BSc in Nursing

Academic year 2026/2027

INTEGRATED COURSE: MATERNITY AND CHILDCARE NURSING
NUMBER OF CFU: 6
SSD: MEDS-21/A (formerly MED/40), MEDS-24/C (formerly MED/45 and MED/47), MEDS-20/A (formerly MED/38)

COORDINATOR OF THE INTEGRATED COURSE: ROMINA BELSITO
E-MAIL: romina.belsito@unicamillus.org

GYNECOLOGY AND OBSTETRICS
NUMBER OF CFU: 2
SSD: MEDS-21/A (formerly MED/40)
PROFESSOR: FRANCESCA MORO
e-mail: francesca.moro@unicamillus.org

OBSTETRIC AND GYNECOLOGICAL NURSING SCIENCES
NUMBER OF CFU: 1
SSD: MEDS-24/C (formerly MED/47)
PROFESSOR: DWORAKOWSKA ANETA
e-mail : aneta.dworakowska@unicamillus.org

GENERAL AND SPECIALIST PEDIATRICS
NUMBER OF CFU: 1
SSD: MEDS-20/A (formerly MED/38)
PROFESSOR: GIOVANNI BATTISTA DELL'ISOLA
e-mail: giovanni.dellisola@unicamillus.org

NURSING SCIENCES IN NEONATOLOGY AND PEDIATRICS
NUMBER OF CFU: 2
SSD: MEDS-24/C (formerly MED/45)
PROFESSOR: ROMINA BELSITO
e-mail: romina.belsito@unicamillus.org

PROPAEDEUTIC COURSES

None

PREREQUISITES

Basic knowledge is required of:

- elements of human anatomy and physiology, with particular reference to the functioning of the main organs and systems and to the physiological changes that characterize the different stages of life;
- anatomical, physiological and auxological characteristics of the newborn, the child and the adolescent, with particular attention to the processes of growth, development and maturation;
- fundamental principles of biology, embryology, genetics, immunology and microbiology, necessary for the understanding of the main pathological conditions in the neonatal and pediatric field;
- basic knowledge of obstetrics and gynecology, with particular reference to the physiology of pregnancy, to labor and childbirth, to birth care, to the adaptation of the newborn to extrauterine life and to the main aspects of the puerperium;
- elements of anatomy and physiology of the female reproductive system and of the maternal pelvis, in relation to the birth pathway and to the care of the newborn;
- basic principles of nursing care, of the care process and of the planning of interventions addressed to the patient;
- knowledge concerning communication and the helping relationship with the patient and the family, with particular reference to the involvement of parents/caregivers in the care of the child and to the management of the therapeutic relationship.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The aim of the Course is to:

- Provide the principles of the physiology of pregnancy, childbirth and puerperium, thus becoming able to provide nursing care to women, children and families.
- Identify signs and symptoms of the main conditions that may occur during pregnancy, including spontaneous abortion, alterations of the physiological process of childbirth, as well as the nursing care required during any hospital admission of the woman to obstetrics and gynecology wards.
- Provide the student with basic knowledge of obstetrics and obstetric pathology (basic knowledge of care in spontaneous physiological childbirth) and basic knowledge of benign and malignant pathology in gynecology, with particular attention to the surgical instruments used for the most common procedures in gynecology and obstetrics.
- Identify physical, psychological and social needs and assess the woman's need for help, integrating theoretical knowledge with practical knowledge in order to meet these needs with technical and scientific competence.
- Identify the nursing care needs of women in the obstetric-gynecological field, recognizing the main conditions that require preventive and curative interventions, with an outline of the care pathways in specialist areas such as infertility, metabolic diseases and autoimmune diseases in pregnancy.

- Assess the immediate, intermediate and late physiological and pathological clinical manifestations related to pregnancy in the inpatient setting. Carry out care interventions planned according to verified and verifiable Guidelines based on scientific evidence (EBM/EBC)
- Provide the basic knowledge and skills relating to the physiology and pathology of the neonatal and pediatric age, with particular reference to the assessment of the newborn and the child, to growth and development, to nutrition and to the prevention of the main infectious diseases
- Provide the ability to identify the conditions that require nursing intervention and to recognize the conditions that require medical intervention
- Identify the care needs of the newborn and the child, taking into account the specific features of the different stages of growth and development;
- Plan and implement the nursing interventions addressed to the healthy and the sick newborn, in compliance with the principles of safety, quality and humanization of care;
- Recognize the main care problems in the pediatric field and collaborate with the multiprofessional team in the management of the care pathway;
- Apply the principles of therapeutic education and health promotion, developing effective communication and relational skills with the child and his/her family;
- Encourage the involvement of the family in the care pathway, promoting child- and family-centered care (Family-Centered Care).

EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES

DD1: Knowledge and understanding

At the end of the course the student will have to know/be able to:

- Know the main signs and symptoms of pregnancy;
- Recognize the main warning signs that precede and identify pathology in pregnancy;
- Know and describe the main tests required during pregnancy
- Know and describe the main pathologies of pregnancy
- Know and describe the stages of labor and childbirth
- Describe the nursing care process during hospital admission for the main pathologies of pregnancy, labor and childbirth
- Describe the nursing care process required for the hospital admission of the woman during labor, childbirth and puerperium
- Describe the care of the woman during spontaneous abortion.
- Know the clinical and functional anatomy of the female genital system
- Know the basic concepts of fetal development and growth
- Know obstetric semeiotics
- Know obstetric management in physiological pregnancy

- Know the basic concepts of abortion and ectopic pregnancy
- Know the basic concepts of care in spontaneous childbirth, placental delivery and puerperium
- Know what type of care to provide in the event of post-partum hemorrhage
- Know the concepts of contraception
- Know the benign pathologies of the uterus and the ovaries, as well as how to treat these conditions
- Know the oncological pathologies of the female genital system and the basic concepts of the treatment of these conditions
- Knowledge of fertilization and of embryo implantation
- Knowledge of the physiology of pregnancy and of the feto-placental unit
- Knowledge of the main periconceptional and perinatal screening methods and of invasive and non-invasive prenatal diagnosis
- Knowledge of pregnancy pathologies with particular regard to related conditions (spontaneous abortions), endocrinopathies, infectious diseases and autoimmune diseases
- Know the incubator and how it works
- Recognize the physiological newborn in order to distinguish him/her from the pathological newborn
- Recognize the main pathologies of the pediatric age
- Know the principles of physiological growth in order to distinguish it from pathological growth
- Know the principles of nutrition of the newborn and the child
- Follow the principles of prevention of the main infectious diseases of the pediatric age.
- Acquire knowledge on the syndromic pediatric patient and on his/her needs
- Recognize the main pediatric emergency situations
- Know the basic concepts of prenatal diagnosis
- Know how to assist the woman during breastfeeding
- Know the principles of pediatric and neonatal nursing care, with particular reference to the health needs of the newborn, the child and the adolescent;
- Understand the characteristics of growth and development in the different age groups and their impact on the planning of nursing care;
- Know the main clinical and care conditions of the healthy and the sick newborn and of the most frequent pediatric pathologies;
- Understand the care, psychological, relational and educational needs of the child and of his/her family during the care pathway;
- Know the principles of Family-Centered Care and of child- and family-centered care;
- Understand the principles of pediatric patient safety, of clinical risk prevention and of the correct administration of therapy in the pediatric and neonatal age;

- Know the main nursing interventions of prevention, health promotion and therapeutic education addressed to the child and the family;
- Understand the role of the pediatric nurse and of the nurse within the multiprofessional team, recognizing the importance of interdisciplinary collaboration in ensuring the continuity and the quality of care.

DD2: Applying knowledge and understanding

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

- Use the knowledge acquired to accompany and assist women in pregnancy, labor and puerperium during hospital admission, following the nursing approach and in collaboration with other professionals.
- Use the knowledge acquired to accompany and assist the woman during spontaneous abortion at the time of hospital admission, following the nursing approach and in collaboration with other professionals.
- Identify the conditions that require nursing intervention and plan the essential interventions for the main health problems
- Collaborate, in emergency conditions, in the care of a spontaneous physiological childbirth and assist the team in the preparation of the operating field for the most common gynecological procedures, both in laparotomic and in laparoscopic surgery.
- Use the knowledge acquired for the autonomous in-depth study of aspects relating to the specific field to which the student will devote him/herself within his/her professional activity
- Carry out a basic assessment of the newborn, measuring the main clinical parameters and identifying the warning signs suggestive of a pathological condition.
- Correctly measure the auxological parameters of the newborn and the child, such as weight, length or height, head circumference and body mass index, and use the main growth assessment tools.
- Collect the essential information relating to the feeding of the newborn and the child and identify any elements that require further investigation.
- Apply the main measures for the prevention of infectious diseases in the pediatric field.
- Measure and interpret the main pediatric vital signs in relation to the age of the patient.
- Identify the main signs and symptoms of pediatric emergency.
- Use the essential information deriving from prenatal diagnosis to understand the possible care needs of the newborn and of the family.
- Apply the nursing care process to the newborn and to the child, identifying their care needs and planning the appropriate interventions;
- Carry out the basic nursing interventions in the neonatal and pediatric field in compliance with procedures, scientific evidence and safety principles;
- Recognize at an early stage the main signs and symptoms of alteration of the health status of the pediatric patient, contributing to timely care;

- Apply the principles of care safety in the management of the pediatric patient, with particular attention to patient identification, to clinical risk prevention and to the correct preparation and administration of therapy;
- Use communication and relational methods appropriate to the age of the child and to the care setting, establishing an effective therapeutic relationship with the patient and his/her family;
- Plan and carry out health and therapeutic education interventions addressed to parents and caregivers, encouraging active participation in the care pathway;
- Collaborate with the professionals of the multidisciplinary team in the management of the care pathway, recognizing his/her own role and professional responsibilities;
- Apply clinical reasoning in solving simple pediatric care cases, integrating theoretical knowledge, scientific evidence and ethical and deontological principles.

DD3: Making judgements

At the end of the course the student will have to:

- Know how to use knowledge to distinguish physiology from pathology in the pregnant woman or the woman in labor and in the newborn
- Assess the clinical and care conditions of the newborn and the child, distinguishing physiological situations from those that require further clinical investigation.
- Identify care priorities on the basis of the conditions of the pediatric patient.
- Assess the appropriateness of the prevention and health promotion interventions addressed to the child and the family.
- Adopt a care approach respectful of the needs of the child and of the family
- Recognize and analyze the main care needs of the newborn, the child and the adolescent, identifying the priorities of nursing intervention;
- Critically assess the clinical and care conditions of the pediatric patient, integrating clinical data, nursing observations and information collected from the family;
- Identify risk situations and potentially critical conditions in the newborn and the child, proposing appropriate and timely care interventions;
- Formulate autonomous care judgements based on the knowledge acquired, on the available scientific evidence and on the ethical and deontological principles of the nursing profession;
- Choose the most appropriate nursing interventions in relation to the age of the patient, to the level of development, to the clinical condition and to the care setting;
- Assess the effectiveness of the care interventions carried out, modifying the care plan in relation to the response of the child and of the family;
- Recognize the educational needs of the child and of the caregivers, identifying appropriate communication strategies and support interventions;
- Develop a care approach oriented towards safety, personalization of care and the centrality of the child and the family.

DD4: Communication skills

At the end of the course the student will have to be able to express him/herself using appropriate and clear scientific and professional terminology, suited to the care setting, effectively communicating information relating to the health needs of the newborn, the child and the adolescent and to the nursing interventions to be implemented.

The student will also have to acquire relational and communication skills specific to the pediatric field, developing an approach appropriate to the child and to his/her family, respecting the different stages of growth, the individual characteristics and the emotional and care needs.

He/she will have to be able to establish a therapeutic relationship based on active listening, empathy and trust, encouraging the cooperation of the child during care procedures and promoting the involvement of parents/caregivers in the care pathway.

Finally, the student will have to be able to use effective communication strategies in order to provide information, health education and support to the family, adapting the language to the level of understanding of the interlocutors and contributing to continuity of care through correct communication with the multiprofessional team.

DD5: Learning skills

At the end of the course the student will have to have developed learning skills such as to allow him/her to autonomously integrate and deepen the knowledge acquired in the field of Pediatric and Obstetric Nursing, using up-to-date scientific sources and appropriate reference tools.

The student will have to be able to identify his/her own training needs and to update and broaden his/her knowledge in relation to the evolution of scientific evidence, guidelines and recommendations concerning neonatal and pediatric care. He/she will also have to develop the ability to link theoretical knowledge with clinical and care situations, through a critical and reflective learning process.

The student will have to acquire a method of study and of in-depth analysis aimed at the continuous improvement of professional skills, demonstrating the ability to analyze, select and use the scientific information useful for the planning and management of care for the newborn, the child, the family and the woman.

PROGRAM

GYNECOLOGY AND OBSTETRICS

- Anatomy of the female genital system
- Biological bases of reproductive function, ovarian and menstrual cycle
- Gynecological diagnostics, clinical and instrumental (gynecological physical examination, cytodiagnosis
- Oncology, colposcopy, gynecological ultrasound, radiological examinations in gynecology, hysteroscopy)
- Hormonal alterations; anovulation; dysmenorrhea, amenorrhea, hirsutism and polycystic ovary syndrome
- Puberty and menopause
- Contraception (hormonal; intrauterine devices; sterilization)

- Inflammation of the female genital system (vaginitis, pelvic inflammatory disease), Sexually transmitted diseases
- Pelvic floor pathology (urinary incontinence, utero-vaginal prolapse)
- Infertility, Assisted reproduction techniques
- Cervical cancer screening; HPV, Pap test, dysplastic lesions
- Gynecological Oncology - diagnosis, staging and treatment
- Ovarian cancer
- Endometrial cancer
- Cervical cancer
- Vulvar cancer
- Benign pathology of the endometrium
- Benign pathology of the ovary
- Benign pathology of the uterus
- Benign pathology of the cervix
- Benign pathology of the fallopian tubes
- Main gynecological surgical procedures

OBSTETRIC AND GYNECOLOGICAL NURSING SCIENCES

- Physiology of the menstrual cycle
- Contraceptives: the main contraceptive methods
- Monitoring of physiological pregnancy
- Assessment of fetal well-being: cardiotocography
- Rh alloimmunization
- Labor and childbirth
- Umbilical cord prolapse
- Shoulder dystocia
- Post-partum hemorrhage
- Prenatal diagnosis: diagnostic techniques (amniocentesis, chorionic villus sampling) and screening techniques
- Puerperium and breastfeeding
- First care of the newborn
- Infections in pregnancy: TORCH complex
- Diabetes in pregnancy
- Hypertension in pregnancy

- Placenta previa and placental abruption
- Amniotic fluid pathologies (oligohydramnios, polyhydramnios)
- Multiple pregnancy
- Preterm birth
- Ectopic pregnancy
- Miscarriage
- Law 194

GENERAL AND SPECIALIST PEDIATRICS

- Physiological and pathological newborn; care of the newborn at birth;
- main pediatric pathologies of the respiratory system: bronchial asthma, bronchiolitis, acute otitis media;
- main pediatric pathologies of the gastrointestinal system: infant colic, acute gastroenteritis, celiac disease, chronic inflammatory bowel diseases;
- main pediatric pathologies of the urinary system: urinary tract infections, post-streptococcal glomerulonephritis;
- fever, meningitis and febrile seizures and main neuropsychiatric disorders in the pediatric age;
- infectious exanthems of childhood and vaccinations;
- main cardiac malformations;
- main rheumatological diseases of the pediatric age;
- principles of pediatric oncohematology;
- main syndromic conditions of the pediatric age;
- physiological and pathological puberty and main endocrinological disorders in the pediatric age.
- Main pediatric emergencies and first aid techniques

NEONATAL AND PEDIATRIC NURSING SCIENCES

Nursing care of healthy and the sick newborn

- Nursing assessment of the healthy newborn and of the newborn with clinical problems: observation, identification of care needs and identification of the main signs of alteration.
- Characteristics of the full-term newborn and main adaptations to extrauterine life.
- Vital signs in the newborn: methods of measurement, interpretation and care monitoring.
- Pain assessment scales in the newborn and the child and nursing strategies for pain management.
- Neonatal screening: purposes, methods of performance and the role of the nurse in informing and supporting the family.

Nursing care of the premature and critically ill newborn

- Characteristics of the preterm newborn and specific care needs.

- Organization and functioning of the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) and the role of the nurse in the care of the critically ill newborn.
- Nursing care of the newborn in an incubator: management of the thermal environment, monitoring and promotion of development.
- Principles of Neonatal Individualized Developmental Care (NIDCAP) and of developmental care in the premature newborn.
- Kangaroo Therapy: benefits, methods of application and the role of the nurse in supporting the newborn-parent relationship.
- Protected neonatal transport and organization of the STEN (Neonatal Emergency Transport Service).
- Nursing management of the newborn undergoing phototherapy.
- Management of the newborn undergoing therapeutic hypothermia (Baby Cooling).
- Nursing care of the newborn with neonatal abstinence syndrome.

Neonatal feeding and nutrition

- Promotion and support of breastfeeding: the educational and care role of the nurse.
- Rooming-in and involvement of the parents in the care of the newborn.
- Differences between breast milk and formula milk and care implications.
- Enteral feeding of the newborn: management of feeding through a nasogastric tube (NGT), monitoring of tolerance and prevention of complications.
- Assessment of bowel elimination in the newborn and characteristics of the stools in the different stages of growth.

Care procedures and nursing techniques in the neonatal field

- Blood sampling in the newborn: venous, arterial and capillary sampling, indications and care management.
- Management of peripheral venous accesses and monitoring of complications.
- Management of neonatal central venous catheters: umbilical venous catheter (UVC) and percutaneous venous accesses.
- Airway suctioning in the newborn and assistance during meconium aspiration procedures and bronchoalveolar lavage.
- Principles of primary neonatal resuscitation and the role of the nurse in support maneuvers.

Pediatric nursing care and continuity of care

- Initial assessment and pediatric triage: identification of care priorities and management of the emergency.
- Health education and support to the family within the care pathway of the child.
- Home nursing care in the pediatric age: continuity of care, education of caregivers and management of complex needs.

TEACHING METHODS

Module 1 of Gynecology and Obstetrics is divided into lessons of 2 or 4 hours according to the academic calendar, for a total of 28 hours of frontal teaching. Attendance is compulsory for at least 75% of the hours. The examination will be written, with closed-ended and open-ended questions.

Module 2 of Obstetric Nursing is structured in 14 hours of frontal lessons, divided into lessons of a maximum of 4 hours, according to the academic calendar. The student is then required to integrate what has been learned through individual study activities. Attendance is compulsory for at least 75% of the hours. The examination will be written, with closed-ended and open-ended questions.

Module 3 of General and Specialist Pediatrics is structured in 14 hours of frontal teaching, divided into 2 or 3 hours according to the academic calendar. Students will be free to take part during the lessons, so as to stimulate mutual exchange and discussion within the group.

Module 4 of Neonatal and Pediatric Nursing is structured in 28 hours of frontal teaching with lectures/discussions, student presentations, audiovisual materials and written exercises. Attendance is compulsory for at least 75% of the hours. The examination consists of a written test made up of closed-ended and open-ended questions with the resolution of clinical and care cases, aimed at assessing the knowledge acquired, the ability to apply nursing skills and clinical reasoning in the management of the main care problems in the neonatal and pediatric field.

ASSESSMENT METHODS

The examination of the Course of Maternal and Child Nursing is carried out through written and oral tests. Each professor assesses the achievement of the learning objectives and the acquisition of the specific skills of his/her module through assessment methods consistent with the contents delivered, which may include multiple-choice questions, open-ended questions and/or clinical and care cases, according to what is envisaged for the individual module.

The assessment of each test is expressed out of thirty. The final assessment of the Integrated Course is determined by the overall evaluation of the tests taken in the individual modules, according to the criteria established by the Degree Course.

The following criteria will be taken into account in the overall assessment:

- Knowledge and understanding of the topics covered (30%): ability to recognize, describe and connect the main contents of the course.
- Ability to apply the knowledge acquired (30%): ability to use theoretical knowledge in solving questions and clinical and care cases, integrating theoretical knowledge with nursing reasoning.
- Making judgements and critical analysis skills (30%): ability to interpret care situations, identify the relevant problems and propose appropriate nursing interventions.
- Correctness, completeness and clarity of presentation (10%): ability to provide complete and coherent answers, using technical and scientific terminology appropriate to the nursing discipline.

The examinations will be assessed according to the following criteria:

< 18 insufficient	Fragmentary and superficial knowledge of the contents, errors in applying the concepts, poor presentation.
18 - 20	Sufficient but general knowledge of the contents, simple presentation, uncertainties in the application of theoretical concepts.
21 – 23	Appropriate but not in-depth knowledge of the contents, ability to apply theoretical concepts only partially, acceptable presentation of the contents.
24 – 26	Appropriate knowledge of the contents, fair ability to apply theoretical concepts, well-structured presentation of the contents.
27 - 29	Precise and complete knowledge of the contents, good ability to apply theoretical concepts, ability to analyze and synthesize, confident and correct presentation.
30 - 30L	Very broad, complete and in-depth knowledge of the contents, well-consolidated ability to apply theoretical concepts and excellent command of presentation, as well as excellent ability to analyze, synthesize and develop interdisciplinary connections.

SUPPORT ACTIVITIES

None

RECOMMENDED READINGS AND BIBLIOGRAPHY

Textbooks GYNECOLOGY AND OBSTETRICS

- Caruso – Lanzone, Manuale di Ginecologia e Ostetricia, (2024), Edizione Scientifiche Falco
- Symonds- Arulkumaran, Essentials Obstetrics and Gynecology (2029), Elsevier Eng

Textbooks OBSTETRIC AND GYNECOLOGICAL NURSING SCIENCES

- Symonds, M., Arulkumaran, S. (2019). Essentials Obstetrics and Gynecology. Elsevier Health Sciences
- Wood, M., Lattey, K. (2024). The Unofficial Guide to Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Edition 2. Elsevier Health Sciences

Textbooks GENERAL AND SPECIALIST PEDIATRICS

- Abzug, M.J., Myron, J.L., Deterding, R.R., Hav, W.W. (2016). Current Diagnosis & Treatment. McGraw-Hill Professional.
- Dusenbery, S. M., & White, A. (Eds.). (2016). The Washington manual of pediatrics. Lippincott Williams & Wilkins
- Marcdante, K., & Kliegman, R. M. (2019). Nelson essentials of pediatrics e-book. Elsevier Health Sciences
- Zuccotti, G.V. (2017). Elementi essencialio di pediatria per corsi di laurea triennali. Esculapio.

Textbooks NEONATAL AND PEDIATRIC NURSING SCIENCES

- Kenner, C., Leslie Altimier, D. N. P., & Boykova, M. V. (Eds.). (2019). Comprehensive neonatal nursing care. Springer Publishing Company.
- Nicki L. Potts, Barbara L Mandleco (2012). Pediatric Nursing: Caring for Children and Their Families (3rd Ed.) New York: Delmar Cengage Learning.