

Course Name:

Interdisciplinarity: Medical Humanities and Research at the intersections of the Humanities, the Social Sciences, Clinical Practice and Biomedicine (3 ECTS Credits)¹

What does interdisciplinarity in medical humanities mean? What are the epistemological underpinnings of different interdisciplinary ways of engaging in medical humanities research? What are the challenges and possibilities in interdisciplinary research at the very intersection between the humanities, the social sciences, clinical research, and biomedicine?

These are some of the questions that will be addressed in this Summer School, that welcomes PhD students and early career researchers in medical humanities understood broadly as well as in medicine - with an interest in interdisciplinary research.

Course language: English

Credits: 3,0 ECTS Credits are available for this course. Accreditation is optional for all students. All participating students (both accredited and non-accredited) are expected to have completed preparatory work (equal to approximately 5 days full-time work) before the onsite course days.

Course Objectives

On completion of the course, the course participant will be able to:

- Describe what interdisciplinarity in medical humanities, understood as including perspectives and methods within the humanities and the qualitative social sciences on health, illness, medical practices, medical technologies etc., can mean;
- Describe what interdisciplinary at the intersection of medical humanities, clinical research, and/or biomedicine, can mean;
- Discuss interdisciplinarity and related terms such as transdisciplinarity and multidisciplinarity;
- Discuss different understandings of subjectivity and objectivity and the relation between them, and how these can matter for the interdisciplinary areas above;
- Identify and discuss epistemological underpinnings, choices and challenges within interdisciplinary medical humanities research and interdisciplinary at the intersection of medical humanities, clinical research, and/or biomedicine;
- Formulate the relevance, strengths, and challenges of working interdisciplinary in relation to the course participant's research areas.

Course Content

The course introduces different understandings of interdisciplinarity in medical humanities, and in work at the intersection of the humanities, the social sciences, clinical practices and/or biomedicine. It engages with concrete examples with the aim of identifying and discussing

¹ In English: one week of full-time studies is equivalent of 1.5. ECTS credits.

epistemological underpinnings of different interdisciplinary ways of engaging in medical humanities research and research at the intersection of the humanities, the social sciences, clinical practices and/or biomedicine.

The course also introduces and examines conceptualizations of subjectivity and objectivity and the relation between them, within strands of medical humanities and in work at the intersection of the humanities, the social sciences, clinical practices and/or biomedicine – attentive to how such conceptualizations can inform approaches to interdisciplinary research.

Course participants will be familiarized with the debates on interdisciplinarity in medical humanities. They will be given ample opportunities to discuss perspectives, theories, and concepts, and relate this to their own research.

Course Organization

The course is given as a three-day on-site Summer School consisting of lectures, seminars, and small group discussions.

In addition, all participants are expected to have undertaken preparatory work before the onsite course days. This preparatory work is expected to be equal to approximately 5 days full-time work.

The course is designed to be participant-oriented in the sense that it maximizes active interactions as learning activities. This means not only that course participants are expected to have read the literature and prepared questions or reflections in advance, but also that the course is designed to give many opportunities for discussion with lecturers and fellow course participants on-site.

Examination

For participants who wish to obtain course credits, the examination of the course consists of the following components:

- Active participation in all course sessions.
- Write a course essay of 2,500 words.

Grades

Assessment will be pass or fail.

Literature

The course literature consists of articles and book chapters. Due to copyright regulations, we will only be able to provide you with a small part of the readings. For this reason, please turn to your university library to get as many of the readings as possible.

Requirements

Participation in the course requires that the participant has completed an undergraduate degree and is either currently accepted in a PhD programme that is relevant for the course.