



**MEDICAL UNIVERSITY OF PLOVDIV, BULGARIA**

**MEDICAL FACULTY**



**INFORMATION PACKAGE**

**Master degree program of**

**MEDICAL SPEECH AND LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY**



**Plovdiv 2024**

## Bulgaria

The **Republic of Bulgaria**, is a country in Southeast Europe. It occupies the whole eastern part of the Balkans, and is bordered by Romania to the north, Serbia and North Macedonia to the west, Greece and Turkey to the south, and the Black Sea to the east. Bulgaria covers a territory of 110,994 square kilometres (42,855 sq mi), and is the sixteenth-largest country in Europe. Sofia is the nation's capital and largest city; other major cities are Plovdiv, Varna and Burgas.

One of the earliest societies in the lands of modern-day Bulgaria was the Neolithic Karanovo culture, which dates back to 6,500 BC. In the 6th to 3rd century BC the region was a battleground for ancient Thracians, Persians, Celts and Macedonians; stability came when the Roman Empire conquered the region in AD 45. After the Roman state splintered, tribal invasions in the region resumed. Around the 6th century, these territories were settled by the early Slavs. The Bulgars led by Asparuh of Bulgaria attacked from the lands of (Old Great) Bulgaria and permanently invaded the Balkans in the late 7th century. They established (Danubian) Bulgaria, victoriously recognised by treaty in AD 681 by the Eastern Roman Empire. It dominated most of the Balkans and significantly influenced Slavic cultures by developing the Cyrillic script. The First Bulgarian Empire lasted until the early 11th century, when Byzantine emperor Basil II conquered and dismantled it. A successful Bulgarian revolt in 1185 established a Second Bulgarian Empire, which reached its apex under Ivan Asen II (1218–1241). After numerous exhausting wars and feudal strife, the empire disintegrated in 1396 and fell under Ottoman rule for nearly five centuries.

The Russo-Turkish War of 1877–78 resulted in the formation of the third and current Bulgarian state. Many ethnic Bulgarians were left outside the new nation's borders, which stoked irredentist sentiments that led to several conflicts with its neighbours and alliances with Germany in both world wars. After 1989 Bulgaria transitioned into a democracy and a market-based economy. Since adopting a democratic constitution in 1991, Bulgaria has been a unitary parliamentary republic composed of 28 provinces, with a high degree of political, administrative, and economic centralisation.

Bulgaria is a developing country, with an upper-middle-income economy, ranking 56th in the Human Development Index. Its market economy is part of the European Single Market and is largely based on services, followed by industry—especially machine building and mining—and agriculture. Widespread corruption is a major socioeconomic issue; Bulgaria ranked as the most corrupt country in the European

Union in 2018. The country also faces a demographic crisis, with its population shrinking annually since around 1990; it currently numbers roughly seven million, down from a peak of nearly nine million in 1988.

Bulgaria is a member of the European Union, NATO, and the Council of Europe; it is also a founding member of the OSCE, and has taken a seat on the United Nations Security Council three times (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bulgaria>).



Source: <https://www.britannica.com/place/Bulgaria>

## Plovdiv

Plovdiv, (historically known as Philippopolis, Greek: Φιλιππούπολις), is the second-largest city in Bulgaria, standing on the banks of the Maritsa river in the historical region of Thrace. It has a population of 346,893 as of 2018 and 675,000 in the greater metropolitan area. Plovdiv is the cultural capital of Bulgaria and was the European Capital of Culture in 2019. It is an important economic, transport, cultural, and educational center.

Plovdiv is situated in a fertile region of south-central Bulgaria on the two banks of the Maritsa River. The city has historically developed on seven syenite hills, some of which are 250 metres (820 feet) high. Because of these hills, Plovdiv is often referred to in Bulgaria as "The City of the Seven Hills". There is evidence of habitation in the area dating back to the 6th millennium BCE, when the first Neolithic settlements were established. The city was subsequently a local Thracian settlement, later being conquered and ruled also by Persians, Ancient Macedonians, Celts, Romans, Byzantines, Goths, Huns, Bulgarians (Thracians, Bulgars, Slavic tribes, etc.), Crusaders, and Ottoman turks.

Philippopolis was founded as a *polis* by the father of Alexander the Great, Philip the Great (r. 359–336 BCE), the king of ancient Macedonia, settling there both Thracians and 2,000 Macedonians and Greeks in 342 BCE. Control of the city alternated between

the Macedonian kingdom and the Thracian Odrysian kingdom during the Hellenistic period; the Macedonian king Philip V (r. 221–179 BCE) reoccupied the city in 183 BCE and his successor Perseus (r. 179–168 BCE) held the city with the Odrysians until the Roman Republic conquered the Macedonian kingdom in 168 BC. Philippopolis became the capital of the Roman province of Thracia. The city was at the centre of the road network of inland Thrace, and the strategic *Via Militaris* was crossed by several other roads at the site, leading to the Danube, the Aegean Sea, and the Black Sea. The Roman emperor Marcus Aurelius (r. 161–180 CE) built a new wall around the city.

In Late Antiquity, Philippopolis was an important stronghold, but was sacked in 250 during the Crisis of the Third Century, after the Siege of Philippopolis by the Goths led by Cniva. After this the settlement contracted, though it remained a major city, with the city walls rebuilt and new Christian basilicas and Roman baths constructed in the 4th century. The city was again sacked by the Huns in 441/442, and the walls were again rebuilt. Roman Philippopolis resisted another attack, by the Avars in the 580s, after the walls were renewed yet again by Justinian the Great (r. 527–565).

In the Middle Ages, Philippopolis fell to the Bulgars of the First Bulgarian Empire in 863, during the reign of Boris I (r. 852–889), having been briefly abandoned by the Christian inhabitants in 813 during a dispute with the *khan* Krum (r. c. 803 – 814). During the Byzantine–Bulgarian wars, the emperor Basil the Bulgar-Slayer (r. 960–1025) used Philippopolis as a major strategic fortification, governed by the *protospatharios* Nikephoros Xiphias. In the middle 11th century, the city was attacked by the Pechenegs, who occupied it briefly around 1090. The city continued to prosper, with the walls restored in the 12th century, during which the historian and politician Niketas Choniates was its governor and the physician Michael Italikos was its metropolitan bishop. According to the Latin historian of the Fourth Crusade, Geoffrey of Villehardouin, Philippopolis was the third largest city in the Byzantine Empire, after Constantinople (Istanbul) and Thessalonica (Thessaloniki). It suffered damage from the armies passing through the city during the Crusades as well as from sectarian violence between the Eastern Orthodox and the Armenian Orthodox and Paulician denominations. The city was destroyed by Kaloyan of Bulgaria (r. 1196–1207) in 1206 and rebuilt thereafter. In 1219, the city became the capital of the Crusader Duchy of Philippopolis, part of the Latin Empire. The Second Bulgarian Empire recovered the city in 1263, but lost it to Byzantine control before recapturing it in 1323. The Ottoman Empire conquered Philippopolis (Turkish: *Filibe*) in 1363 or 1364.

On 4 January 1878, at the end of the Russo-Turkish War (1877–1878), Plovdiv was taken away from Ottoman rule by the Russian army. It remained within the borders of

Bulgaria until July of the same year, when it became the capital of the autonomous Ottoman region of Eastern Rumelia. In 1885, Plovdiv and Eastern Rumelia joined Bulgaria.

There are many preserved ruins such as the ancient Plovdiv Roman theatre, a Roman odeon, a Roman aqueduct, the Plovdiv Roman Stadium, the archaeological complex Eirene, and others. Plovdiv is host to a huge variety of cultural events such as the International Fair Plovdiv, the international theatrical festival "A stage on a crossroad", the TV festival "The golden chest", and many more novel festivals, such as Night/Plovdiv in September, Kapana Fest, and Opera Open. The oldest American educational institution outside the United States, the American College of Sofia, was founded in Plovdiv in 1860 and later moved to Sofia.

On 5 September 2014, Plovdiv was selected as the Bulgarian host of the European Capital of Culture 2019 alongside the Italian city of Matera. This happened with the help of the Municipal Foundation "Plovdiv 2019", a non-government organization, which was established in 2011 by Plovdiv's City Council whose main objectives were to develop and to prepare Plovdiv's bid book for European Capital of Culture in 2019 (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Plovdiv>).



[https://bg.wikipedia.org/wiki/%D0%9F%D0%BB%D0%BE%D0%B2%D0%B4%D0%B8%D0%B2#/media/%D0%A4%D0%B0%D0%B9%D0%BB:Bulgaria\\_Bulgaria-0742\\_-\\_Plovdiv\\_Regional\\_Ethnographic\\_Museum\\_\(7432382418\).jpg](https://bg.wikipedia.org/wiki/%D0%9F%D0%BB%D0%BE%D0%B2%D0%B4%D0%B8%D0%B2#/media/%D0%A4%D0%B0%D0%B9%D0%BB:Bulgaria_Bulgaria-0742_-_Plovdiv_Regional_Ethnographic_Museum_(7432382418).jpg)

**Medical University of Plovdiv (MUP)** is the second oldest public medical research university in Bulgaria and was established in 1945. The mission of the Medical University of Plovdiv is to improve health and quality of life for all patients through innovative interdisciplinary research and providing high quality of medical students training. The vision of the university is to collaborate effectively, through innovation to

be a leader improving the health of the local (south region of Bulgaria) and global community. MUP is prestigious research, educational and medical center in Bulgaria. The students are trained in four faculties and one college: Faculty of Medicine, Faculty of Dental Medicine, Faculty of Pharmacy, Faculty of Public Health, Medical College and Department of Languages and Specialized Training ([www.mu-plovdiv.bg](http://www.mu-plovdiv.bg)).

MUP trained more than 7400 students – of them 3300 are foreign students coming from 54 countries. The educational process is concentrated in 12 BA, 10 MA and more than 70 doctoral programs in medicine and health sciences. During the period of 2015-2021 the university was visited by 400 foreign guest-lecturers within different international educational and research projects.

MUP is committed to excellent teaching, and innovative research nationally and internationally.

The academic staff appointed at the MUP includes more than 780 professors and 300 administrative staff.

Since 2003 MUP is recognized partner with European Union education program Erasmus. Last 10 years' period the university reported more than 575 internal and 630 external mobility's for students and staff.

**Motto in English:** "Dedicated to humanity"!

**Rector:** Prof. Angel Uchikov, MD

e-mail: [rector@mu-plovdiv.bg](mailto:rector@mu-plovdiv.bg)



<https://www.google.com/search?q=%D0%9C%D0%B5%D0%B4%D0%B8%D1%86%D0%B8%D0%BD%D1%81%D0%BA%D0%B8+%D1%83%D0%BD%D0%B8%D0%B2%D0%B5%D1%80%D1%81%D0%B8%D1%82%D0%B5%D1%82+%D0%BF%D0%BB%D0%BE%D0%B2%D0%B4%D0%B8%D0%B2&source=Inm>

s&tbm=isch&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwjf163ZjZv4AhXdRPEDHfB8DCQQ\_AUoAXoECAIQAw&biw=1280&bih=587&dpr=1.5#imgrc=ZfsGJSE7W\_cYEM

## **Medical Faculty**

The Faculty of Medicine is the foundation upon which the Higher Institute of Medicine and later its successor – Medical University Plovdiv have been built.

The Faculty of Medicine maintains the prestige of an internationally acclaimed educational and research center, in which 2862 students in medicine are currently being trained. The training is conducted in Bulgarian and English. Approximately 1721 foreign medical students are citizens of 47 countries from 5 continents. In addition to the modern facilities for theoretical training and the newly equipped classrooms, the practical training of the medical students is conducted in several university hospitals with high-tech diagnostic and therapeutic units, equipped with conventional and modern apparatuses. The students and the postgraduates have the opportunity to be trained at the largest complex training center for medical specialists in Bulgaria – The Medical Simulation Training Centre at Medical University Plovdiv.

The main priority of the Faculty of Medicine is to improve the quality of training and to develop the syllabi in accordance with the European and the Uniform State Requirements for medicine. That is why the syllabi and the curriculum are frequently revised.

The Faculty of Medicine consists of 29 departments. The department of pediatrics and medical genetics is responsible for the training of students in a new master degree Program on Medical Speech and Language Pathology. The Faculty of Medicine reported more than 40 PhD programs in Medicine and 8 in Biology.

**Dean:** Prof. Mariela Geneva-Popova, MD

e-mail: [dean@mu-plovdiv.bg](mailto:dean@mu-plovdiv.bg)

## **Department of Neurology (<https://mu-plovdiv.bg/fakulteti/medicinski/katedri/nevrologiya/>)**

Since March 2024 the department of Neurology took over the administrative management of the new master degree program of Medical SLP. The program was managed by the department of Pediatrics and Medical Genetics during the period September 2022 – March 2024.

**Head of the department:** Prof. Penka Atanasova, MD

e-mail: [Penka.atanasova@mu-plovdiv.bg](mailto:Penka.atanasova@mu-plovdiv.bg)

## **Master degree program: Medical Speech-Language Pathology (MSLP)**

**Program director:** Prof. Dobrinka Georgieva, PhD

e-mail: [dobrinka.georgieva@mu-plovdiv.bg](mailto:dobrinka.georgieva@mu-plovdiv.bg)

The purpose of the Master training program for students in MSLP is to: (i) provide advanced knowledge in existing theories and scientific research through research-based teaching and (ii) to evaluate in a critical way evidence-based research about communication disorders in patients from clinical milieu.

This master degree program, written in Bulgarian, has been developed specifically for Bulgarian students.

The current Master's degree program prepares specialists who have graduated with a baccalaureate in professional field 7.4. Public Health-Logopaedics and/or Master's degree in professional fields different from 7.4. "Public Health". The duration of training for graduated BA in Public Health-Logopaedics is 2 semesters.

The duration of training for graduated BA or MA from different professional areas like 7.1. Medicine, 7.2. Dental Medicine, 7.3. Pharmacy, 7.4. Public Health, 7.5. Health Care 3.2. Psychology, 3.4. Social work, 1.2. Pedagogy etc. is 4 semesters.

This Master's degree program provides theoretical and practical experience for the MSLP within the following communication disorders typical for the scope of MSLP practice:

- ✓ Fluency disorders
- ✓ Voice impairments
- ✓ Neurocognitive communication disorders (dementia)
- ✓ Structural abnormalities including congenital (cleft palate) and acquired abnormalities (laryngectomy)
- ✓ Neurologically-based communication disorders (aphasia, dysarthria, and other neuromotor impairments)
- ✓ Swallowing and feeding disabilities.



### **Learning outcomes:**

- ✓ Students in MSLP must possess multi-perspective, specialized and general knowledge, insight and creative skills to relate biomedical basic sciences to communication disorders problems with an autonomous and critical attitude
- ✓ Possess specialized, multi-perspective and general knowledge and insight into the development of speech, language and swallowing and be able to relate these to complex multidisciplinary problems
- ✓ Possess specialized knowledge, insight and creative skills to relate socially, didactically and socio-culturally oriented behavioral sciences to complex communication disorders problems in patients from clinical setting
- ✓ Possess specialized knowledge of and general, multi-perspectives insight into the normal and abnormal development of speech, language, swallowing in patients from clinical setting including implementation of technological resources
- ✓ Possess specialized knowledge of and insight into the etiology, the pathogenesis and clinical symptoms of communication disorders in patients from clinical setting
- ✓ Possess the specialized knowledge, skills and attitude to critically assess the most recent scientific information and to implement the same autonomously in the prevention, diagnosis, treatment and follow-up of communication disorders in patients from clinical setting
- ✓ Report professionally and critically both orally and in writing on research outcomes to professional colleagues within a national general context with perfect speech, language and writing proficiency.

The training of the MSLP students is full-time and is conducted in Bulgarian. The training process is in accordance with the IALP and CPLOL (ESLA) guidelines.

**Erasmus office of the MUP:** <https://mu-plovdiv.bg/mezhdunarodno-satrudnichestvo/erasmus/obshta-informatsiya-erasmus/>



## Short Courses information for students

### (curriculum 4 semesters for non-specialists)

1. **Course: Anatomy and Physiology**

2. **Code of the course:** MPEΠ01

3. **Type of the course:** Obligatory

4. **Degree of training:** Master

5. **Year of training:** 2022/2023

6. **Semester:** First

7. **Number of ECTS credits:** 3.8

8. **Lecturers:** Prof. D. Vicheva, MD, Assoc. Prof. D. Pazardjikliev, Dr. D. Milkov

9. **Teaching schedule:** in-door activities (lectures, seminars) and outdoor activities

<b>Anatomy and Physiology MPEΠ01</b>	<b>35h Classroom activities</b>	20h Lectures	15h Seminars	<b>60h Outdoor activities</b>	40h Self training	20h Course works	Exam
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#### 10. **Course content:**

The present course has an objective to help studying of the human body structure, morphological and functional characteristics with special accent on the systems related to communication.

The key topics are related with anatomy, hearing, vestibular function, cranial nerves, voice and speech. A systematics and topography of the cranial nerves and the cranial parasympathicus and cervical orthosympathicus, with function and examples of disorders are presented.

The students must be familiar with the most important anatomical and physiological concepts regarding the function of the speech, hearing and vestibular organ.



**1. Course: Othorynolaryngology**

**2. Code of the course:** MPEΠ02

**3. Type of the course:** Obligatory

**4. Degree of training:** Master

**5. Year of training:** 2022/2023

**6. Semester:** First

**7. Number of ECTS credits:** 3.8

**8. Lecturers:** Prof. D. Vicheva, MD, Assoc. Prof. D. Pazardjkliev, Dr. D. Milkov

**9. Teaching schedule:** in-door activities (lectures, seminars) and outdoor activities

<b>Othorynolaryngology MPEΠ02</b>	<b>35h Classroom activities</b>	20h Lectures	15h Seminars	<b>60h Outdoor activities</b>	40h Self training	20h Course works	Exam
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**10. Course content:**

The course includes the ear, nose and throat physiology and morphology. Some organic and functional injuries are presented. The students must be able to recognize nose, ears and throat pathology related with voice disorders and resonance problems. The treatment options and potential outcomes includes Adenoidal disorders / Anosmia / Bell's palsy / Carcinomas of ENT origin /Cholesteatoma / Dermatitis of the ear canal / Epiglottitis / External ear obstructions / Hearing loss / Laryngitis / Labyrinthitis / Mastoiditis / Meniere Disease / Myringitis / Nasal foreign bodies / Nasal polyps / Otic barotrauma / Otitis media / Otorrhea / Otosclerosis / Ototoxicity / Peritonsillar Abscess / Rhinitis / Septal deviation / Sinusitis / Submandibular space infections / Tinnitus / Tonsillopharyngitis / Tracheostomy / Vertigo / Vestibular neuronitis / Vocal cord polyps.



**1. Course: Pathophysiology**

**2. Code of the course:** MPEΠ03

**3. Type of the course:** Obligatory

**4. Degree of training:** Master

**5. Year of training:** 2022/2023

**6. Semester:** First

**7. Number of ECTS credits:** 3

**8. Lecturers:** Assoc. Prof. K. Terziev, MD; Dr. Kr. Avramov, MD

**9. Teaching schedule:** in-door activities (lectures, seminars) and outdoor activities

<b>Pathophysiology</b> <b>MPEΠ03</b>	<b>30h</b> <b>Classroom</b> <b>activities</b>	15h Lectures	15h Seminars	<b>45h</b> <b>Outdoor</b> <b>activities</b>	25h Self training	20h Course works	Exam
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**10. Course content:**

The present lecture course topics include the fundamental concepts and processes of human pathophysiology such as inflammation, infection, neoplasm, degeneration, aging, congenital and genetic disorders, immune deficiency, and autoimmune disorders. Idiopathic, traumatic, stress related, substance abuse related and iatrogenic disorders will also be discussed. This course relates manifestations of disease, risk factors for disease, and the principles of pathology underlying illness and injury to therapeutic SLP interventions and outcomes.



**1. Course: Neurology**

**2. Code of the course:** MPEΠ04

**3. Type of the course:** Obligatory

**4. Degree of training:** Master

**5. Year of training:** 2022/2023

**6. Semester:** First

**7. Number of ECTS credits:** 4.2.

**8. Lecturers:** Prof. Trenova, MD, Assoc. Prof. Viteva, Assoc. Prof. Slavov, Assist. Prof. Dr. Chompalov, Dr. Shukerski, Dr. Dosheva etc.

**9. Teaching schedule:** in-door activities (lectures, seminars) and outdoor activities

<b>Neurology</b> <b>MPEΠ04</b>	<b>45h</b> <b>Classroom</b> <b>activities</b>	15h Lectures	30h Seminars	<b>60h</b> <b>Outdoor</b> <b>activities</b>	40h Self training	20h Course works	Exam
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**10. Course content:**

The main content of the course is related with anatomy, structure, function, central nervous system, brain, brainstem and cerebellum, spinal cord, cerebellum topics. The students must learn about the acquisition of the basic knowledge of the anatomy of the central nervous system, enough to understand the significance of neurological symptoms, syndromes and diseases (extrapyramidal disorders, dementia, multiple sclerosis, Parkinsonism, infections). Cerebrovascular diseases. Epilepsy, migraine, headache. Trauma. Brain tumors. Neurological and developmental examination.

The course includes (i) the central nervous system knowledge as well as (ii) the development of the central nervous system. The students study (iii) the motor systems, (iv) sensory systems, (v) the autonomic nervous system, (vi) cranial nerves and their central components; (vii) the cerebral cortex and cognitive function; (viii) the meninges and cerebrospinal fluid and vascular anatomy of the central nervous system.



**1. Course: Medical Genetics. Communication Disorders in Genetic Syndromes.**

**2. Code of the course:** MPEΠ05

**3. Type of the course:** Obligatory

**4. Degree of training:** Master

**5. Year of training:** 2022/2023

**6. Semester:** First

**7. Number of ECTS credits:** 3.2.

**8. Lecturers:** Prof. Ivanov, MD, Dr. Yordanova, Dr. Sotkova, Timova

**9. Teaching schedule:** in-door activities (lectures, seminars) and outdoor activities

<b>Medical genetics. Communication disorders in genetic syndromes. MPEΠ05</b>	<b>30h Classroom activities</b>	15h Lectures	15h Seminars	<b>50h Outdoor activities</b>	30h Self training	20h Course works	Exam
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**10. Course content:**

The course is providing the essential knowledge about principles of medical genetics and some syndromes. Inheritance patterns. Chromosomal abnormalities. Clinical characteristics in genetic diseases. Genetic syndromes' definition and diagnosis with special accent on speech and/or hearing and/or language disorders. Down syndrome. Fragile X syndrome. Turner syndrome. Crouzon syndrome. Neurofibromatosis. Noonan syndrome. Osteogenesis imperfecta. Mucopolysaccharidoses syndromes. Pendred syndrome. Refsum syndrome. Riley-Day syndrome. Usher syndrome. Pierre-Robin syndrome. Cornelia de Lange syndrome. Prader-Willi syndrome. Fetal alcohol syndrome. Fetal cytomegalovirus syndrome. Fetal Rubella syndrome. General information regarding to the prenatal diagnostics. Genetic syndromes' management and genetic consultation accompanied by communication problems. Genetics diseases treatment.

The students in MSLP have to aware the importance of genetic syndromes on human health and diseases regarding to the communication disorders and especially speech, language, and hearing.



**1. Course: Introduction in Public Health**

**2. Code of the course:** MPEΠ06

**3. Type of the course:** Obligatory

**4. Degree of training:** Master

**5. Year of training:** 2022/2023

**6. Semester:** First

**7. Number of ECTS credits:** 3.6.

**8. Lecturers:** Prof. D. Dimitrova

**9. Teaching schedule:** in-door activities (lectures, seminars) and outdoor activities

<b>Introduction in Public Health MPEΠ06</b>	<b>30h Classroom activities</b>	15h Lectures	15h Seminars	<b>60h Outdoor activities</b>	40h Self training	20h Course works	Exam
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**10. Course content:**

During the course the next main topics will be introduced: (i) foundations of public health science, analytical approaches and major determinants of health; (ii) public health perspectives on epidemiology, health promotion, health economics, management and policy, and (iii) public health perspectives on global health. Special accent is put on concepts, principles and methods of public health science and practice; evidence-based public health; the basic epidemiology, including principles of epidemiologic evaluation of public health interventions, and data sources on populations and mortality. The health management and policy, including principles of economic evaluation of public health interventions in EU and Bulgaria are part of the course. The principles and methods of disease prevention and health promotion in relation to non-communicable and communicable disease related with medical SLP will be discussed.



**1. Course: Introduction in Medical Speech and Language Pathology**

**2. Code of the course:** MPEΠ07

**3. Type of the course:** Obligatory

**4. Degree of training:** Master

**5. Year of training:** 2022/2023

**6. Semester:** First

**7. Number of ECTS credits:** 4.8.

**8. Lecturers:** Prof. D. Georgieva, PhD

**9. Teaching schedule:** in-door activities (lectures, seminars) and outdoor activities

<b>Introduction in Medical SLP MPEΠ07</b>	<b>60h Classroom activities</b>	45h Lectures	15h Seminars	<b>60h Outdoor activities</b>	40h Self training	20h Course works	Exam
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**10. Course content:**

The present course is related with human communication, disorders of communication, classification of communication disorders (CD), prevalence of communication disorders, effects of CD. Special accent is put on the MSLP as a clinical science. The training and profession of SLP including short history. Structural mechanisms of speech production are also part of the course (the respiratory system, phonatory mechanism and phonation, articulatory system). The course presents an orientation in medical SLP (the scope of practice). Special accent is put on neurocognitive CD (acquired language disorders, assessment of aphasia and aphasia rehabilitation, cognitive-communication rehabilitation following traumatic brain injury, dementia with communication impairments), voice disorders, psychogenic communication disorders, evidence-based practice and outcomes oriented approaches in SLP), fluency disorders.





**1. Course: Jaw Face Congenital Abnormalities**

**2. Code of the course:** MPEΠ08

**3. Type of the course:** Obligatory

**4. Degree of training:** Master

**5. Year of training:** 2022/2023

**6. Semester:** First

**7. Number of ECTS credits:** 3.6.

**8. Lecturers:** Prof. Y. Anastasov, Dr. Gigov, Dr. Ginev, G. Padareva

**9. Teaching schedule:** in-door activities (lectures, seminars) and outdoor activities

<b>Jaw Face Congenital Abnormalities</b> MPEΠ08	<b>30h</b> <b>Classroom activities</b>	15h Lectures	15h Seminars	<b>60h</b> <b>Outdoor activities</b>	40h Self training	20h Course works	Exam
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**10. Course content:**

The present course includes lectures related to: (i) embryology of face, (ii) etiology, (iii) clinical characteristics, (iv) pathogenetic mechanisms, (v) assessment and treatment of the different types of face abnormalities like vascular malformations, congenital tumors and tumor-like conditions of the face and neck. Cleft lip and palate, effects of cleft and surgery on growth and development and use of specific techniques in early postnatal stage. Clinical management and specific medical treatment of cleft lip and palate patient post-surgery are presented.



**1. Course: Growth and development of craniofacial area, dental and neighboring structures. Functional evaluation and therapy of lingual ankylose in children.**

**2. Code of the course:** MPEΠ09

**3. Type of the course:** Obligatory

**4. Degree of training:** Master

**5. Year of training:** 2022/2023

**6. Semester:** Second

**7. Number of ECTS credits:** 3.6.

**8. Lecturers:** Prof. A. Beltcheva

**9. Teaching schedule:** in-door activities (lectures, seminars) and outdoor activities

<b>Growth and development of craniofacial area, dental and neighboring structures. Functional evaluation and therapy of lingual ankylose in children.</b>  <b>MPEΠ09</b>	<b>30h Classroom activities</b>	15h	15h	<b>60h Outdoor activities</b>	40h	20h	Exam
		Lectures	Seminars		Self training	Course works	

**10. Course content:**

The purpose of this course is to increase the knowledge, critical reflection and evidence based practice regarding (i) general and specific articulation disorders with a touch of multiperspectivisme; (ii) main causes, clinical symptoms, pathogenesis of articulation disorders and oromyofunctional disorders; (iii) diagnosis and treatment (evidence based) of articulation and oromyofunctional disorders. The course is paying attention to the development of primary and secondary dentition. Dental care of the young child. Growth and development of the face. Development of occlusion. Malocclusion. Assessment and treatment.



**1. Course: Phoniatics**

**2. Code of the course:** MPEП10

**3. Type of the course:** Obligatory

**4. Degree of training:** Master

**5. Year of training:** 2022/2023

**6. Semester:** Second

**7. Number of ECTS credits:** 3.6.

**8. Lecturers:** Assoc. Prof. D. Pazardjikliev, Dr. D. Milkov

**9. Teaching schedule:** in-door activities (lectures, seminars) and outdoor activities

<b>Phoniatics MPEП10</b>	<b>30h Classroom activities</b>	15h Lectures	15h Seminars	<b>60h Outdoor activities</b>	40h Self training	20h Course works	Exam
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**10. Course content:**

Description of the organs related with voice production under a functional-dynamic aspect. Are presented the organs supplying the voice material for sound utterance – the air, the tone generator – larynx, and resonance system organs. The physiological process of phonation is presented and the description of the vocal function's assessment and registration. The voice diseases problems are discussing with special accent on to their functional and organic varieties.



**1. Course: Communication Disorders and Management in Dementia**

**2. Code of the course:** MPEP11

**3. Type of the course:** Obligatory

**4. Degree of training:** Master

**5. Year of training:** 2022/2023

**6. Semester:** Second

**7. Number of ECTS credits:** 3.6.

**8. Lecturers:** Prof. P. Atanasova, Dr. K. Chompalov/, Dr. Bahchevanov, Dr. Hristova, Dr. Atanasova, Dr. Halyl

**9. Teaching schedule:** in-door activities (lectures, seminars) and outdoor activities

<b>Communication Disorders and Management in Dementia MPEP11</b>	<b>30h Classroom activities</b>	15h Lectures	15h Seminars	<b>60h Outdoor activities</b>	40h Self training	20h Course works	Exam
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**10. Course content:**

The course presents (i) the neural bases of cognition and language; (ii) the relation between cognition and communication (aging and communication); (iii) Alzheimer's dementia (effects of AD on cognitive and communicative functions on early, middle and late stages); (iv) Dementia and Down syndrome (language and communication in adults with DS); (v) vascular dementia and effects on communicative functioning; (vi) Parkinson's disease and dementia and communicative function in no demented PD patients (communicative function in demented PD patients); (vii) Dementia and Lewy Body disease (cognition and communication in LBD); (viii) Dementia and Huntington's disease (effects on language); (ix) frontotemporal D.

Assessment and treatment of cognitive-communicative disorders of Dementia.



**1. Course: Communication Disorders in Pediatrics**

**2. Code of the course:** MPEП12

**3. Type of the course:** Obligatory

**4. Degree of training:** Master

**5. Year of training:** 2022/2023

**6. Semester:** Second

**7. Number of ECTS credits:** 4.8.

**8. Lecturers:** Prof. I. Ivanov, Dr. Yordanova, Dr. Sotkova, Tomova

**9. Teaching schedule:** in-door activities (lectures, seminars) and outdoor activities

<b>Communication disorders in pediatrics MPEП12</b>	<b>45h Classroom activities</b>	30h Lectures	15h Seminars	<b>95h Outdoor activities</b>	55h Self training	20h Course works	Exam
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**10. Course content:**

The master degree students in Medical SLP will be able to define the main behavioral features of the most common communication disorders observed in childhood, including specific language impairment, autism spectrum disorders, aphasia, apraxia of speech, dysarthria. The students will acquire an understanding of the neural underpinnings that support both typical and atypical speech and language development. Anatomical, physiological, psychological, neurological, and environmental factors related to delayed or disordered language of young children (i.e., birth to preschool). An exploration of language skills and methods of promoting their development or compensation for inadequacies. Etiology, symptomatology, assessment, and habilitation of language disorders in infants, children and adolescents.



**1. Course: Neuropsychology**

**2. Code of the course:** MPEП13

**3. Type of the course:** Obligatory

**4. Degree of training:** Master

**5. Year of training:** 2022/2023

**6. Semester:** Second

**7. Number of ECTS credits:** 3.6.

**8. Lecturers:** Prof. R. Masaldjieva, Dr. Chompalov/ Dr. Bahchevanov, Dr. Hristova, Dr. Atanasova, Dr. Halyl

**9. Teaching schedule:** in-door activities (lectures, seminars) and outdoor activities

<b>Neuropsychology MPEП13</b>	<b>30h Classroom activities</b>	15h Lectures	15h Seminars	<b>60h Outdoor activities</b>	40h Self training	20h Course works	Exam
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**10. Course content:**

Brain mechanism of the high cortex functions and their injury are one of the main topics in the course presented. Normal language function and acquired language disorders like aphasia. Aphasia is treated from different points like definition, classification, theoretical considerations on assessment and clinical management. Neuroanatomical and neuropsychological considerations are presented. Phonological, syntactic, semantic and lexical aspects of aphasia are discussed. Language characteristics in major aphasic syndromes.

Apraxia and agnosia topics are also involved in the course. Clinical studies of apraxia and agnosia, their symptoms and classifications including neuroanatomical and neuropsychological considerations.



**1. Course: Speech and Resonance Disorders and Velopharyngeal Dysfunctions**

**2. Code of the course:** MPEП14

**3. Type of the course:** Obligatory

**4. Degree of training:** Master

**5. Year of training:** 2022/2023

**6. Semester:** Second

**7. Number of ECTS credits:** 4.8.

**8. Lecturers:** Prof Y. Anastasov, Dr. Ginev, Dr. Gigov

**9. Teaching schedule:** in-door activities (lectures, seminars) and outdoor activities

<b>Speech and resonance disorders and velopharyngeal dysfunctions</b> MPEП14	<b>45h</b> <b>Classroom activities</b>	30h Lectures	15h Seminars	<b>75h</b> <b>Outdoor activities</b>	55h Self training	20h Course works	Exam
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**10. Course content:**

The course presented speech/resonance disorders and nasal emission due to different causes like cleft palate and velopharyngeal dysfunctions. The course described the velopharyngeal function in norm and VP dysfunctions. The normal resonance and characteristics of various resonance disorders are included in the content of the course.

The cleft palate topics includes definition part, types of clefts, other structural or functional deviations, craniofacial abnormalities and their prevalence and incidence. Assessment of cleft palate regarding to the articulation, resonance and phonation. The clinical management process includes different approaches improving velopharyngeal valving, speech and language therapy.



**1. Course: Epidemiology and Public Health**

**2. Code of the course:** MPEП15

**3. Type of the course:** Elective

**4. Degree of training:** Master

**5. Year of training:** 2022/2023

**6. Semester:** Second

**7. Number of ECTS credits:** 3

**8. Lecturers:** Chief Assist. Prof. B. Lefrerova, MD

**9. Teaching schedule:** in-door activities (lectures, seminars) and outdoor activities

<b>Epidemiology and Public Health MPEП15</b>	<b>30h Classroom activities</b>	15h Lectures	15h Seminars	<b>45h Outdoor activities</b>	25h Self training	20h Course works	Exam
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**10. Course content:**

Epidemiology and public health paradigms are presented in the course. Health care, health care legislation, education, ethics, deontology, social security, official regulations and management are parts of the course that speech and language pathologists have to know. The essential aspects of public health regulations are included in the course. The course is explaining the importance of epidemiology for informing scientific, ethical, economic and political discussion of health issues. The course is describing a public health problem in terms of person, place, and time. The basic terminology and definitions of epidemiology are introduced. The problems of measuring the basic epidemiology measures and identification of the main sources of data for epidemiologic purposes are discussed. The application of concepts, methods, and tools of public health data collection, analysis and interpretation, and the evidence-based practice outcomes is very important for medical SLPs.





**1. Course: Brain imaging**

**2. Code of the course:** MPEП15

**3. Type of the course:** Elective

**4. Degree of training:** Master

**5. Year of training:** 2022/2023

**6. Semester:** Second

**7. Number of ECTS credits:** 3

**8. Lecturer:** Prof. S. Tzvetkova, DM

**9. Teaching schedule:** in-door activities (lectures, seminars) and outdoor activities

<b>Image Diagnostics MPEП15</b>	<b>30h Classroom activities</b>	15h Lectures	15h Seminars	<b>45h Outdoor activities</b>	25h Self training	20h Course works	Exam
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**10. Course content:**

The course presents different neuroimaging techniques like computer tomography, magnetic resonance imaging, functional magnetic resonance imaging, single photon emission computed tomography – their strength and limitations. Neuroimaging in acquired language disorders is also part of the course. Functional brain activation studies and neural bases of language deficits are presented.



**1. Course: Medical and Surgical Management in Laryngology**

**2. Code of the course:** MPEП15

**3. Type of the course:** Elective

**4. Degree of training:** Master

**5. Year of training:** 2022/2023

**6. Semester:** Second

**7. Number of ECTS credits:** 3

**8. Lecturer:** Assoc. Prof. D. Pazardjikliev, Dr. A. Gulev

**9. Teaching schedule:** in-door activities (lectures, seminars) and outdoor activities

<b>Medical and Surgical Management in Laryngology MPEП15</b>	<b>30h Classroom activities</b>	15h Lectures	15h Seminars	<b>45h Outdoor activities</b>	25h Self training	20h Course works	Exam
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**10. Course content:**

The course is presenting the modern microsurgery of the voice like phonosurgery in dysphonia surgical treatment. The office-based procedures like indirect laryngoscopy are described. The endoscopic microsurgery general review is also presented. Timing of voice surgery is described. The microlaryngeal surgery instrumentation is part of the course content. Vocal fold polyps and nodules operation, varicosities and ectatic vessels and vocal fold hemorrhage, Reinke's edema, granulomas and vocal process ulcers, papilomas surgical examples are introduced. Laser laryngoscopy. Laryngectomy. Laryngeal transplantation. The main objectives of the course are related with understanding of several phonosurgical procedures for removing vocal fold lesions and pathologies.



**1. Course: Diagnostics Team Work**

**2. Code of the course:** MPEП15

**3. Type of the course:** Elective

**4. Degree of training:** Master

**5. Year of training:** 2022/2023

**6. Semester:** Second

**7. Number of ECTS credits:** 3

**8. Lecturer:** Assist. Prof. V. Anastassova, MD

**9. Teaching schedule:** in-door activities (lectures, seminars) and outdoor activities

<b>Diagnostics team work MPEП15</b>	<b>30h Classroom activities</b>	15h Lectures	15h Seminars	<b>45h Outdoor activities</b>	25h Self training	20h Course works	Exam
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**10. Course content:**

The learning within the present course includes: (i) how to learn and exercise the different types and models of teamwork between different clinical specialists (physicians, clinical psychologists, social workers, dentists, physiotherapists, nurses etc.) in the process clinical management of different communication disorders; (ii) the teamwork aspects and interpersonal communication. Because healthcare is increasingly being provided in interdisciplinary teams, the medical SLPs training included the specific knowledge, skills, attitudes, and behaviors required to function effectively as part of such teams.



**1. Course: Medical Ethics and Speech and Language Pathology**

**2. Code of the course:** MPEП16

**3. Type of the course:** Elective

**4. Degree of training:** Master

**5. Year of training:** 2022/2023

**6. Semester:** Second

**7. Number of ECTS credits:** 3

**8. Lecturer:** Assoc. Prof. N. Musurlieva, DM

**9. Teaching schedule:** in-door activities (lectures, seminars) and outdoor activities

<b>Medical Ethics and SLP MPEП16</b>	<b>30h Classroom activities</b>	25h Lectures	5h Seminars	<b>45h Outdoor activities</b>	25h Self training	20h Course works	Exam
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**10. Course content:**

The medical ethics principles are part of the course. Also are included concepts as (i) scope of practice in MSLP; (ii) professional organizations; (iii) professional ethics (role of a professional; ethical standards of conduct; SLP codes of ethics; unethical practice complaint process; code of ethics of ASHA; professional liability; international alliances); (iv) workforce issues in communication sciences and disorders; (v) preparing for employment; (vi) professional autonomy and collaboration; (vii) service delivery in medical setting and in private practice; (viii) leadership and communication skills of SLPs; (ix) supervision and the supervisory process.



**1. Course: Therapy in Velopharyngeal Dysfunctions**

**2. Code of the course:** МРЕП16

**3. Type of the course:** Elective

**4. Degree of training:** Master

**5. Year of training:** 2022/2023

**6. Semester:** Second

**7. Number of ECTS credits:** 3

**8. Lecturer:** Prof Y. Anastassov, DM; Dr. Ginev, Dr. Gigov, Markova

**9. Teaching schedule:** in-door activities (lectures, seminars) and outdoor activities

<b>Therapy in velopharyngeal dysfunctions МРЕП16</b>	<b>30h Classroom activities</b>	15h Lectures	15h Seminars	<b>45h Outdoor activities</b>	25h Self training	20h Course works	Exam
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**10. Course content:**

The essential part of the course are related to: (i) rationale, methods, and techniques of cleft palate speech therapy; (ii) counselling and early management of feeding and language skills; (iii) therapy considerations for preschool-age children with cleft palate; (iv) considerations for behavioral treatment of velopharyngeal closure for speech; (v) treatments to improve velopharyngeal function& use of temporary prosthesis, palatal training appliance, feedback treatment, whistling-blowing technique, articulation therapy, resistance training using continuous positive airway pressure and treatments to reduce perceived nasalization by changing respiratory, laryngeal or oral articulatory behaviors.



**1. Course: Developmental Language Disorders**

**2. Code of the course:** MPEП16

**3. Type of the course:** Elective

**4. Degree of training:** Master

**5. Year of training:** 2022/2023

**6. Semester:** Second

**7. Number of ECTS credits:** 3

**8. Lecturer:** Prof. I. Ivanov; Dr. Yordanova, Dr. Sotkova, Timova

**9. Teaching schedule:** in-door activities (lectures, seminars) and outdoor activities

<b>Developmental language disorders</b> <b>MPEП16</b>	<b>30h</b> <b>Classroom activities</b>	15h Lectures	15h Seminars	<b>45h</b> <b>Outdoor activities</b>	25h Self training	20h Course works	Exam
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**10. Course content:**

The course is describing different types of language disorders typical for children: specific language impairments and acquired language disorders. The phases of the assessment part are introduced: identification, testing, receptive skills, expressive skills. Therapy approaches for treatment of the specific linguistic features are largely presented: direct imitation, modeling, reactive language stimulation, oral language, comprehension. Models of interventions. Main principles. Practical issues in intervention process.



**1. Course: Voice Rehabilitation after the Laryngectomy**

**2. Code of the course:** MPEP16

**3. Type of the course:** Elective

**4. Degree of training:** Master

**5. Year of training:** 2022/2023

**6. Semester:** Second

**7. Number of ECTS credits:** 3

**8. Lecturer:** Assoc. Prof. Pazardjikliev, Dr. A. Gulev

**9. Teaching schedule:** in-door activities (lectures, seminars) and outdoor activities

<b>Voice rehabilitation after the laryngectomy</b> MPEP16	<b>30h</b> <b>Classroom activities</b>	15h Lectures	15h Seminars	<b>45h</b> <b>Outdoor activities</b>	25h Self training	20h Course works	Exam
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**10. Course content:**

This course discusses: (i) etiology and symptoms of laryngeal cancer – an overview; (ii) staging and treatment of the disease; (iii) methods of voice restoration of the laryngectomized patient; physical changes following surgery; emotional needs of the patient and significant others and social adjustments that also must be considered for total rehabilitation. SLP as a member of the rehabilitation team. Coughing and sneezing. Tracheal tubes and traheostoma vents. Swallowing. Smell and taste. Speech rehabilitation. Artificial larynges. Electronic artificial larynges. Neck-type devices. Surgical prosthetics.



**1. Course: Voice Disorders**

**2. Code of the course:** MPEП17

**3. Type of the course:** Obligatory

**4. Degree of training:** Master

**5. Year of training:** 2023/2024

**6. Semester:** Third

**7. Number of ECTS credits:** 5.4

**8. Lecturer:** Prof. D. Georgieva, PhD; G. Dimova

**9. Teaching schedule:** in-door activities (lectures, seminars) and outdoor activities

<b>Voice Disorders MPEП17</b>	<b>60h Classroom activities</b>	45h Lectures	15h Seminars	<b>75h Outdoor activities</b>	55h Self training	20h Course works	Exam
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**10. Course content:**

The purpose of this course is to acquaint the students with the nature and clinical SLP management of voice disorders (VD). The course also provides a comprehensive point of view to patient communicative care and description of the best evidence-based assessment and treatment practice regarding to the VD definition, etiology, symptoms, pathogenesis, assessment, differential diagnoses and treatment approaches and programs.

The special accent was put on WHO's International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF) model of interpretation of VD.

The course objectives:

- ✓ To understand and be able to apply relevant theories, facts, and research findings related to the epidemiology, etiology, course, prevention, diagnosis, and remediation of VD



- ✓ To understand and be able to apply principles of diagnoses and therapy with a wide variety of VD.
- ✓ Provide an overview of issues involved in defining VD (functional and organic VD as well as acquired and developmental – aphonia/dysphonia after laryngeal carcinoma, laryngeal trauma, vocal nodules, vocal polyps and Reinke's edema, spasmodic dysphonia, papilloma, laryngeal web, organic mutational falsetto, granuloma, contact ulcers etc).

The essential knowledge students' in Medical SLP specialty have to develop are related with VD's (i) definitions, (ii) causes, (iii) pathogenic mechanisms, (iv) main clinical symptoms, (v) assessment procedures, and (vi) treatment approaches and methods.



**1. Course: Fluency Disorders**

**2. Code of the course:** MPEП18

**3. Type of the course:** Obligatory

**4. Degree of training:** Master

**5. Year of training:** 2023/2024

**6. Semester:** Third

**7. Number of ECTS credits:** 5.4

**8. Lecturer:** Prof. D. Georgieva, PhD; G. Dimova

**9. Teaching schedule:** in-door activities (lectures, seminars) and outdoor activities

<b>Fluency Disorders MPEП18</b>	<b>60h Classroom activities</b>	45h Lectures	15h Seminars	<b>75h Outdoor activities</b>	55h Self training	20h Course works	Exam
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**10. Course content:**

The course provides a comprehensive point of view to patient communicative care and description of the best evidence-based assessment and treatment practice regarding to the fluency disorders (FD)'s definition, etiology, symptoms, pathogeneses, assessment, differential diagnoses and treatment approaches and programs.

The special accent was put on WHO's International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF) model of interpretation of FD.

The course objectives:

- ✓ To provide an overview of issues involved in defining FD (cluttering and stuttering)
- ✓ To summarize the symptoms which generally constitute both FD
- ✓ To provide a sampling of definitions

- ✓ To review traditional and recent views of the development of FD that identify different stages
- ✓ To present views of on the development of FD that identify different types of development
- ✓ To summarize different assessment approaches which will often be appropriate for patients with FD
- ✓ To summarize the therapeutic approaches/methods/programs which will often be appropriate for the patients with FD
- ✓ To review factors and data relating to evidence-based treatment outcome and to review therapeutic approached which appear to be most effective in FD
- ✓ To review suggestions which may enhance treatment outcome in FD.

The essential knowledge students' in Medical SLP specialty have to develop are related with fluency disorders types like stuttering, cluttering and mixed cases (i) definitions, (ii) causes, (iii) pathogenic mechanisms, (iv) main clinical symptoms, (v) assessment procedures, and (vi) treatment approaches and methods.



**1. Course: Neurologically-Based Communication Disorders**

**2. Code of the course:** MPEП19

**3. Type of the course:** Obligatory

**4. Degree of training:** Master

**5. Year of training:** 2023/2024

**6. Semester:** Third

**7. Number of ECTS credits:** 5.4

**8. Lecturers:** Prof. P. Atanasova, Prof. A. Trenova, Assoc. Prof. E. Viteva, Assoc. Prof. S. Mantarova, Chief Assist. Prof. K. Chompalov/ Dr. Chompalov, Dr. Hrisotva, Dr. Halyl

**9. Teaching schedule:** in-door activities (lectures, seminars) and outdoor activities

<b>Neurologically based communication disorders</b> MPEП19	<b>60h Classroom activities</b>	30h Lectures	30h Seminars	<b>75h Outdoor activities</b>	55h Self training	20h Course works	Exam
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**10. Course content:**

The purpose of the course is to introduce communication disorders as a result of neurological injury or illness in the adult population. Content will emphasize etiology, characteristics, assessment and intervention associated mainly with aphasia, traumatic brain injury, and right hemisphere impairment. Motor speech disorders, the dysarthrias and apraxias, will also be reviewed shortly. Medical aspects of neurological rehabilitation will be introduced. Etiological factors that affect varied groups (e.g., hypertension, sickle cell disease, substance abuse) will be discussed. Assessment, treatment, and management issues with varied clinical population will be focused on.



**1. Course: Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine in Communication Disorders and Dysphagia**

**2. Code of the course:** МРЕП20

**3. Type of the course:** Obligatory

**4. Degree of training:** Master

**5. Year of training:** 2023/2024

**6. Semester:** Third

**7. Number of ECTS credits:** 3

**8. Lecturers:** Prof. E. Ilieva, DM; Chief Assit. Prof. M. Gonkova

**9. Teaching schedule:** in-door activities (lectures, seminars) and outdoor activities

<b>Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine in Communication Disorders and Dysphagia</b> МРЕП20	<b>30h</b> <b>Classroom activities</b>	15h Lectures	15h Seminars	<b>45h</b> <b>Outdoor activities</b>	25h Self training	20h Course works	Exam
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**Course content:**

The course content will include some of the most important of these subjects: (i) functional and applied anatomy; (ii) physiology of exercises; (iii) properties of Tissues; (iv) understanding the processes of Physical Medicine Rehabilitation (PMR) including in communication disorders; (v) epidemiology and causes of different disabilities; (vi) primary health care and community based rehabilitation; (vii) disability services and prevention in Communication disorders and dysphagia; (viii) therapies and processes; (ix) specific clinical training and rehabilitation procedures for different disabilities with communication disorders and dysphagia.



**1. Course: Research with Statistics**

**2. Code of the course:** MPEП21

**3. Type of the course:** Obligatory

**4. Degree of training:** Master

**5. Year of training:** 2023/2024

**6. Semester:** Third

**7. Number of ECTS credits:** 4.2.

**8. Lecturers:** Assoc. Prof. R. Raycheva

**9. Teaching schedule:** in-door activities (lectures, seminars) and outdoor activities

<b>Research with statistics MPEП21</b>	<b>45h Classroom activities</b>	30h Lectures	15h Seminars	<b>60h Outdoor activities</b>	40h Self training	20h Course works	Exam
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**10. Course content:**

The course is designed for students in Medical SLP and includes the topics as: (i) basic concepts of research and statistics; (ii) selection and definition of the problems; (iii) process of planning and design of the research with communication disorders; (iv) describing and analyzing data; (v) probability and the basis for decision making; (vi) inferential statistics – estimating the significance of outcomes; (vii) reading, writing and presenting research. Some statistical applications are included: correlation coefficient, linear regression, paired t-test; probability; Chi-square test of independence; the Mann Whitney U test; Spearman rank-order correlation coefficient, and Kruskai-Wallis ANOVA.



**1. Course: Ergotherapy**

**2. Code of the course: MPEP22**

**3. Type of the course: Elective**

**4. Degree of training: Master**

**5. Year of training: 2023/2024**

**6. Semester: Third**

**7. Number of ECTS credits: 3**

**8. Lecturer: Assoc. Prof. M. Bojkova**

**9. Teaching schedule: in-door activities (lectures, seminars) and outdoor activities**

<b>Ergotherapy MPEP22</b>	<b>30h Classroom activities</b>	15h Lectures	15h Seminars	<b>45h Outdoor activities</b>	25h Self training	20h Course works	Exam
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**10. Course content:**

The presented course includes the topics as: (i) history and basic philosophy of ergotherapy, theoretical background; (ii) the position of an occupational therapist in a rehabilitation team, comprehensive rehabilitation of people with disabilities; (iii) basic models and approaches in occupational therapy, work with family and group; (iv) analysis of individual activities used for ergotherapy, their use during the work with the client; (v) examination of the patient in terms of ergotherapy, used tests, and ICF classification; (vi) assessment and training of daily activities. For Medical SLPs is important to know how to cooperate with occupational therapist and to know about use of assistive techniques for self-service activities, for locomotives, and for communication. Architectural barriers in the apartment and outside the apartment, rating the environment. Pre-work rehabilitation, ergodiagnosics. Application of ergotherapy for basic types of clients in health care and social services.



**1. Course: Voice Hygiene**

**2. Code of the course:** MPEП22

**3. Type of the course:** Elective

**4. Degree of training:** Master

**5. Year of training:** 2023/2024

**6. Semester:** Third

**7. Number of ECTS credits:** 3

**8. Lecturer:** Prof. D. Vicheva, DM

**9. Teaching schedule:** in-door activities (lectures, seminars) and outdoor activities

<b>Voice Hygiene MPEП22</b>	<b>30h Classroom activities</b>	15h Lectures	15h Seminars	<b>45h Outdoor activities</b>	25h Self training	20h Course works	Exam
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**10. Course content:**

The present course includes the important topics like: (i) basic issues related to vocal health and contributors to poor vocal health like drug use, cigarette smoking, sleep deprivation, chewing tobacco, coughing and throat clearing, alcohol intake, caffeine intake, vocal load and vocal fatigue, talking too loudly, poor nutrition, obesity, dehydration, use of herbals, allergies, and the role of acute sinusitis. An overview of the factors and/or behaviors that may result in vocal fold irritation, inflammation, and/or diseases are considered to be representative of poor vocal health.





**1. Course: Clinical Psychology**

**2. Code of the course:** MPEП22

**3. Type of the course:** Elective

**4. Degree of training:** Master

**5. Year of training:** 2023/2024

**6. Semester:** Third

**7. Number of ECTS credits:** 3

**8. Lecturers:** Prof. R. Masaldjieva, Assoc. Prof. B. Tilov; Chief Assist. Prof. M. Karaivanova

**9. Teaching schedule:** in-door activities (lectures, seminars) and outdoor activities

<b>Clinical Psychology MPEП22</b>	<b>30h Classroom activities</b>	15h Lectures	15h Seminars	<b>45h Outdoor activities</b>	25h Self training	20h Course works	Exam
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**10. Course content:**

The course includes Cognitive Psychology topics and also learning-theory, including learning principles and their applications. Parts of the development of personality, with the difference of temperament - and character-factors and the influence of personality on illness and treatment. This is followed by additional part in which motivational interviewing techniques are discussed as a tool for professionals to increase the motivation of their patients and to handle difficult conversations. Also are include the research that has attempted to identify the psychosocial factors as stress and the relationship to the adverse effect on health, and by which such potentially protective factors as social support may buffer the impact of stress.



**1. Course: Neurosciences and Speech and Language Pathology**

**2. Code of the course:** MPEΠ22

**3. Type of the course:** Elective

**4. Degree of training:** Master

**5. Year of training:** 2023/2024

**6. Semester:** Third

**7. Number of ECTS credits:** 3

**8. Lecturer:** Prof. P. Atanassova, Chief Assist. Prof. K. Chompalov

**9. Teaching schedule:** in-door activities (lectures, seminars) and outdoor activities

<b>Neurosciences and SLP MPEΠ22</b>	<b>30h Classroom activities</b>	15h Lectures	15h Seminars	<b>45h Outdoor activities</b>	25h Self training	20h Course works	Exam
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**10. Course content:**

The present course includes different topics like: (i) cerebral neural networks: neurophysiology and neuropharmacology in relation to behaviour and cognition; (ii) the neurophysiological organization of the auditory and associated cortex; (iii) the neurophysiological organization of the visual and associated cortex. The neurophysiological basis for visual processing of graphical characters to letters, syllables and word meaning is illustrated. Models of visual word recognition and production are used to illustrate orthographic problems in people with aphasia; (iv) integration of neuro-anatomical, neurophysiological and clinical knowledge in the organization of semantics. Neuroanatomical and neurophysiological correlations are demonstrated and applied in the diagnosis and therapy of semantic problems; (v) integration of neuro-anatomical, neurophysiological and clinical aspects in the organization of grammatics.



**1. Course: Clinical Practice in Medical SLP**

**2. Code of the course:** MPEП23

**3. Type of the course:** Obligatory

**4. Degree of training:** Master

**5. Year of training:** 2023/2024

**6. Semester:** Third

**7. Number of ECTS credits:** 3

**8. Lecturer:** Director of the program on Medical SLP

**9. Teaching schedule:** outdoor activities

<b>Clinical practice in SLP MPEП23</b>	<b>0h Classroom activities</b>	0h Lectures	0h Seminars	<b>75h Outdoor activities</b>	75h Self training	0h Course works	Current control
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**10. Course content:**

The MSLP practice include forming practice skills for clinical work in medical setting (hospitals) and private setting. The student in master degree program on Medical SLP have to be able to assess and treat communication disorders related with the scope of practice of the Medical SLP: (i) fluency disorders; (ii) voice disorders; (iii) cleft palate and resonance disorders including velopharyngeal dysfunction; (iv) neurologically-based communication disorders, (v) neurocognitive communication disorders; (vi) dysphagia and child language disorders.



**1. Course: Evidence-Based Practice in Medical Speech Language Pathology**

**2. Code of the course:** MPEП24

**3. Type of the course:** Obligatory

**4. Degree of training:** Master

**5. Year of training:** 2023/2024

**6. Semester:** Fourth

**7. Number of ECTS credits:** 7.8

**8. Lecturer:** Prof. D. Georgieva, PhD

**9. Teaching schedule:** in-door activities (lectures, seminars) and outdoor activities

<b>Evidence-based practice in MSLP MPEП24</b>	<b>60h Classroom activities</b>	45h Lectures	15h Seminars	<b>135h Outdoor activities</b>	115h Self training	20h Course works	Exam
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**Course content:**

The course provides a comprehensive point of view to patient communicative care and description of the best evidence-based assessment and treatment practice regarding to the all types of communication disorders in general. The special accent was put on WHO's International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF) – a conceptual framework of patient outcomes and model of interpretation of communication disorders as a new methodology in contemporary SLP.

The course objectives:

- ✓ To provide an overview of issues involved in defining EBP in Medical SLP
- ✓ To summarize the elements of the EBP in a decision-making process that integrates external scientific evidence with practitioner and client perspectives to improve clinical outcomes
- ✓ To provide a sampling of definitions of EBP

- ✓ To understand internationally accepted terminology for describing EBP
- ✓ To review research articles related with EBP in communicative disorders that are in the scope of the Medical SLP
- ✓ To review traditional and recent views of the development of EBP (from the medicine point of view Sacket's model until nowadays)
- ✓ To present views of an evidence-informed practice to clinical problem solving models
- ✓ To review factors and data relating to evidence-based treatment outcome and to review therapeutic approaches which appear to be most effective in communication disorders related with Medical SLP
- ✓ To review uniform resource locator from different web pages related with EBP.

The students have to develop knowledge about the EBP in all communication disorders related with Medical SLP and its strong influence on patients with communication disorders and their quality of life. They must know the current requirements related with EBP in Medical SLP, how to assess the outcomes from clinical work, and how to use the outcomes data for decision making.



**1. Course: Diploma thesis**

**2. Code of the course:**

**3. Type of the course:** Obligatory

**4. Degree of training:** Master

**5. Year of training:** 2022/2024

**6. Semester:** Fourth

**7. Number of ECTS credits: 12**

**8. Lecturer:** Each professor from the Medical Faculty and the section of Medical SLP

**9. Teaching schedule:** Outdoor activities

<b>Diploma thesis</b>	<b>0h Classroom activities</b>	0h Lectures	0h Seminars	<b>225h Outdoor activities</b>	15h per week	0h Course works	State Exam
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**Course content:** The student in master degree program is making research study on the topic related with the Medical SLP (fluency disorders, voice disorders, aphasia, motor speech disorders, dysarthria, cleft lip and palate): epidemiology of communication disorders, assessment tools development and application, treatment approaches/methods/new techniques application.

The master degree student is receiving consultations and support by the scientific tutor (each professor included in the list of the lecturers of the master degree curriculum may become student's tutor).

The student can defend the diploma work after successful finish of the fourth semester. The topics of the main title of the diploma thesis have to be approved by the Neurology department and Medical faculty's councils.

The final evaluation of the diploma thesis is the public official oral defense in front of the scientific committee members.

