon completion of the course the student will:

- Adopt communication skills and conduct an interview with a patient
- Assess and describe the psychological condition, symptoms of anxiety, stress, crisis, and mourning reactions
- Identify transference and countertransference reactions
- Develop empathy for patients, family members of patients, colleagues, and other professional associates

Expected outcomes and competencies are:

- Communicating with patients and colleagues and conducting medical interviews
- Identifying difficulties in relation to patients
- Identifying transference and countertransference phenomena
- To recognize anxiety in a patient
- To recognize the type of patient psychological response to the disease
- To identify and describe the patient's cope mechanisms

List of assigned reading:

Sadock BJ, Sadock VA, Ruiz P.: Kaplan & Sadock's SYNOPSIS OF PSYCHIATRY, Eleventh Edition, Wolters Kluwer (selected chapters)

Teaching materials (text, PPT presentations, selected professional and/or scientific papers) attached on the Microsoft Teams (Files), marked as obligatory reading

List of optional reading:

Selected professional and/or scientific papers recommended by tutors

Curriculum:

Student obligations:

Regular attendance, preparing assignments for seminars and practicals.

Exam (exam taking, description of the written/oral/practical part of the exam, point distribution, grading criteria):

Student grading will be conducted according to the Ordinance on Student Grading at the Faculty of Medicine in Rijeka. The student's work is evaluated on the midterm (50%) and final exam (50%).

The midterm exam is written test with multiple responses, and it will be held after the last (5.) practical. Maximum is 50 points; the minimum for passing the exam is 25 points.

Students can only retake the midterm exam if they have not achieved the minimum score, or if they didn't approach the exam. The retake of the exam is determined in schedule.

Only students who gain 25 or more points on the midterm exams can take the final exam.

Students who have gained less than 25 points or were absent from more than 30% of teaching contents (ie 30% of lectures, 30% of the seminars, 30% of exercises) - can not take the final exam.

The final exam is oral, maximum gain is 50 points, the minimum for passing the final exam is 25 points.

The final exam is consisted of verbal examination of theoretical knowledge presented during course.

The final evaluation is done according to the number of points collected through midterm and final exam in the following way:

90-100 points excellent (5) A; 90-100%

75-89 points very good (4) B; 75 to 89%

60-74 points good (3) C; 60-74%

50-59 points sufficient (2) D; 50-59%

0-49 points insufficient (1) F; 0-49%

Other notes (related to the course) important for students:

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COURSE HOURS 2025/2026

Psychological medicine II

02.04.2026
izv.prof.dr. sc. Kaštelan Ana, dr. med. [224]
07.04.2026
naslovna asistentica Brozan Sanja, dr. med. [356] · naslovni asistent Muminović Mersad, dr. med. [1493] · dr.sc. Rebić Jelena, dr. med. [226] · naslovna asistentica Stanivuk Ilijana, dr. med. [446]
09.04.2026
doc. dr. sc. Blažević Zelić Sandra, dr. med. [358] · izv.prof.dr. sc. Kaštelan Ana, dr. med. [224] · doc.dr.sc. Pavešić Radonja Aristeo, dr. med. [447]
13.04.2026
doc. dr. sc. Blažević Zelić Sandra, dr. med. [358] · doc.dr.sc. Pavešić Radonja Aristeo, dr. med. [447]
14.04.2026
naslovna asistentica Brozan Sanja, dr. med. [356] · naslovni asistent Muminović Mersad, dr. med. [1493] · dr.sc. Rebić Jelena, dr. med. [226] · naslovna asistentica Stanivuk Ilijana, dr. med. [446]
16.04.2026
izv.prof.dr. sc. Kaštelan Ana, dr. med. [224]
20.04.2026
doc. dr. sc. Blažević Zelić Sandra, dr. med. [358] · doc.dr.sc. Pavešić Radonja Aristeo, dr. med. [447]
21.04.2026
naslovna asistentica Brozan Sanja, dr. med. [356] · naslovni asistent Muminović Mersad, dr. med. [1493] · dr.sc. Rebić Jelena, dr. med. [226] · naslovna asistentica Stanivuk Ilijana, dr. med. [446]
23.04.2026
izv.prof.dr. sc. Kaštelan Ana, dr. med. [224]
27.04.2026
doc. dr. sc. Blažević Zelić Sandra, dr. med. [358] · doc.dr.sc. Pavešić Radonja Aristeo, dr. med. [447]
28.04.2026
naslovna asistentica Brozan Sanja, dr. med. [356] · naslovni asistent Muminović Mersad, dr. med. [1493] · dr.sc. Rebić Jelena, dr. med. [226]
30.04.2026
izv.prof.dr. sc. Kaštelan Ana, dr. med. [224]
05.05.2026
naslovna asistentica Stanivuk Ilijana, dr. med. [446]
11.05.2026
doc. dr. sc. Blažević Zelić Sandra, dr. med. [358] · doc.dr.sc. Pavešić Radonja Aristeo, dr. med. [447]
12.05.2026
naslovna asistentica Brozan Sanja, dr. med. [356] · naslovni asistent Muminović Mersad, dr. med. [1493] · dr.sc. Rebić Jelena, dr. med. [226] · naslovna asistentica Stanivuk Ilijana, dr. med. [446]

List of lectures, seminars and practicals:

EXAM DATES (final exam):

1.	19.05.2026.
2.	17.06.2026.
3.	06.07.2026.
4.	10.09.2026.