

Faculty of Medicine in Rijeka

**Curriculum
2023/2024**

For course

Chess and Critical Thinking

Study program:	Medical Studies in English (R) (elective) University integrated undergraduate and graduate study
Department:	Department of Humanities and Social Sciences in Medicine
Course coordinator:	izv. prof. dr. sc. Horvat Saša
Year of study:	2
ECTS:	1.5
Incentive ECTS:	0 (0.00%)
Foreign language:	Possibility of teaching in a foreign language

Course information:

Introduce students to the basic elements of critical thinking through chess, with the aim of a more complete understanding of the decision-making process.

List of assigned reading:

Lecture presentations

Gari Kasparov. (2008.). *How Life Imitates Chess: Making the Right Moves, from the Board to the Boardroom* , Bloomsbury USA (selected parts)

Neil McDonald. (2004). *Chess: The Art of Logical Thinking: From the First Move to the Last* , Batsford (selected parts)

Jonathan Haber. (2020). *Critical Thinking*, MIT Press (selected parts)

Daniel Kahneman (2013.). *Thinking, Fast and Slow* , Farrar, Straus and Giroux. (selected parts)

All required literature as well as presentations will be available to students.

List of optional reading:

Mark Dvoretsky. (2006.). *Secrets of Chess Training: School of Future Chess Champions 1* , Edition Olms (selected parts)

Daniel Kahneman, Olivier Sibony, Cass R. Sunstein (2022). *Noise: A Flaw in Human Judgment* , Little, Brown and Company.

Curriculum:

Lectures list (with titles and explanation):

Introduction: Why the subject of critical thinking?

Students will be able to recognize and identify the key aspects of the importance of developing critical thinking in the context of decision-making processes in various life circumstances.

Chess: Basic rules of the game and decision-making

Students will be able to describe and apply the fundamental rules of chess.

Students will be able to identify the main connections between decision-making in chess and the decision-making process.

Fundamental aspects of critical thinking

Students will be able to identify and elaborate on the fundamental elements of critical thinking.

Students will develop the capability to recognize key attributes of System 1 and System 2 thinking processes.

Students will be able to articulate how this knowledge enhances their cognitive skills and analytical prowess.

Seminars list (with titles and explanation):

Understanding tactics and strategy in chess and decision-making

Students will be able to explain basic tactical motifs in chess and their relationship with the decision-making process.
Students will be able to explain basic strategic motifs in chess and their relationship with the decision-making process.

Fundamental aspects of critical thinking

Students will be able to identify and elaborate on the fundamental elements of critical thinking.
Students will develop the capability to recognize key attributes of System 1 and System 2 thinking processes.
Students will be able to articulate how this knowledge enhances their cognitive skills and analytical prowess.

Presentations of students' essays on selected topics of critical thinking and decision-making processes

Students critically analyze a selected topic related to critical thinking and decision-making processes and showcase their depth of understanding and analytical skills.

Prejudices and classic mistakes in thinking and the decision-making process

The students will gain the ability to recognize the most prevalent prejudices inherent in thinking and the decision-making process.

The students will be able to employ critical analysis of texts and examples illustrating various forms of prejudice.
The student will be able to elaborate on how the skill of critical approach can help steer clear of succumbing to prejudices in the thinking and decision-making process.

Student obligations:

Regular attendance, written seminar paper and final written examination.

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

Assessment is carried out in accordance with the Rules of Assessment of the Faculty of Medicine, University of Rijeka: course attendance 54 (%), written seminar paper 23 (%), and final written exam 23 (%).

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

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COURSE HOURS 2023/2024

Chess and Critical Thinking

Lectures (Place and time or group)	Seminars (Place and time or group)
24.10.2023	
Introduction: Why the subject of critical thinking?: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Z-hall (15:15 - 16:00) ^[1602]<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ CACT Chess: Basic rules of the game and decision-making: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Z-hall (16:15 - 17:00) ^[1602]<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ CACT	
izv. prof. dr. sc. Horvat Saša ^[1602]	
26.10.2023	
Chess: Basic rules of the game and decision-making: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• P03 - IT CLASSROOM (16:00 - 16:45) ^[1602]<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ CACT	Understanding tactics and strategy in chess and decision-making: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• P03 - IT CLASSROOM (17:00 - 17:45) ^[1602]<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ CACT
izv. prof. dr. sc. Horvat Saša ^[1602]	
07.11.2023	
	Understanding tactics and strategy in chess and decision-making: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Z-hall (14:30 - 16:00) ^[1602]<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ CACT
izv. prof. dr. sc. Horvat Saša ^[1602]	
14.11.2023	
Fundamental aspects of critical thinking: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Z-hall (15:15 - 16:00) ^[1602]<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ CACT	Fundamental aspects of critical thinking: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Z-hall (16:00 - 18:15) ^[1602]<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ CACT
izv. prof. dr. sc. Horvat Saša ^[1602]	
21.11.2023	
	Fundamental aspects of critical thinking: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Z-hall (15:00 - 16:30) ^[1602]<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ CACT Prejudices and classic mistakes in thinking and the decision-making process: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Z-hall (16:30 - 18:00) ^[1602]<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ CACT
izv. prof. dr. sc. Horvat Saša ^[1602]	
05.12.2023	
	Prejudices and classic mistakes in thinking and the decision-making process: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Z-hall (15:15 - 18:30) ^[1602]<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ CACT
izv. prof. dr. sc. Horvat Saša ^[1602]	

16.01.2024	
	Prejudices and classic mistakes in thinking and the decision-making process: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Z-hall (16:15 - 18:30) ^[1602] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ CACT
izv. prof. dr. sc. Horvat Saša ^[1602]	
23.01.2024	
	Presentations of students' essays on selected topics of critical thinking and decision-making processes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Z-hall (15:00 - 18:00) ^[1602] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ CACT Prejudices and classic mistakes in thinking and the decision-making process: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Z-hall (15:00 - 18:00) ^[1602] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ CACT
izv. prof. dr. sc. Horvat Saša ^[1602]	

List of lectures, seminars and practicals:

LECTURES (TOPIC)	Number of hours	Location
Introduction: Why the subject of critical thinking?	1	Z-hall
Chess: Basic rules of the game and decision-making	2	P03 - IT CLASSROOM Z-hall
Fundamental aspects of critical thinking	2	Z-hall

SEMINARS (TOPIC)	Number of hours	Location
Understanding tactics and strategy in chess and decision-making	3	P03 - IT CLASSROOM Z-hall
Fundamental aspects of critical thinking	4	Z-hall
Presentations of students' essays on selected topics of critical thinking and decision-making processes	3	Z-hall
Prejudices and classic mistakes in thinking and the decision-making process	10	Z-hall

EXAM DATES (final exam):
