

Faculty of Medicine in Rijeka

Curriculum 2025/2026

For course

Physical Activity and Healthy Ageing

Study program: **Medical Studies in English (R)** (elective)
University integrated undergraduate and graduate study
Department: **Department of Social Medicine and Epidemiology**
Course coordinator: **izv. prof. dr. sc. Bilajac Lovorka, dipl. sanit. ing.**

Year of study: **1**
ECTS: **1.5**
Incentive ECTS: **0 (0.00%)**
Foreign language: **No**

Course information:

The goal of the subject *Physical activity and healthy aging* is to encourage students to think about the importance of practicing physical activity as part of health promotion in the elderly. Aging is a normal physiological process of any living organism, and physical activity has a positive effect on disease prevention, health maintenance, and higher quality of life. According to research and demographic data, aging of the population is present in all developed countries, which consequently leads to an increase in the health needs of the population. Furthermore, the objective of the course is to uphold the theoretical and practical application of knowledge and research methods as well as measuring the effectiveness of physical activity focused on healthy aging.

Course content :

The course will present the physical activity as an important factor of healthy ageing. Course content includes physical activity as one of the segments of health promotion, especially in the elderly, the specific needs of an aging population, a personalized approach and classification of measuring the effectiveness of physical activity on quality of life of elderly people. During the course, students will critically evaluate the results obtained and link them with the way of life.

Expected learning outcomes:

At the end of the course students will be able to:

- Describe the specific needs of elderly
- Explain the importance of disease prevention and health promotion in the elderly
- Distinguish the type of physical activity for each age
- Propose measures for checking and monitoring the effectiveness of exercise
- Prepare exercises suited to the age and the individual person (personalized approach) and devise a way of monitoring the impact
- Connect the impact of physical activity with emotional progress (recognize the social component of the exercise group)

List of assigned reading:

1. World Health Organization, World report on ageing and health. WHO Library Cataloguing-in-Publication Date: mISBN 978 92 4 156504 2, Geneva 2015.
2. Communication from the European Commission – The demographic future of Europe – from challenge to opportunity. COM(2006) 571 final. Brussels: European Commission; 2006.

List of optional reading:

1. The Swedish National Institute of Public Health Healthy Ageing- A Challenge for Europe R 2006:29 ISSN: 1651-8624
2. Urban Health Centres Europe- UHCE, dostupno na <https://www.age-platform.eu/project/urban-health-centres-europe-uhce>

Curriculum:

Student obligations:

Students are required to attend classes and participate in all planned activities

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

Student activity will be monitored during the course (in tutorials and seminars), continuous progress will be made, and for the final exam the students will prepare the essay on the given topic

Other notes (related to the course) important for students:**COURSE HOURS 2025/2026**

Physical Activity and Healthy Ageing

List of lectures, seminars and practicals:**EXAM DATES (final exam):**