# FACULTY OF MEDICINE UNIVERSITY OF BANJA LUKA



# STUDENT GUIDE

## STUDY PROGRAMME IN MEDICINE



## STUDENT GUIDE

## **Study Programme in Medicine**

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## **Publisher**

FACULTY OF MEDICINE UNIVERSITY OF BANJA LUKA Save Mrkalja 14, tel: 051/234-100

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## The Dean's note

Dear Colleagues,

by enrolling on the Faculty of Medicine, you start your professional and academic education. This is a major milestone in your lives since you enter the world of bio-medical sciences and train in one of the most humane fields of human enterprise.

The Faculty of Medicine offers integrated, 6-year academic studies, with junior years providing students with basic bio-medicine teaching subjects, in order for them to master the structure, organisation, and function of respective human organs and organ systems, equipping them with the knowledge necessary for entering the world of clinical medicine in senior years. The teaching process consists of lectures, a large amount of practical work, seminars, and office hours, and it demands that one invest an enormous effort, renunciation, and dedication in it. This approach to studying opens new perspectives in terms of professional and academic development.

On this path, you can count on your professors and teaching assistants to navigate you successfully through the intricate labyrinth of medical sciences and to set an example for you in this responsible profession.

Firmly believing in the idea that knowledge equals power, with education being the most powerful weapon one can wield, the Faculty of Medicine wishes you a warm welcome and success in your academic studies.

The Faculty of Medicine, University of Banja Luka, wishes you a warm welcome and a successful start to your studies.



Your Dean Prof. Dr Sc. Med. Ranko Škrbić

## The Oath of Hippocrates



I swear by Apollo the physician, Asclepius, Hygeia, and Panacea, and I take all the gods and all the goddesses as witnesses, that I will keep this Oath according to my abilities and my judgment.

I swear that I will hold dear as a parent the one who taught me this Art; that I will live in harmony with him and, if required, share my goods with him; that I will look upon his offspring in the same footing as my own brothers, and to teach them this Art, if they shall wish to learn it, without fee or stipulation, that I will share rules and instructions with

my sons, sons of teachers and students who have enrolled and accepted the rules of the profession, but not with anyone else.

I will prescribe treatment for the benefit of my patients according to my greatest ability and my judgment and I will never harm anyone.

I will not, even if asked, prescribe a deadly poison to anyone, nor will I give advice that may cause death.

Nor will I give a woman a pessary to produce abortion.

With purity and with holiness I will pass my life and practice my Art.

I will not operate on persons with a stone, but will leave this to be done by men who are specialists in this.

Whatever house I enter, I will enter only for the benefit of my patients, keeping away from any willful wrongdoing and from the seduction of females or males, whether they be free or slaves.

Whatever I see or hear in connection with my professional practice, in the life of men, which ought not to be spoken of abroad, I will not divulge and shall keep it a secret.

While I continue to keep this Oath unviolated, may it be granted to me to enjoy life fully and the practice of the art, respected by all men, at all times, but should I trespass and violate this Oath, may the opposite be my fate.

# Establishment and development of the Faculty of Medicine in Banja Luka

This year, the Faculty of Medicine in Banja Luka celebrates 45 years of successful work, as the oldest higher education institution of its kind in the region.

Established on 17 March 1978 by Decision No 01-012-33/78 of Banja Luka Municipal Assembly (Official Gazette of the Republic of Srpska, 3/78) at the initiative of the University of Banja Luka, to educate university degree experts holding the professional title of doctor of medicine. The first lecture was given on 15 November 1978.

As the study programmes of Medicine and Dentistry proved to be very successful, the Faculty of Medicine initiated the establishment of the study programme in Pharmacy. This study programme was established at the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Banja Luka on 17 July 1995 by Decision No UP-02-07/95 of the Republic of Srpska Ministry of Education, Science and Culture and classes started in the academic year 1995-96.

In 2007, the Faculty of Medicine initiated the establishment of the Health Care and Nursing Study Programme by the Decision of the Republic of Srpska Ministry of Education and Culture (operating license no 07.23/602-3900/09). Classes in this study programme started in the academic year 2007-08. The Faculty of Medicine applied for licensing the first cycle of the innovative Health Care study programme. By Decision of the Ministry of Education and Culture of the Republic of Srpska dated 1 March 2016, No 07.05/612-191-1-2/15, classes on this study programme began in the academic year 2016-17. Support for activities in this innovation process was provided by the "Strengthening Nursing in Bosnia and Herzegovina Project", within component 3 for the Republic of Srpska, which deals with formal higher education of nurses/technicians.

In the academic year 2013-14, the Health Care study programme for the second cycle began (operating license no 07.023/612-485-6-1/11 dated 5 March 2013) for the duration of one year (60 ECTS).

In the academic year 2015-16, the classes started for the innovative third-cycle studies for all study programmes of the Faculty of Medicine:

Biomedical Sciences - 180 ECTS (operating license no 07.023/612-198-25-1/14, dated 4 December 2014), in the duration of three years (180 ECTS).

The Faculty of Medicine perfects and develops the methods of scientific research, organises systemic monitoring of professional and scientific achievements and prepares the staff for independent work in their respective professions and scientific research. The Faculty organises and provides continuing professional development for healthcare staff to keep abreast of modern developments in the field and in particular it is engaged in raising and professional development of young scientists and teachers, in line with the Higher Education Reform. It also takes part in research projects in all medical disciplines. It participates in the project of reforming faculties of medicine in BH in line with the Bologna Declaration and the European Higher Education Reform.



The Faculty of Medicine - central building -

## Mission and vision of the Faculty of Medicine

## Mission

The Faculty of Medicine has devotedly followed its mission to provide its students and members of staff, through a stimulating environment, with academic and research competences to help them achieve professional standards necessary for an overall healthcare, economic, and social progress, in line with both domestic and international priorities.

### Vision

The Faculty of Medicine is determined to realise its vision of becoming a recognisable institution at regional and international levels through excellence in teaching process and academic research, with a view to contributing to the improvement of healthcare system by means of its capacities.





# The organisation of the Faculty of Medicine in Banja Luka

Dean Professor dr Ranko Škrbić

Vice-dean of Scientific Research Professor dr Miloš Stojiljković

Vice-dean of Academic Affairs Professor dr Nenad Ponorac Vice-dean of International Cooperation Professor dr Lana Nežić



Dean Professor dr Ranko Škrbić



Vice-dean of Academic Affairs Professor dr Nenad Ponorac



Vice-dean of Scientific Research and International Cooperation Professor dr Maja Travar

## About the studies

Higher education in Europe is undergoing major reforms involving more than 5,600 higher education institutions with around 16 million students. The Bologna Declaration is the primary, initial document that determined the goals of the higher-education transformation throughout Europe. This declaration was signed in 1999 by the ministers of 29 European countries in charge of higher education. It all started in 1998 at the Sorbonne University in Paris, when the Ministers of Education of France, Great Britain and Italy signed the Declaration on "harmonizing the architecture of the European higher education system" known as the Sorbonne Declaration. Both declarations, together with the documents created through the process of higher education reform in Europe, make up the Bologna Process.

The Bologna Process aims to create a unique European system of university teaching and research by 2010, while at the same time recognising and maintaining the diversity of national specificities (culture, language, tradition, etc.). In this way, the aim is to create a more flexible and efficient European higher education system, which would be competitive in the global world market of knowledge.

## The most important determinants of the Bologna process are:

- introduction of the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS)
- adopting a new study structure consisting of three cycles
- promoting the mobility of students and teachers
- adopting a system of comparable diplomas

The European Credit Transfer System (ECTS) represents a unique system of quantitative evaluation of the student's effort in acquiring knowledge, abilities and skills (learning outcomes) provided by the study programme and each subject within the programme. Credits represent s common "currency" in the European system of higher education, based on the student's effort, verified by an exam.

## The main determinants of the ECTS system are:

- the students work an average of 40 hours a week
- the total workload of the student consists of attending lectures and independent classes, consultations, student professional practice, seminar papers, projects, diploma or master's thesis, etc.

- a convention was introduced which defines that 60 credits represent a quantitative measure of the student's workload in one academic year, i.e. 30 credits in one semester
- one credit represents 25-30 hours of student work
- credits are assigned to each teaching component within the course
- credits are not grades and do not replace them

## **Study types and cycles:**

- The basic academic studies in Health Care (I cycle) consist of 240 ECTS and last for four academic years. The English term for the title yielded on this cycle is "Bachelor". The Health Care Programme yields the educational profile Bachelor of Health Care- 240 ECTS. Along with the diploma of the first cycle of Health Care, a diploma supplement is issued for a more detailed insight into the level, nature, content, system, study requirements and the results achieved during the studies.
- Master's studies in Health Care last for one year and are credited with 60 ECTS, so together with the first cycle of Health Care studies, it represents 300 ECTS. Upon completing the second study cycle of the Master of Health Studies Study Programme, students attain the academic title Master of Health Care - 300 ECTS. Along with the diploma of the second cycle of Health Care, a diploma supplement is issued for a more detailed insight into the level, nature, content, system, study requirements and the results achieved during the studies.
- Graduate academic studies (integrated study) last for five to six academic years and have 300 to 360 ECTS. Upon completing the studies, the students attain the academic title **Doctor of Medicine** -360 ECTS, Doctor of Dental Medicine - 360 ECTS and Master of Pharmacy - 300 ECTS.
- Doctoral academic studies for all study programmes at the Faculty of Medicine last 3 years and have 180 ECTS, with the condition that graduate academic studies have previously been completed. A student who completes this study cycle acquires the scientific title Doctor of Biomedical Sciences - 480 ECTS for the study programme of Pharmacy and Health Care, and Doctor of Biomedical Sciences - 540 ECTS for the study program of Medicine and Dental Medicine.

The student should carefully read the Rules of Studying at I and II cycles of academic studies, adopted by the Senate of the University of Banja Luka in October 2022, available at the Faculty website. These rules define in more detail the organisation, the student status, the evaluation of a student's work, the public documents, as well as other relevent issues significant for the realisation of I and II Cycles of Academic Studies at the University of Banja Luka.

In this Study Guide some of the rules are mentioned, but for more details the student is referred to the Rules of Studying at I and II cycles of academic studies.

## Main notes on the teaching process

Teaching at the Faculty of Medicine - Study programme in Medicine in Banja Luka consists of basic and elective courses. The programme is performed through 44 compulsory and elective courses, as well as the diploma thesis. With the adoption of the new Law on Higher Education in the Republic of Srpska (Official Gazette, 067/2020 from 10 July 2020), a legal framework was adopted which allowed for changes in the study programme. Therefore, from the academic year 2022/23, the Study programme in Medicine is carried out according to an innovative curriculum, which ensures that students acquire modern theoretical and practical knowledge in the field of medicine. Changes in the curriculum were designed to enable students to acquire both fundamental and disciplinary knowledge in accordance with accepted norms at the European level, as well as the basis of specific knowledge from the most current fields of medicine.

The innovative curriculum will provide students with the knowledge of:

- preventive programmes in the field of medicine
- treatment of diseases in the field of medicine
- the functioning of the health system
- introduction to scientific and research work

Basic education is a compulsory type of education and is common to all students.



The amphiteatre of the Faculty of Medicine

At the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Banja Luka, studies are organised and implemented in accordance with the Study Rules based on the ECTS system.

Study programmes are divided into study years and semesters.

In accordance with the ECTS system, the scope of the study programme is 60 ECTS credits in one study year (30 ECTS credits for one semester). One credit represents 25-30 hours of student work. The number of credits for a particular course is determined according to the number of teaching hours (theoretical or practical, exercises, seminars and professional practice, time for study and preparation for knowledge tests (independent student work) and assessment (tests, colloquiums, final exams).

The study year is organised into two semesters, where 15 weeks of classes are planned in each semester (winter and summer semesters), i.e. 30 weeks a year during which theoretical and clinical training of the student is carried out in the form of lectures, seminars, cabinet exercises, clinical exercises, professional practice and independent student work.

The time and method of realisation of individual forms of study are determined by the academic calendar and the annual schedule of work that defines the study programme, following the amount of work required for the subject to be completed.

The student takes the exam immediately after completing the preexamination requirements for each subject and by not exceeding the defined absence from class. By fulfilling the pre-examination requirements and taking the exam, the student can obtain a maximum of 100 points. Points are attained only if all academic obligations are successfully fulfilled, as specified by the programme. Exam grades range from 5 to 10, where 5 is not a passing grade and 10 is the highest grade. The student must fulfill the subject requirement regarding the attendance in class, in order to get a signature in the index from the professor, at the end of the semester. Only students who have attended the classes in the prescribed manner have the right to receive the signature from the professor. The lack of a signature during the year requires the student to redo the academic year he or she is attending.

A student who has passed all the exams provided in the enrolled Medicine study programme and fulfilled all other obligations prescribed by the University Statute acquires a diploma in Medicine.

The organisation of the teaching process is defined in Articles 5 and 6 of the Rules of Studying at I and II cycles of academic studies, by the Senate of the University of Banja Luka. The rules regarding the completion of studies are described in Article 7.

#### Article 5

- (1) Teaching process is connected to the academic year and includes the following:
  - 1) classes lectures (L) and practicals (P);
  - 2) midterms (M);
  - 3) tests (T):
  - 4) design of graphic works (GW);
  - 5) design seminar papers (SP);
  - 6) field teaching (FT);
  - 7) professional practice (PP);
  - 8) making final papers (FP); and
  - 9) student's independent work.
- (2) As a rule, an academic year begins on 1 October and lasts for 12 calendar months, and it is organised in two semesters (winter and summer semester) or in blocks and trimesters; in each of the two semesters the teaching process lasts for 16 weeks, out of which classes last for 15 weeks per semester, which is 30 weeks per year, and during that period, in addition to classes, the obligations implied by a study programme from the previous paragraph are realised as well
- (3) The rest of the weeks within the academic year is scheduled for class compensation and pre-exam obligations that have not been finalised during 15 weeks of classes within winter and 15 weeks of summer semester, for examination periods, and for summer break.
- (4) The teaching process is realised in accordance with the academic calendar, which is defined and published by the University Senate not later than two months before the beginning of the academic year.

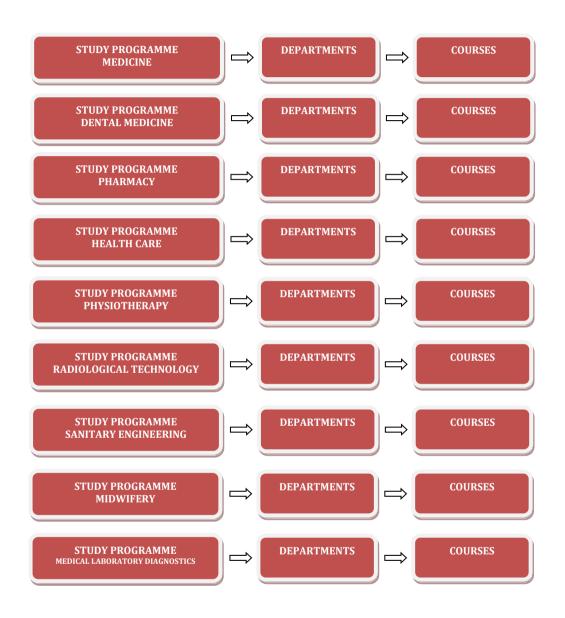
- (1) The teaching process includes 40-hour working week, during which direct engagement with students lasts not less than 20 and not more than 25 hours per week within one semester.
- (2) As an exception to the provisions stated in the previous paragraph, the total number of classes of hours of direct engagement with students during one week may exceed the figures from the previous paragraph if it is a requirement of the respective study programme.

(3) One class shall last for 45 minutes.

## Completion of studies

- (1) A student that has passed all the exams planned within the study programme they have enrolled and that has fulfilled all other obligations prescribed by the Statute and by these Rules shall obtain a degree for the completion of the I or II cycle of the study programme or a degree for the completion of integrated studies.
- (2) In addition to a degree, a diploma supplement shall be issued, and it shall contain the information on the acquired knowledge, skills, and competences of the degree holder, as well as other information in accordance with the Law, the Statute, and other bylaws.

## **Study programmes**



# **Study programme in Medicine – compulsory courses**

Anatomy	Histology and Embryology	Biology of Cell and Human Genetics	First Aid
Medical physics	Medicine and Society	Serbian Language	Medical Biochemistry and Chemistry
Medical Physiology	Medical Microbiology and Immunology	Clinical Practicum I	Medical Statistics
Pathological Anatomy	Pathological Physiology	Science in Medicine	Medical English
Epidemiology	Clinical Propedeutics	Internal Medicine	Infectious Diseases
Neurology	Dermatovenerology	Psychiatry	Radiology
Neurology  Clinical Microbiology	Dermatovenerology  Nuclear Medicine	Psychiatry  Surgery	Radiology  Pediatrics
Clinical			
Clinical Microbiology  Gynaecology and	Nuclear Medicine	Surgery  Hygiene with	Pediatrics  Hygiene with

## Study programme in Medicine – elective courses

Virtual Anatomy of the Central and Peripheral Governing
Contemporary Medical
Techniques

# **Curriculum of the Study programme of Medicine**

(in line with the Bologna declaration)

## FIRST YEAR

No.	Teaching subject	Semester I	Semester II	Class Workload	Self- study Workload	Overall Workload	ECTS
01.	Anatomy	4 + 5	4+6	285	265	550	22
02.	Histology and Embryology	2 + 4	2 + 4	180	170	350	14
03.	Biology of Cell and Human Genetics	2 + 2	2+2	120	80	200	8
04.	Medical Physics	2 + 1		45	30	75	3
05.	Medicine and Society (Medical Ethics and Social Medicine)	2+1		45	30	75	3
06.	First Aid		2 + 2	60	40	100	4
07.	Serbian		1 + 1	30	20	50	2
08.	Elective I	1 + 1		30	20	50	2
09.	Elective II		1 + 1	30	20	50	2
	Weekly Workload	27	28				
	Overall Class Workload				690	1515	
			erall ECTS			60	

	Elective I		Elective II
1.	Physical Principles Governing	1.	Molecular Biology and Medicine
	Contemporary Medical Techniques	2.	First Aid in Trauma Treatment
2.	Physical Foundations of Biological	3.	Virtual Anatomy of the Central and
	Processes at Molecular Level		Peripheral Nervous Systems
3.	Eco-Toxicology	4.	Histological Methods
4.	Introduction to Medicine	5.	Chemistry in Medicine
5.	Serbian		

## SECOND YEAR

No.	Teaching subject	Semester III	Semester IV	Class Workload	Self- study Workload	Overall Workload	ECTS
10.	Medical Physiology	4 + 4	5 + 4	255	245	500	20
11.	Medical Biochemistry and Chemistry	3 + 3	3 + 4	195	130	325	13
12.	Medical Microbiology and Immunology	3 + 3	3 + 4	195	180	375	15
13.	Clinical Practice I	1+1	1+1	60	40	100	4
14.	Medical Statistics	2 + 2		60	40	100	4
15.	Elective III	1+1		30	20	50	2
16.	Elective IV		1+1	30	20	50	2
	Weekly Workload	28	27				
	Overall Class Workload			825	705	1530	
Overall ECT							60

	Elective III	Elective IV		
1.	Study of Proteins-Basic Laboratory	1.	Biochemistry of Free Radicals	
	Techniques	2.	<b>Basic Classifications and Assessment</b>	
2.	History of Medicine I		of Pain	
3.	Physiology of Aging and Positive	3.	Physiology of Physical Activity	
	Contribution to Aging in a Healthy	4.	Second Foreign Language	
	Manner			
4.	Serbian			
5.	Second Foreign Language			

## THIRD YEAR

No.	Teaching subject	Semester V	Semester VI	Class Workload	Self- study Workload	Overall Workload	ECTS
17.	Pathological Anatomy	5+3	4+3	225	200	425	17
18.	Pathological Physiology	2 + 3	3+3	165	160	325	13
19.	Pharmacology with Toxicology	3 + 2	3 + 2	150	150	300	12
20.	Science in Medicine	1+1		30	20	50	2
21.	Medical English	1+1		30	20	50	2
22.	Epidemiology	2 + 1		45	30	75	3
23.	Clinical Propedeutics		2 + 5	105	70	175	7
24.	Elective V	1+1		30	20	50	2
25.	Elective VI		1+1	30	20	50	2
	Weekly Workload	27	27				
	Overall Class Workload			810	690	1500	
	Overall ECTS 60						60

	Elective V		Elective VI
1.	Safe Drug Administration in	1.	National Drug Policy
	Pregnancy and Breastfeeding	2.	Applied Epidemiology
2.	Public Health	3.	Pathophysiology
3.	History of Medicine II	4.	Oncological Pathology
4.	Diagnostic Methods in Pathology		

## FOURTH YEAR

No.	Teaching Subject	Semester VII	Semester VIII	Class Workload	Self- study Workload	Overall Workload	ECTS
26.	Internal Medicine	5 + 7	5 + 8	375	300	675	27
27.	Infectious Diseases	1 + 2	1 + 2	90	60	150	6
28.	Neurology	1+1	2 + 2	90	60	150	6
29.	Psychiatry	1+1	1 + 2	75	50	125	5
30.	Dermatovenerology	2 + 2		60	40	100	4
31.	Radiology	2 + 2		60	40	100	4
32.	Clinical Microbiology		1+1	30	20	50	2
33.	Nuclear Medicine		1+1	30	20	50	2
34.	Elective VII	1+1		30	20	50	2
35.	Elective VIII		1+1	30	20	50	2
	Additional Workload: Internal Medicine-			90			
36.	Clinical Practice						
	Radiology			60			
	Weekly Workload	29	29				
	(	1,020	630	1650			
	Overall ECTS 60						

	Elective VII		Elective VIII
1.	Ultra-Sound Diagnostics	1.	Mental Health in Community
2.	Coronary Patient Examination	2.	Pandemic in Infectology
3.	Diagnostic Therapy Novelties in	3.	Contemporary Trends in Diagnostics
	Neurology		and Treatment of Diabetes
4.	Infectious Diseases and Biological	4.	Abdominal Radiology
	mechanisms	5.	<b>Urgent Conditions in Neurology</b>
5.	Public Health		-

## FIFTH YEAR

No.	Teaching Subject	Semester IX	Semester X	Class Workload	Self- study Workload	Overall Workload	ECTS
37.	Surgery	4+6	5 + 8	345	230	575	23
38.	Pediatrics	3 + 3	3+3	180	120	300	12
39.	Gynecology and Obstetrics	2 + 3	2 + 4	165	110	275	11
40.	Social Medicine	1 + 1		30	20	50	2
41.	Hygiene with Medical Ecology	2 + 1		45	30	75	3
42.	Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation		2 + 1	45	30	75	3
43.	Clinical Biochemistry	1 + 1		30	20	50	2
44.	Elective IX	1 + 1		30	20	50	2
45.	Elective X		1+1	30	20	50	2
46.	Additional Workload: Surgery-Clinical Practice Clinical Biochemistry			90 60			
	Weekly Workload	30	30				
	Overall Class Workload				600	1650	
	Overall ECTS 60						

	Elective IX		Elective X
1.	Acute and Urgent Conditions in	1.	Diet and Health
	Gynecology, Obstetrics, and	2.	Rare Diseases in Children
	Perinatology	3.	Trauma in Surgery
2.	Clinical Toxicology	4.	Minimal Invasive Surgery
3.	Mechanical Ventilation	5.	Maxillofacial Surgery
4.	Critical Patients Transfer		

## SIXTH YEAR

No.	Teachi	ng Subject	Semester XI	Semester XII	Class Workload	Self- study Workload	Overall Workload	ECTS
47.	Ophthalmology		2 + 2		60	40	100	4
48.	Otorhinolaryngology		2 + 2		60	40	100	4
49.	Intensive care medicine		1+1		30	20	50	2
50.	Family Medicine		4 + 4		120	80	200	8
51.	Occupational Medicine		1+1		30	20	50	2
52.	. Court Medicine		2 + 1		45	30	75	3
53.	Oncology		2 + 2		60	40	100	4
54.	Clinical Pharmacology		1 + 2		45 30		75	3
55.	<b>Emergency Medicine</b>		1 + 2		45	30	75	3
56.	Geriatrics and Palliative Care		2 + 1		45	30	75	3
	Residency	Surgery			100			4
57.		Internal Medicine			100			4
		Pediatrics			50			2
		Gynecology and Obstetrics		XII	50			2
		Emergency Medicine			50			2
		Family Medicine			100			4
58.	Final Paper	•		XII	150			6
Weekly Workload			36					
		C	1,140					
			erall ECTS			60		

Overall Class Workload: 5,670

Overall ECTS: 360

## Characteristics of the Study programme of Medicine

	STUDY PRO	OGRAMME (	OF MED	ICINE					
Year of study (number of	Course units of General Education		Applied Professional		ISW	Total	ECTS		
course units)	L	P	L	P					
1. (9 course units)	345	420	30	30	69	1515	6		
2. (7 course units)	375	390	30	30	70	1530	6		
3. (9 course units)	360	285	60	10	69	1500	6		
4. (10 course units)			37	64	63	1650	6		
5. (9 course units)			40	64	60	1650	6		
6. (10 course units)			27	42	36	1050	3		
6. (Clinical residence)				45	,,	450	2		
Total hours in all course units combined (54)	1080	1095	1170	2325	3675	9345	360		
∑ of hours (%)	2175 (38.3%) 3495 (61.7%			5 (61.7%)	3675	9345	360		
$\sum$ of course units (%)	22 (40.	32 (59.26%)			54				
tal hours of active classes		3675	9345	360					
Total % of CUR		39.33%	100%						
Electives and bachelor's thesis in ECTS	20 ECTS (elective course units) + 6 ECTS (bachelor's thesis) = 26 ECTS (7.2%)								
Educational profile	Doctor of Dental Medicine – 360 ECTS								
Type of study	Academic studies (6 years, 12 semesters)								
Value of 1 ECTS	25 hours								
Mode of study	Regular studies								
Area of study	Health and health protection								
Field of study	Health								
Field of scientific study	711. Medicine								

Legend: L (lectures); P (practicals); ISW (independent student work); CUR (curriculum)

## Rights and obligations of students

## Students' obligations are to:

- regularly attend all forms of classes
- respect the general acts of the Faculty and the University
- respect the rights of employees and other students at the Faculty
- participate in the decision-making

## The most significant rights of students are:

- enrolment, quality education and objective assessment
- receiving timely and accurate information on all issues related to studies
- active participation in the decision-making
- diversity and protection against discrimination
- right to self-organisation and expression of own opinions
- equal quality study conditions for all students
- the right to elect and be elected to the Student Parliament and other University and Faculty bodies

## Examination terms during the school year

The duration of every examination term is defined by the academic calendar of the University.

The final exam may be organised in the form of a:

- 1) written exam,
- 2) oral exam,
- 3) written and oral exam.
- 4) practical work,
- 5) the main artistic exam.

Based on Article 109 of the Statute of the University of Banja Luka, the exam deadlines are:

January/February

April

June/July

September and

October

The January-February, June-July and September Exam periods contain two exam dates, with the student's right to use both dates. The April and October Exams contain one exam date, with the October exam period having to be completed in the first week of October at the latest.

If the student attempts to register for the same exam for the 4th time in one academic year, he or she must pay the fee of 20 KM and bring the proof of payment to the Student Affairs Office. Only the administration can register the student for the 4th time of attempting the same exam.



As defined in Article 52 of the Rules of Studying at I and II cycles of academic studies:

- (1) A student signs up for the final exam of the respective course unit in an electronic form, by means of the FIS system.
- (2) A student is entitled to withdraw their electronic sign-up form 48 hours prior to the final exam in the latest.
- (3) In case a student has not withdrawn their electronic sign-up form from the previous paragraph timely, they will be regarded as a no show for the exam designated.

A student is eligible for taking the exam designated if their name is entered into a list generated by the FIS system.

## **Enrolment on the following year of study and** repeated enrolment on a year of study

The Rules of Studying at I and II cycles of academic studies define the rules regarding the enrolment on the following years of study and the rules in case they need to repeat the enrolment on a year of study:

### Article 33

- (1) A student shall meet requirements to enroll on the following year of their studies if they scored not less than 45 ECTS credits out of the total number of 60 ECTS credits in the previous year of their studies.
- (2) In exceptional cases, with the aim of completing their studies sooner, a successful student may be given a possibility to realise even more than the total of 60 ECTS credits per one academic year, but not more than 90 ECTS, under the following conditions: 1) that they have passed all the exams from the previous years of studies planned by the curriculum not later than during the October exam term with the average grade not lower than 9.00, and
- 2) that they have not enrolled again on a single year of their studies.
- (3) On the occasion of their enrolment on the following year of studies, students who transfer a certain number of ECTS credits to the following year of studies shall be introduced to their obligations regarding the transfer of credits in that academic year by the staff member in charge of the course unit.
- (4) On the occasion of their enrolment on the following year of studies, a student is allowed to transfer ECTS credits from the previous year of studies only.

- (1) In case a student does not meet the requirements to enrol on the following year of study, they shall repeat the enrolment on the current year and they have the right to attend classes and pass exams from the following year of study until reaching the number of ECTS credits they scored in the previous year of study, in accordance with the Law.
- (2) The council of the University member unit shall determine the course units the students from paragraph 1 of this Article may attend and take exams from in the following year of study, in accordance with the Law.
- (3) When enrolling on an academic year again, a student may choose different elective course units.
- (4) It is compulsory for the staff member in charge to introduce the students enrolling on the current year of studies again to their obligations for the respective academic year.

- (5) A student enrolling on the current year of studies again or a student who has transferred an exam to the following year of studies shall be recognised the credits they have scored and the obligations they have fulfilled, and these are valid through the academic year the candidate enrols on again.
- (6) On the occasion of every new enrolment on the course unit the student is attending again, it is compulsory for the student to settle the costs of the tuition, in accordance with the Law.

## **Absence and Termination of studies**

As defined in Article 25 in the Rules of Studying at I and II cycles of academic studies, these rules apply in regards to absence of classes:

### Article 25

- (1) It is compulsory for students to attend lectures, practicals, seminars, and other forms of classes in accordance with their status.
- (2) It is compulsory to attend all forms of classes, and the attendance record, confirmed by the student with their signature, shall be kept by the staff member in charge.
- (3) During one semester, a regular student may be unjustifiably absent for not more than 20% of the total number of classes for every form of classes per one subject, except: - laboratory practicals and
- in case defined in Article 45, paragraph 1 of these Rules.
- (4) The maximum period of justified absence of a regular student may extend up to 40% out of the total number of classes for every form of classes (except laboratory practicals that have to be compensated for).
- (5) A regular student who is unjustifiably absent for more than 20% out of the total number of classes within a semester is not entitled to get a signature of the member of staff who is in charge of the course and they cannot attend the final exam.
- (6) The organisation and the manner of realisation of classes at part-time studies are regulated by the general act issued by the University.

### **Termination of studies**

- (1) The status of a student is terminated under the following conditions defined by the Law, the Statute, and the Statute of a University member unit: 1) by completing a study programme and holding a title they have studied for;
- 2) by dropping out of the University member unit before completing their studies:
- 3) when a student does not enrol on the following year of studies within the deadline defined by the academic calendar or is unduly late for more than 15 days, and their rights and obligations are not suspended;
- 4) when a student does not enroll on the same year of studies within the deadline defined by the academic calendar or is unduly late for more than 15 days, and their rights and obligations are not suspended;
- 5) when a student is sentenced to a discipline measure of being expelled from a member unit of the University.

(2) The status of a regular student shall cease in case when a student does not complete their studies within double the amount the time necessary for the realisation of the respective study programme.

## Reacquiring the student status Article 42

- (1) A student whose student status has ceased may reacquire their student status as a student who finances their education on their own or as a part-time student.
- (2) The decision on the approval of reacquiring the student status shall define the obligations of a student in the continuation of their studies.
- (3) The decision on the approval of reacquiring the student status shall be adopted by the Dean of the respective University member unit.
- (4) A student who has been approved to reacquire their student status shall pay the expenses in accordance with the Pricelist of the University.
- (5) A student may exercise the right to reacquire the student status only once during their study.
- (6) A regular student whose student status has ceased upon the expiration of double the amount of time necessary for the completion of the study programme may acquire the status of a part-time student, in accordance with the Law.

### Article 43

- (1) If a student does not regulate their status by enrolling on the following year of studies or enrolling on the same year of studies, their student status shall cease and they shall have the right to enroll on the same year of studies under the following conditions: 1) enrolment only at the beginning of the academic
- 2) payment of the expenses defined by the Pricelist of the University.

The student can read in more detail about the rights and duties in abeyance in the Rules of Studying at I and II cycles of academic studies.

## **Student Support Service**

Student Support Service performs the following activities:

- student registration for 1st year students
- student enrolment for all academic years
- semester certification
- exam registration
- register keeping
- receiving applications and issuing certificates
- issuance of various documents necessary for students (bank loans, scholarships...)

When enroling into each semester, the student needs to fill in the Enrolment semester sheet and the Semester sheet, available on the website, and to submit them to the Student Support Service. In addition, the student must show proof of payment of the tuition and enrolment fee for the semester.

When the student needs a student certificate, they are to fill in the Request form and send it to the Student Affairs Office.



## The admission and registration process

The rules regarding the enrolment of students on the first year of I cycle of studies are defined in Articles 8 through 6 of the Rules of Studying at I and II cycles of academic studies, by the Senate of the University of Banja Luka.

## Article 8

- (1) Enrolment of students on the first year of I and II cycles of studies is realised based on a public competition announced by the University, within deadlines defined by the Law and by the academic calendar, and on the decision of the Republic of Srpska Government on the number of students to be enrolled on the first year of studies for the respective academic year at public institutions of higher education.
- (2) The competition shall contain the following information on: 1) the number of students per study programme and the number of students per all the categories (regular students whose education is financed by the Republic of Srpska budget, students who finance their education on their own, part-time students, and students who are foreign citizens);
- 2) the manner of application;
- 3) the necessary documents to apply for the competition;
- 4) conditions, manner, and terms for taking an entrance exam, or an aptitude and ability exam;
- 5) standards for determining the ranking list of the candidates;
- 6) the manner and deadlines for submitting a complaint to the results of an entrance exam or an aptitude and ability exam, as well as the ranking list of the candidates:
- 7) conditions and deadlines for enrolment; and
- 8) other provisions defined by the Senate of the University.

- (1) In order to apply for the competition, the candidate shall submit a proof on paying the fee for technical services rendered and direct material costs related to taking an entrance exam or an aptitude and ability exam.
- (2) The candidate shall submit their application and the rest of the necessary documentation to the Registrar's office of the member unit of the University where the study programme the candidate is applying for is realised.
- (3) The candidate shall have the option of submitting their application electronically in the manner defined by the competition.
- (4) The Registrar's office of the University member unit shall enter the information into the Faculty Information System (hereinafter: FIS) on the candidates who submitted their application, including the information on the success achieved during earlier education.

### Article 10

With the aim of meeting specific requirements of the study programme, a member unit of the University may add a provision that it is compulsory for the candidates to submit a proof on their health condition..

## Conditions for the enrolment on the I cycle of studies Article 11

- (1) All persons that have completed a four-year secondary education in the Republic of Srpska and Bosnia and Herzegovina shall have an access to the study programme of the I cycle, including the persons that have gained appropriate secondary school education abroad.
- (2) Evidence on the completed secondary education, such as grade certificates and diplomas obtained abroad shall be subject to a compulsory recognition procedure, in accordance with the Law.
- (3) Grade certificates and diplomas obtained in the Republic of Serbia shall not be subject to a recognition procedure, in accordance with the Agreement on Mutual Recognition of Documents in the Field of Education and Regulation of Status Issues of Students ('Official Gazette of the Republic of Srpska', No. 79/05).

#### Article 12

- (1) In order to enrol on the first year of I cycle of studies, an entrance exam, that is, an aptitude and ability exam is compulsory.
- (2) As an exception to the provisions stated in the previous paragraph, the candidates that have taken one of the first three positions at state-level, entitylevel, or region-level competitions during their secondary school education in the fields defined by the academic council of a University member unit (hereinafter: member unit council) do not have the obligation of taking an entrance exam in order to enrol on the first year of I cycle studies.
- (3) The candidates from paragraph 2 of this Article shall be recognised as having achieved the maximum number of points at an entrance exam, that is, an aptitude and ability exam.
- (4) The candidate shall bring an identification document a valid identity card or a passport to an entrance exam.

#### Article 13

- (1) A disabled person may take an entrance exam in a manner adjusted to their needs and in accordance with objective possibilities of the University member unit.
- (2) When applying to the competition, the person from the previous paragraph of this Article shall submit a written proposal on the manner of taking an entrance exam.

- (1) The preliminary, as well as the final results of an entrance exam shall be published on the bulletin board and on the web page of the University member unit.
- (2) The final results of an entrance exam shall be entered into the FIS database by the Registrar's office, which makes it possible for the office to issue the ranking list of the candidates considering the number of points they have scored based on the following: 1) type and level of their previous education,
- 2) achievement during their previous education, and
- 3) the results achieved at an entrance exam, that is, an aptitude and ability exam.

#### Article 15

- (1) A candidate to enrol on a certain study programme can score not more than 100 points based on the following: 1) grade average in their previous education (not more than 50 points), and
- 2) results achieved at an entrance exam, that is, an aptitude and ability exam (not more than 50 points).
- (2) A grade average in secondary school is calculated by rounding it to two decimal places.
- (3) In case where a University member unit applies additional criteria while creating their respective enrolment ranking list of candidates, the maximum number of points based on the grade average from the previous educational level and on additional criteria shall not exceed 50.
- (4) A candidate may enrol on a study programme if they score at least 15 points at an entrance exam or an aptitude and ability exam and if they take a position on the enrolment ranking list within the designated number of students approved by the Decision of the Government of the Republic of Srpska with regard to enrolment on the respective study programme.

- (1) The right to enrol on a respective study programme is acquired by a candidate who is ranked within the number of students defined by the Decision of the Republic of Srpska Government on the number of students to enrol on the first year of I cycle studies for the corresponding academic year at public institutions of higher education.
- (2) The ranking list of the candidates shall be published on the bulletin board and on the web page of the University member unit.
- (3) The candidates for enrolment on a study programme of the I cycle of studies may submit a written complaint to the Dean of the University member unit within 24 hours from the moment of publishing the ranking list of the candidates on the bulletin board and on the web page of the University member unit
- (4) The Dean shall make a decision on the complaint of the candidate within 48 hours from the moment the complaint was submitted, and this decision shall be final.

- (5) The candidate who is entitled to, but has not managed to enrol on a certain study programme within the stipulated period shall lose their right to enrolment, and the next qualified candidate according to the ranking list shall obtain the right to enrol.
- (6) As an exception to the provisions stated in the previous paragraph is the situation when a candidate has not manage to enrol for legitimate reasons, and when they have informed the University member unit about the situation in a written form.

## Admitted students are obliged to submit the following documents for the registration, when registering to the first semester of the first year:

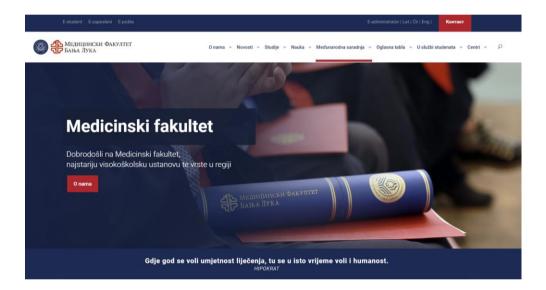
- two photographs
- Student's Course and Grade Book ("Index") provided by students' affairs office
- Student's Registration Form ("ŠV Obrazac") provided by students' affairs office
- proof of payment of the tuition fee for the first semester
- compulsory health insurance per year

## The website

On the websites of the Faculty of Medicine and the University, you can quickly, simply and easily access the necessary information about teaching, scientific research, the academic calendar (calendar of teaching requirements), as well as other activities within the domain of our institutions.

Website of the Faculty of Medicine: https://med.unibl.org/en/faculty-of-medicine/

Website of the University of Banja Luka: https://www.unibl.org/en



## **Notice board**

On the website (https://med.unibl.org/en/faculty-of-medicine/) there is a Notice Board where professors and assistants post relevant information about classes, exams etc. You should regularly visit this webpage to be informed about the latest news regarding your classes.

## E-student platform

Once registered at the Faculty you will receive your User Name and password for the E-student platform. E-student is a website portal to be used for information and registration of exams, an overview of grades, ECTS credits, enrolment and profile information, etc.

#### **Email address**

When enrolling to the Faculty, the student acquires the right to the student Faculty e-mail address, which they have until the end of their studies. The eaddress is form: mail created according to the name.surname@student.med.unibl.org.

Everyone is required to log into their email as soon as possible to make sure everything is working and to receive notifications. As all emails are on the Google platform, it is very easy to set them up on phones and computers.

If the student uses e-mail on the phone, simply create a new Google account and enter your username (name.surname@student.med.unibl.org) and password, and access your e-mail via the GMAIL shortcut on your phone. If you use the e-mail via computer, then you can directly access it via www.gmail.com.

#### Student ID card

When enroling to the Faculty, the student acquires the right to the student Faculty ID card. You are required to use your ID card when entering all healthcare facilities, as well as at all exercises and colloquiums when you put on your coats.

## The Library of the Faculty of Medicine

The Library of the Faculty of Medicine contains a wide scope of scientific content which provides the necessary support for the study process and scientific research in the fields of Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy and Health Care.

The primary task of the library is the collection and processing of an adequate library fund, the supply of scientific material which enables education and the development of scientific research and providing relevant information related to the library.

The Library of the Faculty of Medicine in Banja Luka is a specialised library intended for students, teaching staff and professional associates of the Faculty. The scope of the Library corresponds to the scientific areas of the Faculty of Medicine. The library has a fund that contains essential and specific works in the fields of Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy and Health Care, mandatory and supplementary literature prescribed by the study programme, which contain appropriate knowledge and information.

The library fund contains monographic publications (books), serial publications (magazines), doctoral dissertations, master's theses, graduate theses, specialist papers, seminar papers, scientific-research projects, guides, brochures and newsletters.

The library fund is constantly growing and is systematically renewed to meet user needs. In addition to the purchasing policy, gifts and donations, the library fund is also enriched by the publishing activity of the Faculty of Medicine. Alongside the textbook literature intended for students, the library also has specialist literature intended for postgraduate studies and other types of professional training.

## The library fund currently contains 9495 books (3397 titles) in printed form.

In addition to monographic publications (books), the library also has a certain number of serial publications (magazines).

## The library currently has 3256 magazines in printed form.

A certain number of magazines in the Serbian language regularly arrive to the library and their supply is continuous.

These are: the Journal of physicians and pharmacists of the Serbian Army Vojnosanitetski pregled (VSP), the Journal of the Faculty of Medicine in Niš Acta Medica Medianae, the Journal of the Association of Doctors of Medicine of the Republic of Srpska Scripta Medica, the Journal Medici.com mosaic of Medical Communication Medici.com and the Journal of the University Clinical Center from Sarajevo Medical Journal.

In addition to the aforementioned magazines, the library also receives a large number of magazines in English, where the supply is not continuous. Alongside the serial publications in printed form, the library has a large number of serial publications in electronic form.

The Library of the Faculty of Medicine has access to the electronic scientific database of the World Health Organization, the Hinari database, which has over 15,000 titles of the most famous biomedical journals.

The use of this scientific database allows our users access to the world's most famous biomedical journals, which is extremely important for the scientific research that takes place at the Faculty. In addition to monographic and serial publications, the library also has other scientific materials (doctoral dissertations, master's theses, graduate theses, master's theses, seminar papers, specialist papers, scientific-research projects, anthologies, guides, brochures) available to users.

The library collection currently contains 740 master's theses, 577 doctoral theses, 1709 bachelor's theses, 30 master's theses, 236 proceedings, 161 seminar papers, 42 subspecialist papers, 5 specialist papers, 11 scientific research projects, 315 guides and 115 brochures and newsletters.

There are 6 computers connected to the Internet in the library. Users of the library are provided with unhindered access to the Internet, which allows them to quickly and efficiently access the valuable scientific information.

Library users are undergraduate and postgraduate students, teaching staff of the Faculty and other visitors from various health institutions.

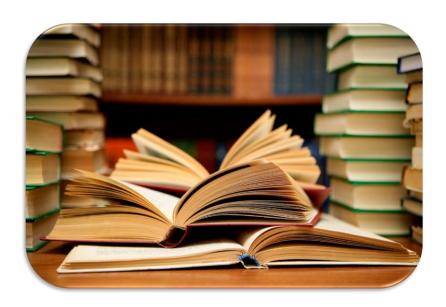
## The number of library users is constantly increasing, so there are currently 4906 members.

Most of the books can be taken out of the library by library users for one month, with the possibility of extension, while the other part of the collection (atlases, unique books, master's theses, doctoral theses, graduate theses, magazines, dictionaries) are to be used in the faculty reading room.

All the information about the library's collection can be found on the Faculty of Medicine website, which is updated daily.

The library of the Faculty of Medicine is located at the University Clinical Center of the Republic of Srpska in Paprikovac, Dvanaest beba street bb.

The library is open every working day in two shifts from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.



## The Student Union of the Faculty of Medicine

The Student Union of the Faculty of Medicine is a student organisation that deals with improving the teaching process as well as protecting the rights and interests of students in all study programmes at the Faculty of Medicine.

SSMF is the largest student organisation at the University of Banja Luka and one of the largest in the region. We count around 2500 students and over 150 active members in four different sections. We implement numerous projects of importance for public health as well as numerous humanitarian actions. The section for scientific research allows students to engage in scientific research and attend congresses and seminars around the world. The sports section has about 100 members and can be proud of being the section with the most medals. We currently have the transitional cup of the University of Banja Luka, as the Faculty with the most medals won at the student games. The journalistic section has about 30 members and deals with numerous medical and non-medical topics, which are published in the student magazine "Limfa". Through work with student organisations at the University of Banja Luka and with the Student Union of Republika Srpska, we conduct joint projects such as Student Days, the student scientific professional gathering "Students meeting science - StES", as well as many other projects. It is important to mention that there is another organisation at the Faculty, the Srpska Medical International Committee (SaMSIC), which provides students with the opportunity to travel, make new friends, and at the same time, perform professional practice in prestigious world clinical centres.

I would like to welcome you to the Faculty of Medicine. A Faculty that requires you to study every day, requires a lot of renunciation and "heating the chair" until midnight, but still, I am sure you will not miss socialising and partying because we medics are known for the best parties and the best socialising.

### Good luck!



President of the Student Union of the Faculty of Medicine

Milan Stupar

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/ssmfbl/ Instagram: www.instagram.com/ssmf\_bl E-mail: ssmf@student.med.unibl.org