



The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Syllabus

MEDICINE IN JUDAISM - 94813

Last update 19-02-2017

HU Credits: 2

Degree/Cycle: 1st degree (Bachelor)

Responsible Department: bio-medical sciences

Academic year: 0

Semester: 2nd Semester

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Ein Karem

Course/Module Coordinator: Prof. Samuel Kottek

Coordinator Email: samuelk@ekmd.huji.ac.il

*Coordinator Office Hours: coordinated by email
irp@medethics.org.il*

Teaching Staff:

Prof Samuel Kottek
Dr.

Course/Module description:

a) *Medicine in Ancient Jewish Sources*

The aim of this section of the course is to document a number of aspects of the practice of medicine in ancient Hebrew & Jewish literature, and present several milestones in later times on the topic "Jews and Medicine."

General Background on the history of Medicine;

Medicine in Bible & Talmud : The status of the physician – Disease as a concept – Epidemic diseases in B. & T. – Surgery – Obstetrics & Gynecology –Visiting the Sick – Health Care in the Jewish Ghetto – Maimonides as Physician – Delmadego and the Ghetto – Isaac Israeli – Medical Oaths & Prayers – medical symbolism in Jewish and Western Cultures

b) *Medicine & Jewish Law*

This section features modern aspects of Medical Problems and Jewish Law. How do rabbinical authorities take decisions in view of modern scientific developments?

Among the topics discussed: Respecting the Sabbath with the help of modern technology – Legal-Ethical problems – Definition of the moment of Death – Family planning – Dissection of the dead – Surrogate mothers – Smoking (and more).

Course/Module aims:

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:

Understanding core issues in the History of Medicine and Judaism, as well as Topics in current Halacha and Medicine

Attendance requirements(%):

80

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: frontal lecture

Course/Module Content:

Part A

1 Background literature and medicine – Medicine and Talmud

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- 2 The Doctor in the Talmud Part I - The doctor from biblical to Talmudic
 - 3 The Doctor in the Talmud Part II - "The best doctor inherits Gehenna"?
 - 4 The Doctor in the Part III - medical license, insurance and medical malpractice
 - 5 Disease - from the Bible to the Talmud
 - 6 Surgery - in the Talmud
 - 7 Obstetric medicine sources
 - 8 Bikur Holim - Public Welfare
 - 9 Medicine and Hygiene Jewish ghetto (one hundred 16-18)
 - 10 Maimonides as a doctor
 - 11 Isaac Israeli ben Solomon
 - 12 Icons of Jewish and Western Medicine
 - 13 The Doctor's Prayer

Part B

1. The medical side of Halacha.
2. Determination of Death medical, legal and halachic:
3. Organ Transplants
4. The Dying Patient
5. Medical and halachic issues of fertility treatment and pregnancy prevention
6. Medical and halachic issues in circumcision

Required Reading:

J. Preuss, *Biblical and Talmudic Medicine* (edited and translated by F. Rosner), Sanhedrin Press, New-York 1978, 1983; Pub. Jason Aronson inc., Northvale-New Jersey-London, 1994

Additional Reading Material:

Course/Module evaluation:

End of year written/oral examination 100 %
Presentation 0 %
Participation in Tutorials 0 %
Project work 0 %
Assignments 0 %
Reports 0 %
Research project 0 %
Quizzes 0 %
Other 0 %

Additional information: