

Faculty of Medicine in Rijeka

**Curriculum
2026/2027**

For course

Clinical Assessment

Study program:	Medical Studies in English (R) University integrated undergraduate and graduate study
Department:	Department of Internal Medicine
Course coordinator:	prof. Novak Srđan, dr. med.
Year of study:	6
ECTS:	3
Incentive ECTS:	0 (0.00%)
Foreign language:	Possibility of teaching in a foreign language

Course information:

Clinical Assessment is a compulsory course in the 6th year of study of the Integrated undergraduate and graduate university study of Medicine in English. It consists of 24 hours of lectures and 26 hours of seminars (3 ECTS). Lectures and seminars will be held online or onsite, depending on the epidemiological situation. The course will be organized at the Clinic for Internal Medicine, Sušak location, address T. Stržičica 3, Rijeka, and Rijeka location, address Krešimirova 42, Rijeka.

The aim of the course is to sublimate knowledge of clinical courses from previous years and to prepare students for a practical approach to patients regarding the symptoms and signs of most common diseases. It is necessary that students have passed most of the prior clinical courses. This course will prepare students for a rational approach to diagnostic procedures for most common conditions in everyday clinical practice and in differential diagnosis. Students will be given practical algorithms for diagnostic procedures for most common symptoms.

Course content: the course will include content regarding the clinical assessment of patients with: 1) chest pain, 2) heart failure, 3) high blood pressure, 4) cough, 5) shortness of breath, 6) abdominal pain, 7) swallowing difficulties, 8) jaundice, 9) weight loss, 10) lymphadenopathy, 11) anemia, 12) hematological emergencies, 13) high temperature, 14) dilemmas in clinical assessment of oncological patients, 15) chronic kidney failure, 16) swollen legs, 17) electrolyte disorders, 18) sugar and lipid disorders, 19) polyarthritis, 20) muscle pain and weakness, 21) most common dermatological disorders, 22) obesity, 23) movement disorders, 24) back pain and 25) osteodegenerative diseases.

Learning outcomes:

Cognitive domain - knowledge 1

1. specify and describe symptoms and physical signs of most common cardiovascular, pulmonary, gastrointestinal, kidney, musculoskeletal, endocrine, hematological, neurological, infectious and skin diseases
2. differentiate the differential diagnosis of particular symptoms of diseases
3. relate laboratory disorders with associated symptoms of diseases
4. integrate knowledge from preclinical and clinical courses

Psychomotor domain - skills

1. recognize symptoms and physical signs of most common cardiovascular, pulmonary, gastrointestinal, kidney, musculoskeletal, endocrine, hematological, neurological, infectious and skin diseases
2. identify and estimate symptoms, physical signs and laboratory findings which require urgent patient care

List of assigned reading:

1. Jameson JL et al. Harrison's Principles of Internal Medicine, 20th Edition. McGraw-Hill Education: New York, USA, 2018. e-edition available at <https://accessmedicine.mhmedical.com/book.aspx?bookid=2129>
2. Seller RH., Symons AB: Differential Diagnosis of Common Complaints, 6.ed. Elsevier Science, 2012. <https://www.clinicalkey.com/#!/browse/book/3-s2.0-C20150022286?indexOverride=GLOBAL>

Lectures and seminars as original PPT presentations in PDF format will be available for students to download from the Merlin platform, once they are held.

List of optional reading:

- Stuart H. Ralston, Ian Penman, Mark Strachan & Richard Hobson. Davidson's Principles and Practice of Medicine, 23rd Edition. Elsevier, 2018.
- Adam Feather, David Randall & Mona Waterhouse. Kumar and Clark's Clinical Medicine, 10th Edition. Elsevier, 2020.

Curriculum:

Student obligations:

Attendance in lectures and seminars is mandatory. Teachers and students communicate via email addresses (@uniri.hr). For a detailed description of obligations during classes, see the Assessment section.

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

Student assessment is carried out in accordance with the current University of Rijeka Study Regulations and the Ordinance on Student Assessment and Evaluation at the Faculty of Medicine Rijeka (adopted by the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Medicine in Rijeka). Student work will be evaluated during classes and at the final exam. Out of a total of 100 grade points, the student can obtain 60 grade points (60%) during classes and 40 grade points (40%) at the final exam.

Student assessment is performed using the ECTS (A-F) and numerical grading system (1-5). Student assessment according to the ECTS system is carried out based on the absolute distribution and graduate-level assessment criteria.

Out of 60 grade points that can be obtained during classes, the student must obtain at least 30 grade points to take the final exam. Students who obtain less than 30 grade points will have the opportunity to retake one midterm exam. If they do not obtain 30 grade points (grade F) on the retaken midterm exam, they have to re-enroll in the course.

The student acquires grade points by completing the tasks as follows:

I. During the course (maximum 60 grade points):

- a) activity on seminar classes (maximum 10 grade points)
- b) obligatory written midterm exam (maximum 50 grade points)

Activity on seminar classes (maximum 10 grade points)

The student can obtain a maximum of 10 grade points with activity on seminars. On each seminar class, the teacher gives the student 1-5 grade points based on student activity (participation in discussions based on case studies – answers and questions about topics associated with clinical cases).

The number of absolute points for student activity ranges from 13 to 65 (there are 13 seminar classes), and these points are converted into final grade points according to the following table:

POINTS ACQUIRED ON SEMINAR CLASSES	GRADE POINTS
13-17	1
18-22	2
23-27	3
28-32	4
33-37	5
38-42	6
43-48	7
49-54	8
55-60	9
61-65	10

Obligatory midterm exam (maximum 50 grade points)

During the course, students must take an obligatory written midterm exam. The written midterm exam will be held on the last seminar class. The midterm exam has 50 questions and is worth 50 grade points (range 26-50 grade points, pass criteria are >50% of correct answers on the test). Points on the written midterm exam are calculated into final grade points in a way that every correct answer carries 1 point (in case the student has >50% correct answers), which means 26 correct answers – 26 points; 50 correct answers – 50 grade points.

If the student obtains a minimum of 26 grade points on the written midterm exam, they have to obtain a minimum of 4 grade points for activity on seminar classes, i.e. if they obtain a minimum of 29 grade points on the midterm exam, 1 grade point for activity on seminar classes is enough.

II. Final exam (maximum 40 grade points):

Who may take the final exam?

Students who obtained more than 30 grade points during classes may take the final oral exam on which they can achieve a maximum of 40 grade points.

Who may not take the final exam?

Students who obtained less than 30 grade points during classes may not take the final exam (they must re-enroll in the course in the following academic year).

The final exam is an oral exam worth 40 grade points (range 20–40).
Success on the final exam is converted into grade points as follows:

success on the final exam	grade points
insufficient	0
sufficient	20
good	30
very good	35
excellent	40

Other important information regarding the course:

To pass the final exam and to be candidate for final evaluation (including grade points obtained during classes), the student must obtain a minimum of 20 grade points (sufficient) on the final exam.

Grades in the ECTS grading system are converted into the numerical system as follows:

A – 90–100%
B – 75–89.9%
C – 60–74.9%
D – 50–59.9%
F – 0–49.9%

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

Course content and all information related to the course and exam dates can be found on the Faculty's website. All student inquiries, possible problems and remarks regarding the course are communicated exclusively using the official e-mail address (@medri.uniri.hr). It is possible to arrange consultations with the teachers during working hours.

COURSE HOURS 2026/2027

Clinical Assessment

List of lectures, seminars and practicals:

EXAM DATES (final exam):
