



HISTORY OF MEDICINE

1. IMPRINT

Academic Year	2025/2026
Department	Faculty of Medicine
Field of study	Medicine
Main scientific discipline	Medical sciences
Study Profile	General academic
Level of studies	Uniform Msc
Form of studies	Full time
Type of module / course	Obligatory
Form of verification of learning outcomes	Completion
Educational Unit / Educational Units	Department of Medical Ethics and History of Medicine 00-581 Warsaw 14a Litewska St. tel. +48 22 116 92 34 e-mail: zaklad-bioetyki@wum.edu.pl
Head of Educational Unit / Heads of Educational Units	Tomasz Pasierski, MD, PhD
Course coordinator	Ewa Skrzypek, MD, PhD ewa.skrzypek@wum.edu.pl
Person responsible for syllabus	Ewa Skrzypek, MD, PhD ewa.skrzypek@wum.edu.pl
Teachers	Ewa Skrzypek, MD, PhD ewa.skrzypek@wum.edu.pl

2. BASIC INFORMATION

Year and semester of studies	1 st year, 2 nd semester		Number of ECTS credits	2.00
FORMS OF CLASSES		Number of hours	ECTS credits calculation	
Contacting hours with academic teacher				
Lecture (L)		35	1.4	
Seminar (S)				
Classes (C)				
e-learning (e-L)				
Practical classes (PC)				
Work placement (WP)				
Unassisted student's work				
Preparation for classes and completions		15	0.6	

3. COURSE OBJECTIVES

O1	Acquaintance with the development of medical sciences in the world and in Poland throughout history.
O2	Acquaintance with major medical discoveries and outstanding people in the history of medicine.
O3	Acquaintance with the history of selected medical equipment and hospital systems in Poland and in the world.
O4	Acquaintance with the history of selected diseases, <i>most famous patients</i> included.
O5	Presentation of the most important aspects of the history of medicine teaching in Poland and in the world.

4. STANDARDS OF LEARNING – DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF EFFECTS OF LEARNING

Code and number of the effect of learning in accordance with standards of learning	Effects in the field of:
Knowledge – Graduate* knows and understands:	
D.W15.	the concept of humanism in medicine and the main concepts, theories and ethical principles that serve as a general framework for properly interpreting and analysing moral-medical issues

D.W18.	history of medicine, features of modern medicine and the most important discoveries and achievements of the leading representatives of Polish and world medicine
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Skills– Graduate* is able to:

G.S1	-
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5. ADDITIONAL EFFECTS OF LEARNING

Number of effect of learning	Effects in the fields of:
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Knowledge – Graduate knows and understands:

K1	-
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Skills– Graduate is able to:

S1	-
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Social Competencies – Graduate is ready for:

SC1	-
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6. CLASSES

Form of class	Class contents	Effects of Learning
Lectures	L1 – Lecture 1 – Organization of classes. Why medical history?	D.W15; D.W18
	L2 – Lecture 2 – Hippocrates – father of medicine	D.W15; D.W18
	L3 – Lecture 3 – Outline of the history of anatomy and pathological anatomy / / pathomorphology	D.W15; D.W18
	L3 – Lecture 4 – Outline of the history of histology and physiology	D.W15; D.W18
	L5 – Lecture 5 – Outline of the history of microbiology, immunology and genetics	D.W15; D.W18
	L6 – Lecture 6 – Outline of the history of surgery	D.W15; D.W18
	L7 – Lecture 7 – Outline of the history of internal medicine	D.W15; D.W18
	L8 – Lecture 8 – Outline of the history of gynaecology and obstetrics	D.W15; D.W18
	L9 – Lecture 9 – Outline of the history of paediatrics	D.W15; D.W18
	L10 – Lecture 10 – Outline of the history of neurology, neurosurgery and psychiatry	D.W15; D.W18

	L11 – Lecture 11 – Who name it? The few medical eponyms among Polish women	D.W15; D.W18
	L12 – Lecture 12 – Honorary doctors of Medical University of Warsaw and their passions	D.W15; D.W18
	L13 – Lecture 13 – Pioneers in National and World Medicine	D.W15; D.W18
	L14 – Lecture 14 – Chronology of medical history. Summary of the course	D.W15; D.W18
	L15 – Lecture 15 - Final test	D.W15; D.W18

7. LITERATURE

Obligatory

1. All obligatory reading materials will be provided by the lecturer in .pdf files

Supplementary

2. Ackerknecht E. H.: *A Short History of Medicine*, The Johns Hopkins University Press, Baltimore and London 1982.
3. Bostridge M.: *Florence Nightingale. The Women and Her Legend*, Penguin Books 2008.
4. Brown J.: *Influenza. The hundred-year hunt to cure the deadliest disease in history*, Touchstone 2018.
5. Bynum W., Bynum H. (eds.): *Great Discoveries in Medicine*, Thames & Hudson, London 2011.
6. Finn G. M. (ed.): *30-second medicine. The 50 crucial milestones, treatments and technologies in the history of health, each explained in half a minute*, Ivy Press, London 2017.
7. Hager Th.: *Ten Drugs. How Plants, Powders and Pills Have Shaped the History of Medicine*, Abrams Press, New York 2019.
8. Harper P. S.: *A Short History of Medical Genetics*, Oxford University Press, Oxford 2008.
9. Jauhar S.: *Heart. A History*, Oneworld, London 2019.
10. Jewell H.: *100 Nasty Women of History*, Hodder Stoughton, London 2017.
11. Lieberman J. A., Ogas O.: *Shrinks. The Untold History of Psychiatry*, Weidenfeld Nicolson, London 2016.
12. Martin S.: *A Short History of Disease. Plagues, Poxes and Civilisations*, Pocket Essentials, Gloucester 2015.
13. Mukherjee S.: *The Emperor of All Maladies. A Biography of Cancer*, Fourth Estate, London 2011.
14. Mukherjee S.: *The Gene. An Intimate History*, Vintage, London 2017.
15. Nuland Sh. B.: *Doctors. The Illustrated History of Medical Pioneers*, New York 2008.
16. Oldstone M. B. A.: *Viruses, Plagues and History. Past, Present and Future*, Oxford University Press, Oxford 2010.
17. Paul G.: *An Illustrated History of Medicine. A Medical Exploration in Fifty Objects*, Quad Books 2016.
18. Porter R. (ed.): *Cambridge Illustrated History. Medicine*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge 2001.
19. Ribatti D.: *Milestones in Immunology. Based on Collected Papers*, Academic Press, Elsevier, London 2017.
20. Siemionow M.: *Face to Face. A Short History of Face Transplantation*, Springer, Chicago 2019.
21. Skrzypek E.: *Portraits of the Honorary Doctors*, Medical University of Warsaw, Warsaw 2016.
22. Snow S. J.: *Blessed Days of Anaesthesia. How Anaesthetics Changed the World?*, Oxford University Press, Oxford 2009.
23. Spearing S.: *A History of Women in Medicine. Cunning Women, Physicians, Witches*, Pen & Sword Books Ltd, Yorkshire – Philadelphia 2019.
24. Strathern P.: *A Brief History of Medicine from Hippocrates to Gene Therapy*, Robinson, London 2005.
25. Wadman M.: *The Vaccine Race. How Scientists Used Human Cells to Combat Killer Viruses*, Black Swan, London 2018.
26. Youngson R., Schott I.: *A Brief History of Bad Medicine. True stories of weird medicine and dangerous doctors*, Robinson 2012.

8. VERIFYING THE EFFECT OF LEARNING

Code of the course effect of learning	Ways of verifying the effect of learning	Completion criterion
D.W15, D.W18	Continuous assessment in the course of classes; grade from the final test on the e-learning platform	Form of receiving credit – COMPLETION FOR GRADE Active participation in classes; attendance at lectures; passing the final test – - 20 single-choice questions 2.0 (failed) – 0-10 pt 3.0 (satisfactory) – 11-12 pt 3.5 (rather good) – 13-14 pt 4.0 (good) – 15-16 pt 4.5 (more than good) – 17-18 pt 5.0 (very good) – 19-20 pt

9. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Lectures are held according to the time-table provided by the Dean's Office.
- Person responsible for didactics: Ewa Skrzypek, MD, PhD; e-mail: ewa.skrzypek@wum.edu.pl
- Duty shifts are arranged, in case of need, after prior e-mail contact.
- The use of mobile phones and other recording equipment is forbidden.
- Students cannot be late for lectures.
- Students are obliged to attend all lectures.** In the case of any absence, even justified, Students are obliged to determine the way of making up for the absence with the lecturer.
- Three** or more absences exclude the possibility of getting a course credit.
- A course credit is given on the basis of:
 - lecture attendance,
 - active participation in lectures,
 - positive grade from the final test.
 In case of receiving an unsatisfactory grade, the Student has a right to a retake in the form determined by the coordinator of the subject.
- There is the possibility of slight modification of the program of classes.

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ATTENTION

The final 10 minutes of the last class of the block/semester/year should be allotted for students to fill out the Survey of Evaluation of Classes and Academic Teachers