

**DESCRIPTION OF COURSE UNIT FOR DOCTORAL STUDIES
AT VILNIUS UNIVERSITY
(Interdisciplinary course)**

Scientific Area/eas, Field/ds of Science	Natural Sciences (N 000): Biology (N 010) Social Sciences (S 000): Sociology (S 005); Psychology (S 006); Educology (S 007); Law (S 001)			
Faculty, Institute, Department/Clinic	Clinic of Psychiatry Institute of Clinical Medicine Faculty of Medicine			
Course unit title (ECTS credits, hours)	Suicidology 6 credits (162 hours)			
Study method	Lectures	Seminars	Consultations	Self-study
Number of ECTS credits	1	1	1	3
Method of the assessment (in 10 point system)	<p><u>Presentation of the report and its evaluation:</u> The report is presented on a specific topic that is coordinated with the lecturers (the doctoral student must analyze, review and present the latest scientific publications related to the target topic).</p> <p><u>The report is evaluated on a 10-point scale:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) clarity, expediency of selection of sources and arguments (6 points); b) substantiation of the conclusions with the arguments set out in the text (2 points); c) language culture, consistency of teaching (1 point); d) compliance with citation rules (1 point). 			
PURPOSE OF THE COURSE UNIT				
To help study and understand the essential principles and methods of suicidology.				
THE MAIN TOPICS OF COURSE UNIT				
<p>Suicide is an important issue for mental health and public health in general. The main topics of the subject are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Aspects of suicide attitudes: compulsory, protest, cult, mystical, epidemic, criminal, gambling and other suicides. - Prevalence of suicides and suicide attempts in the world, in the European Union and in Lithuania. Mortality from accidents in Lithuania. - Demographic and social characteristics of suicides. - Causes of suicidal behaviour: genetics, heredity, family, biological and psychosocial causes, conflicts and crises, financial and economic problems, aggression, impulsivity. - Sociological theories of suicide, types of E. Durkheim suicides, etc. The influence of the ecosystem on the development of suicide. - Influence of mental disorders on suicidal behaviour: schizophrenia, schizoaffective disorder, mood disorders, sleep disorders, influence of psychoactive 				

substance abuse, personality disorders, etc. The concept of comorbidity and its influence on the suicidal process. Influence of seasonality.

- Influence of somatic disorders.
- Media influence. Werter effect.
- Suicide process: internal and external suicidal behaviour, presuicidal syndrome, suicidal communication options, rehearsal. Post-suicidal conditions: critical, manipulative, analytical, fixative.
- Suicide classification by: ICD-10, ICD-11, DSM-IV, DSM-V.
- Suicide diagnosis: specific survey design, diagnostic criteria, scales, questionnaires: Beck Despair Scale, Beck Suicide Risk Scale, PERSSON Scale, Columbia Suicide Severity Rating Scale (C-SSRS), and more.
- Legal aspects of suicide. Fundamentals of ethics. The concept of euthanasia.
- Suicide prevention, intervention, post-intervention. General, direct and indirect prevention. Psychological helplines. Silver telephone line. Crisis centers. Suicide prevention centers. Suicide prevention models. The relationship between suicide prevention and hospitalization.
- Help for relatives of suicides.
- Procedures for psychosocial assessment of survivors of a suicide crisis. CAMS - Assessment of Suicidal Behaviour.
- The science of suicidology. Research Methods for Suicidal Behaviour.

RECOMMENDED LITERATURE SOURCES

1. Shneidman E. Savižudžio sąmonė. V., 2002. 151 p.
2. Szasz T. The Ethics and Politics of Suicide. Fatal Freedom. Syracuse, 2002. 179 p.
3. Navickas A. Savižudybės. Vadovėlis Psichiatrija. Vilnius, Vaistų žinios, 2003. p. 314–335.
4. Wasserman D., Wassermann C. Oxford Textbook of Suicidology and Suicide Prevention. Oxford, 1st edition, 2009; 2nd edition 2021.
5. Pompili M., Tatarelli R. Evidence-Based Practice in Suicidology. USA, 2011. 384 p.
6. Koslow A. H., Ruiz P., Nemeroff C. B. A Concise Guide to Understanding Suicide. Cambridge, 2014. 395 p.
7. <https://artimiems.lt/kas-tau-gali-padeti/literaturos-sarasas/>
8. https://tuesi.lt/?utm_source=google&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=tuesi&gclid=Cj0KCQjwxtSSBhDYARIsAEn0thTkW77hwBkkIFU7y2VVtYe5yBZzW0Uz6W6ZMHnRMKggiUwVEhqLuDYaAkmpEALw_wcB
9. Matthew K. Nock. The Oxford Handbook of Suicide and Self-Injury. 2014. <https://www.oxfordhandbooks.com/view/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780195388565.001.0001/oxfordhb-9780195388565>
10. Rory C. O'Connor, Jane Pirkis. The International Handbook of Suicide Prevention, 2nd Edition. 2016. <https://www.wiley.com/en-gb/The+International+Handbook+of+Suicide+Prevention%2C+2nd+Edition-p-9781118903278>
11. https://suicidology.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/SOS_handbook.pdf
12. David A. Jobes. Managing Suicidal Risk. Second Edition. A collaborative Approach. 2016. <https://www.guilford.com/books/Managing-Suicidal-Risk/David-Jobes/9781462526901>

13. International Association for Suicide Prevention. <https://www.iasp.info/>

CONSULTING LECTURERS

1. Coordinating lecturer: Alvydas Navickas (Prof. dr.)

2. Sigita Lesinskienė (Prof. dr.)

3. Giedrė Bulotienė (Assoc. prof. dr.)

4. Edgaras Dlugauskas (Assist. prof. dr.)

APPROVED:

By Council of Doctoral School of Medicine and Health Sciences at Vilnius University
15th of June, 2022

Chairperson of the Board: Prof. Janina Tutkuvienė