

Nursing Studies at CUC: A Path to Excellence in Healthcare

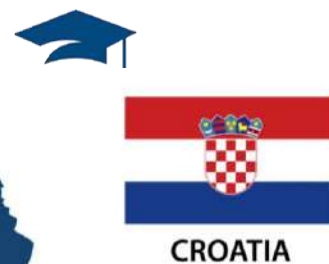
Prof. Marta Čivljak, MD PhD

Croatia

- **Location:** Central and Southeastern Europe
- **EU Member** since 2013
- **Currency:** Euro (€)
- **Official Language:** Croatian
- **Diverse Landscape:** Adriatic coast, mountains, and plains
- **Rich History:** From ancient Roman sites to medieval castles
- **UNESCO Heritage Sites:** Dubrovnik, Plitvice Lakes, Diocletian's Palace, and more



Croatia



- **Population:** 3.853 million (2023)

- **Universities:** 13

- **Private:**

- Catholic University of Croatia
- Libertas University
- VERN' University
- Algebra University College

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be Unique
unicath*

Catholic University of Croatia

The Catholic University of Croatia (CUC) is the only Catholic university in Croatia.

It was founded on June 3, 2006 by the *Luce vera illuminata* (Illuminated by true light) Decree of the Archdiocese of Zagreb which was signed by the then Archbishop Josip Bozanić.



The International Federation of Catholic Universities (French: Fédération Internationale des Universités Catholiques) organisation of 226 Catholic universities throughout the world.



Our Campus is located on Zagreb's longest street - Ilica, which spans all the way to the city's main square - Ban Jelačić Square.

Great Chancellor mons. Dražen Kutleša



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Prof. dr. sc. Željko Tanjić,
Rector



Prof. Gordan Črpić,
Vice-Rector for
Organisation and
Financial Affairs



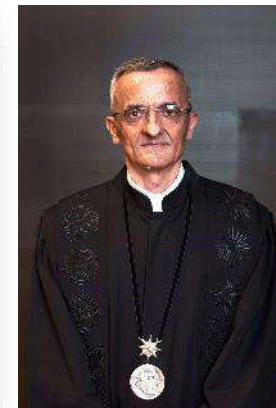
Prof. Roko Mišetić,
Vice-Rector
for Academic Affairs



Prof. Jasna Čurković Nimac,
Vice-Rector
for International Relations



Prof. Roberto Antolović,
Vice-Rector
for Science



Prof. Ante Crnčević,
Vice-Rector
for Quality, Identity and
Mission



CUC strives for scientific excellence and keeps pace with the latest trends in science.

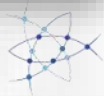
Science, projects, possibility of student exchange, serving the community.



H



Projects



Mobility



Science



www.unicath.hr/ethics



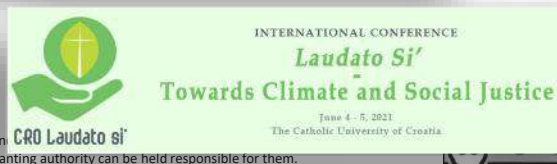
www.unicath.hr/conference2021-psychology



3. međunarodni znanstveno-stručni skup

Odjela za psihologiju Hrvatskog katoličkog sveučilišta

9. - 11.12. 2021.



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
Laudato Si'
Towards Climate and Social Justice

June 4 - 5, 2021

The Catholic University of Croatia

CRO Laudato Si'

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ALTH



Over 250 teachers and employees are employed at the University.
More than 100 external associates participate in the classes.



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Edition of the study on the world's most highly cited scientists - our professors Livia Puljak and Hrvoje Štefančić from the Catholic University of Croatia are ranked among the top 1 and 2% of scientists worldwide with the highest citation impact!



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University Chaplain Vlač. Branimir Jagodić



VIDIMO SE NA TE DEUMU!





University study programmes:

History
Sociology
Psychology
Communication studies
Nursing
Medicine
Midwifery
Law
Computing for Social Applications



University studies have two levels:

- undergraduate and graduate

- PhD programmes in History and Sociology



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History



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"The future cannot be built without knowing the past."



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Sociology



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***studiraj sociologiju
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"It is impossible to understand your own tradition

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Psychology



"The impetus of all psychology is to know yourself."



**Centre for Psychological
Counselling of the Catholic**

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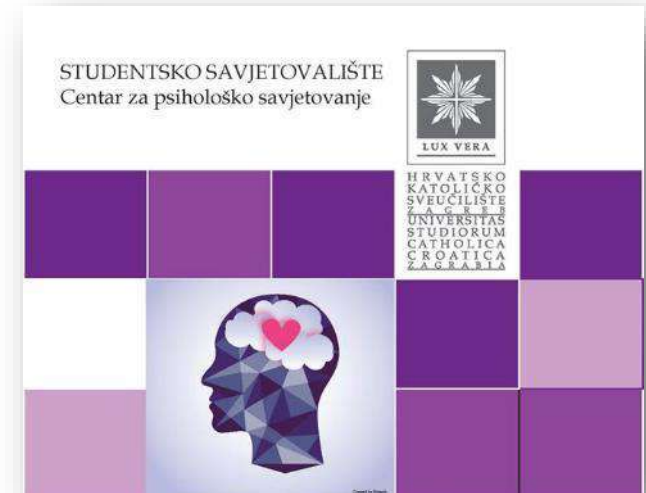
Laboratory for Psychological Research



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Centre for Psychological Counselling of the Catholic University of Croatia



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Laboratory for Psychological Research



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Communication studies



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**"People may forget what you said, but they
will never forget how they felt after your
speech."**



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Nursing



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*studiraj sestrinstvo
na Hrvatskom katoličkom
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"The constant care of a good nurse can be as important as the serious operation of a surgeon."



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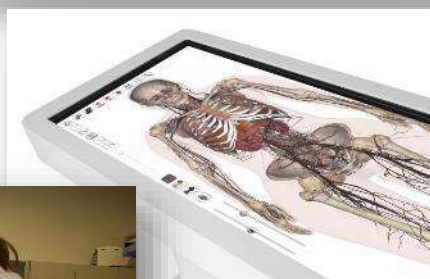


School of Medicine



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***studiraj medicinu
na Hrvatskom katoličkom sveučilištu**



School of Medicine at CUC follows the tradition and study programmes of educating future doctors present at Catholic universities across Europe and the world



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Law School

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H



Study of law is organized according to the model of large European universities, with an additional component of practical work through cases and trial simulations, field



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Computing for Social Applications



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***studiraj računarstvo za
društvene primjene na
Hrvatskom katoličkom
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Computing for Social Applications was designed with the aim of responding to the contemporary challenges of the digital age, enabling students to acquire advanced knowledge in the field of computing and the development of skills necessary for the application of technology in a wider social context.



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Undergraduate Graduate Bridging programme



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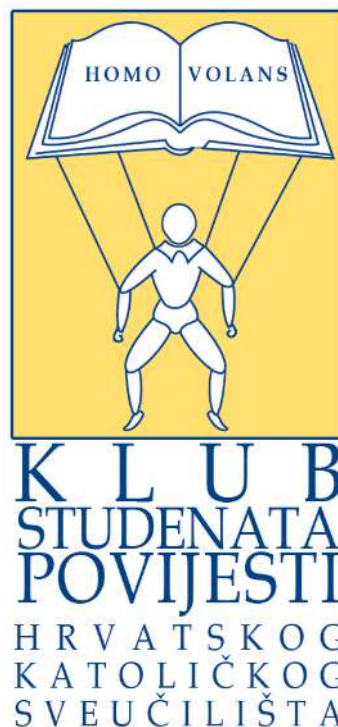


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Student clubs



nutrix Klub studenata sestrinstva
Hrvatsko katoličko sveučilište



PRotagonisti

Klub studenata komunikologije Hrvatskog katoličkog sveučilišta



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Female and male
futsal teams

Female and male
volleyball teams

Basketball team
Tennis



Hrvatsko katoličko sveučilište





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website:
www.unicath.hr**



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DEPARTMENT OF NURSING (2015. – 2025.)



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Nursing as a Regulated Profession in Croatia

- Recognized as a regulated profession under Croatian law.
- Governed by the Act on Regulated Professions.
- Croatian Chamber of Nurses oversees standards and licensing.
- Only licensed nurses may independently provide nursing care.



Education and Qualification Requirements

- Education follows the Bologna Process.
- Bachelor of Nursing: 180 ECTS (3 years).
- Master of Nursing: 120 ECTS (2 years).
- Continuous professional development required.



Alignment with EU Directive 2005/36/EC (2013/55/EU)

- Directive sets minimum training requirements for nurses.
- General education: 12 years before entry.
- At least 4.600 hours of theoretical and clinical training.
- Ensures automatic recognition of nursing qualifications.



Benefits of EU Alignment

- Facilitates nurse mobility within the EU.
- Ensures high-quality and safe nursing care.
- Strengthens professional status of nurses in Croatia.
- Encourages ongoing professional development.



Overview of the Nursing Program

Academic Title:

University Bachelor of
Nursing (univ. bacc. med.
techn.)

Duration: 6 semesters

Degree Requirements:

Completion of at least 180
ECTS credits
Passing all exams

Academic Title:

University Master of Nursing
(univ. mag. med. techn.)

Duration: 4 semesters

Degree Requirements:

Completion of at least 120
ECTS credits
Passing all exams
Defense of a master's thesis

Competencies vs. learning outcomes

Definition of Competencies

- Competencies are precisely defined as a set of knowledge, skills, and attitudes that students acquire during their studies, equipping them for professional work in healthcare institutions.

Learning Outcomes

- Each course within the nursing program has clearly defined learning outcomes that specify what students will be able to apply in practice upon completing the course. These outcomes emphasize the practical application of acquired knowledge and skills.
- **Development of Professional and Personal Skills**





December 3, 2025.



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Student Enrollment by Academic Year

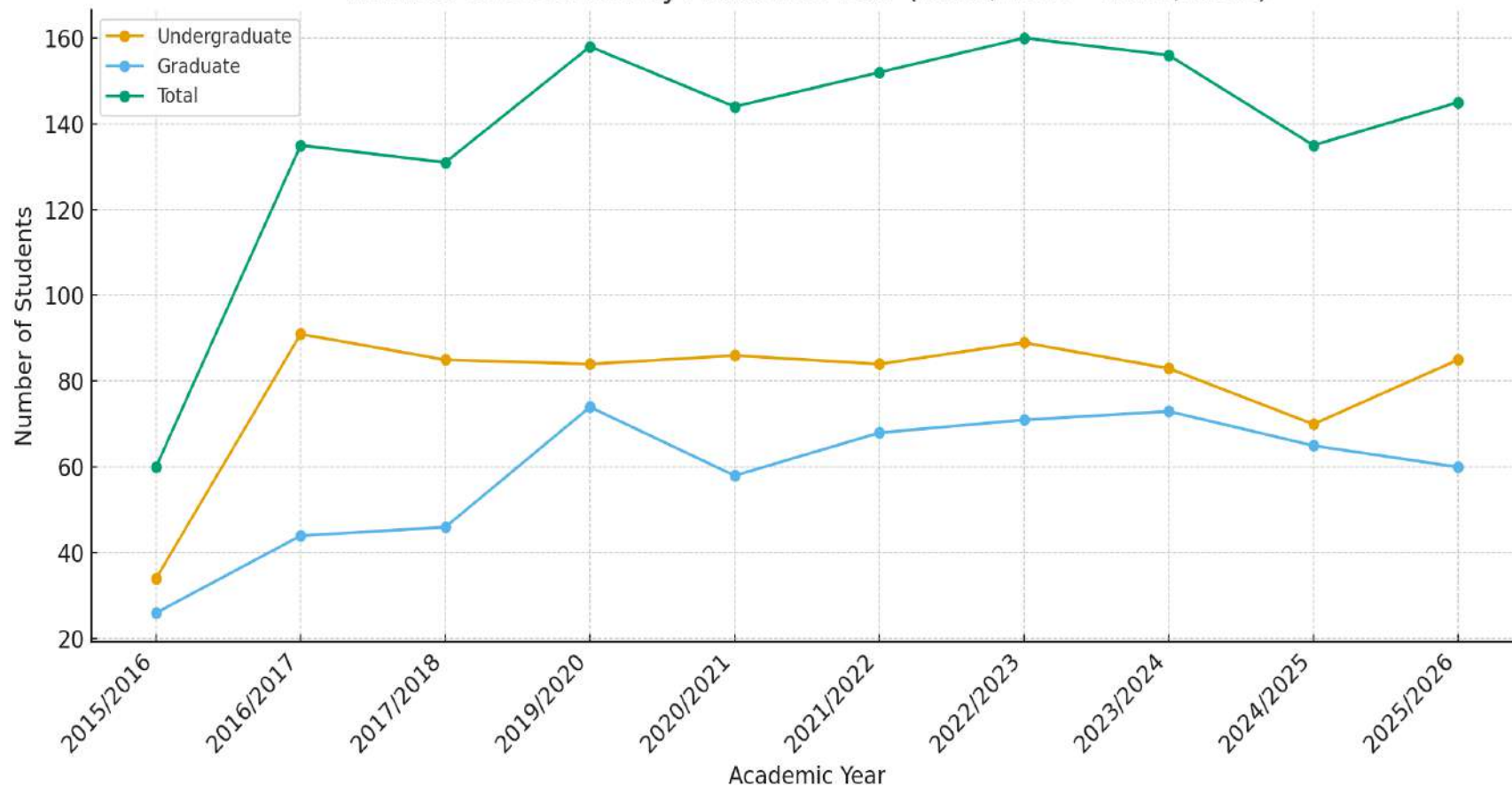
Academic Year	Undergraduate	Graduate	Total
2015/2016	34	26	60
2016/2017	91	44	135
2017/2018	85	46	131
2019/2020	84	74	158
2020/2021	86	58	144
2021/2022	84	68	152
2022/2023	89	71	160
2023/2024	83	73	156
2024/2025	70	65	135
2025/2026	85	60	145

1376 students in total have enrolled in Nursing Studies at CUC



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Number of Students by Academic Year (2015/2016 - 2025/2026)



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Graduates in Nursing (2017–2025)

Year	Bachelor of Nursing	Master of Nursing
2017	0	17
2018	22	28
2019	74	48
2020	87	35
2021	83	46
2022	78	46
2023	80	55
2024	80	62
2025	74	55
Total	578	392

970



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Specialist Training at the Catholic University of Croatia

- The Catholic University of Croatia, through its Department of Nursing, offers specialist training tailored for nursing graduates seeking to enhance their knowledge and skills in specific areas of healthcare.
- **Current Program: Specialist Training in Emergency Medicine**
- **Plans** - to broaden its range of specialist programs in line with the healthcare system needs and labor market demands communicated by the Ministry of Health and the Croatian Chamber of Nurses.



Department of Nursing Characteristics

Department Day: October 7
Patron Saint: St. Mother Teresa
of Calcutta
Color: Blue

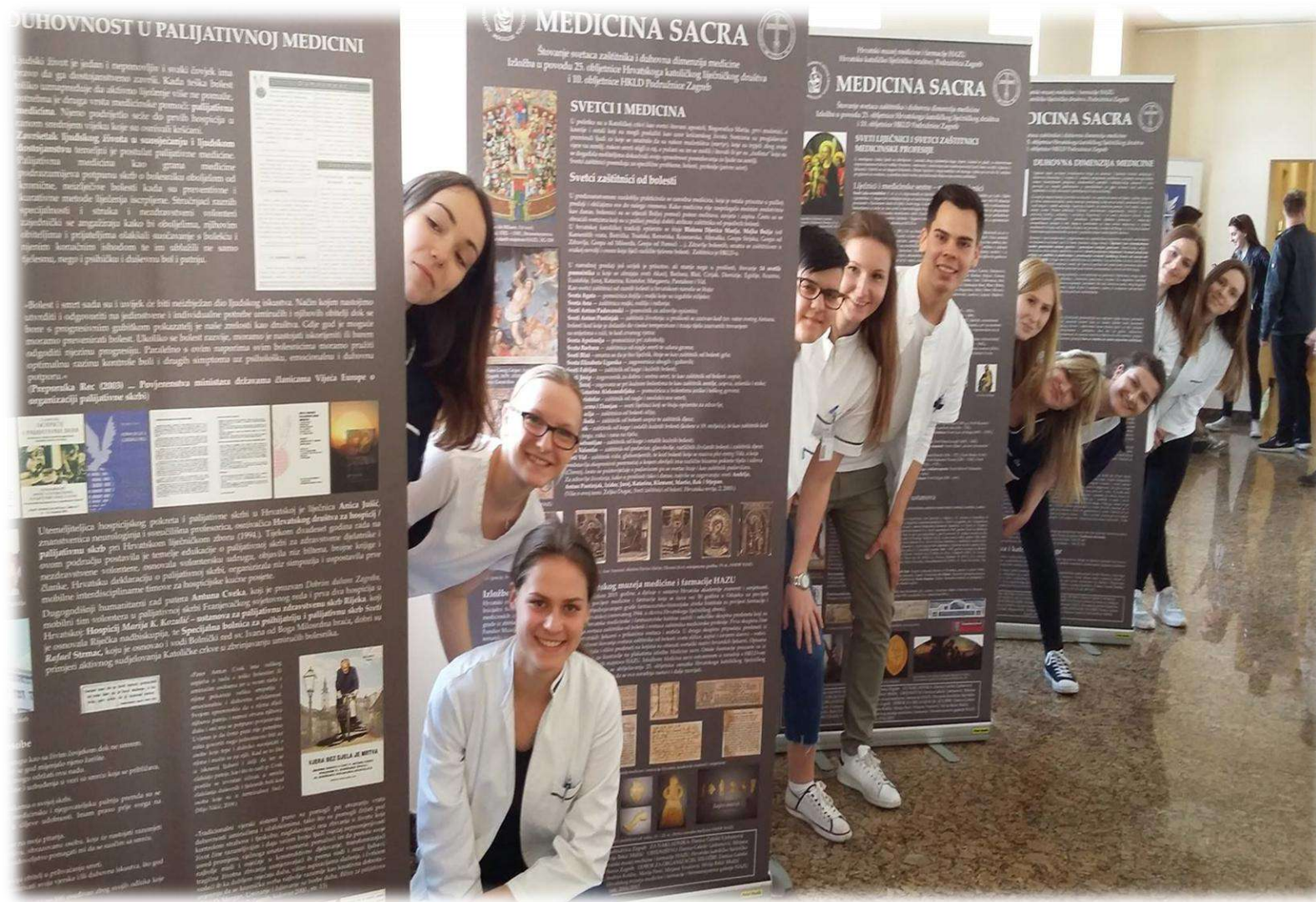


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Student Club - NUTRIX



World Health Day



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International Student Scientific Conference



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University Fair



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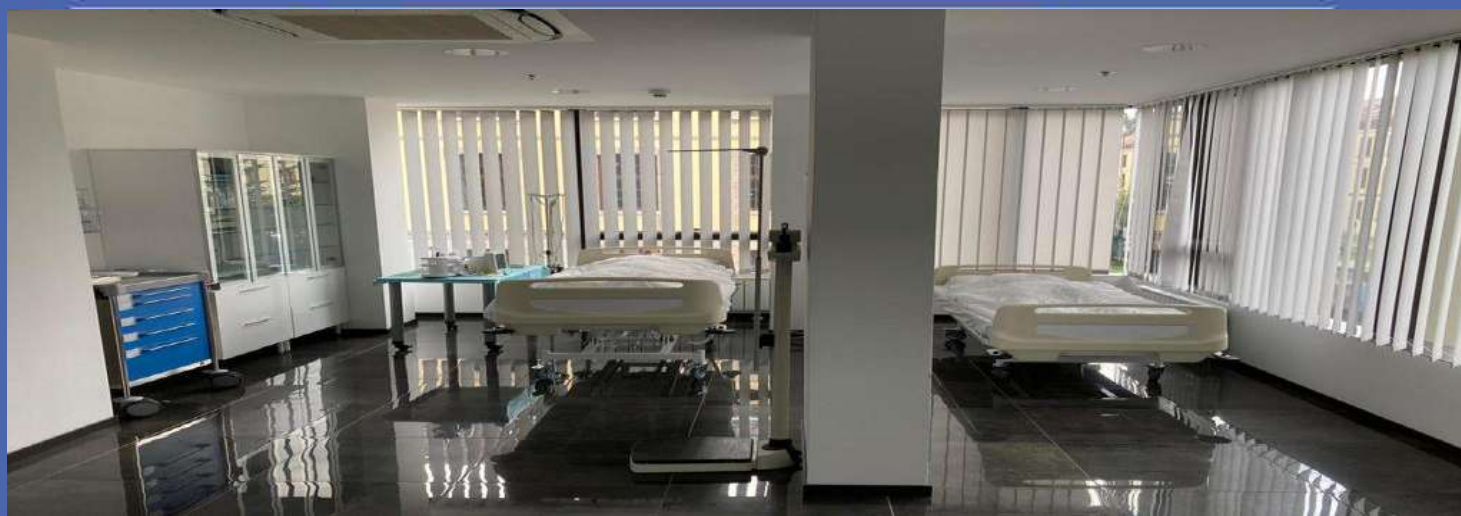
Researcher's Night



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Open Days





The development of a skills lab is a key prerequisite for the effective enforcement of clinical practice

The acquired knowledge should enable students to understand nursing, the roles and responsibilities of nurses, and provide a foundation for developing insights and refining skills in nursing practice, keeping pace with modern advancements worldwide.



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We organize first aid training workshops for school children.



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OSCE – Objective Structured Clinical Examination

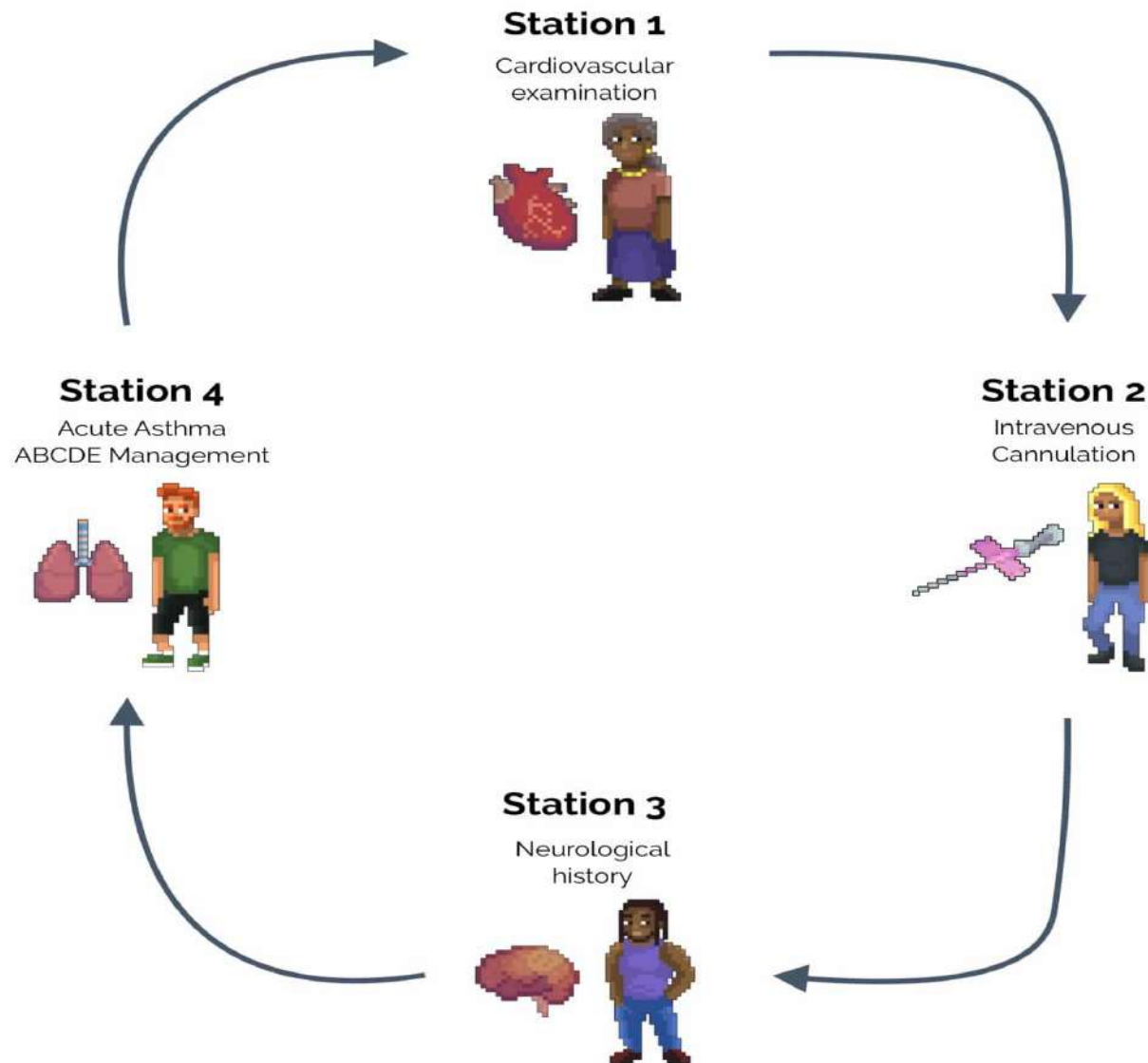
Group 1

- Station 1: Measure blood pressure.
- Station 2: Insert a nasogastric tube for the patient.
- Station 3: Collect a blood sample for blood typing and crossmatching
- Station 4: Record an ECG for the patient.
- Station 5: Administer Reglan amp 1, i.m. to the patient due to vomiting





OSCE Station Circuit



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Erasmus + clinical practice



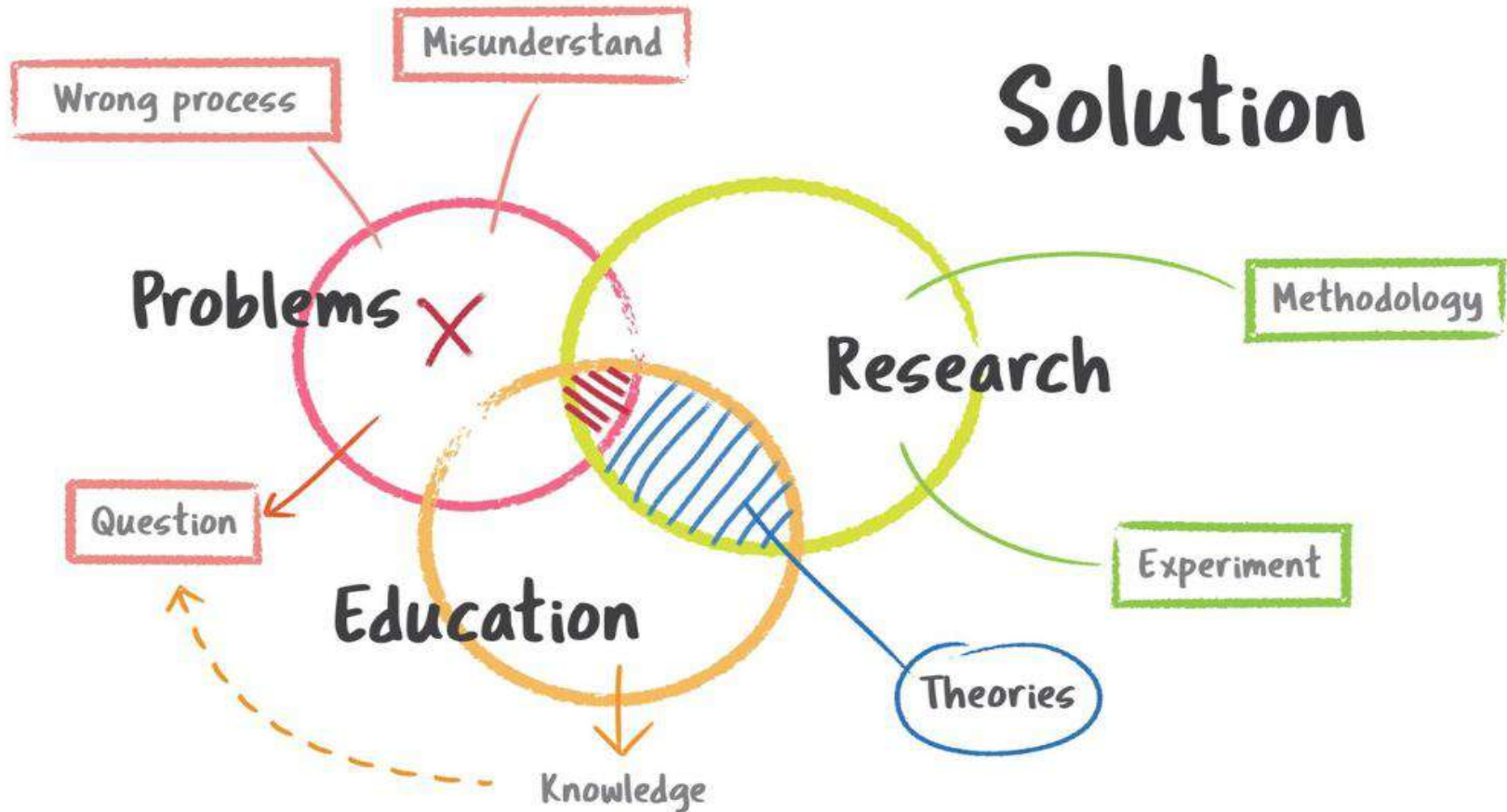
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Evidence-based practice in nursing involves providing holistic, quality care based on the most up-to-date research and knowledge rather than traditional methods, advice from colleagues, or personal beliefs.



Solution





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- [2017 TO 2025]

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- Department of Nursing (14)

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FIELD

- Biomedicine and healthcare (15)

KEYWORDS

- nursing (12)
- sestrinstvo (12)
- knowledge (3)
- stavovi (3)
- stres (3)
- znanje (3)

SORT BY: Relevance Title Author Date

Export results

(1 - 15 of 15)



Stres i načini suočavanja sa stresom kod studenata sestrinstva na Hrvatskom katoličkom sveučilištu: presječno istraživanje

Cape, Lorena

2023. urn:nbn:hr:224:196598

Master's thesis



Znanje studenata sestrinstva o etici i pogled na daljnje obrazovanje iz područja etike: presječno istraživanje

Šeremet, Anamaria

2022. urn:nbn:hr:224:378041

Master's thesis



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THE

UniCath Journal of Biomedicine and Bioethics

The UniCath Journal of Biomedicine and Bioethics is a novel initiative ratified by the University Senate on January 16, 2024. Our goal is twofold: to advance the frontiers of research in the intersecting disciplines of biomedicine and bioethics and to provide an educational platform for our nascent researchers.

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UNICATH JOURNAL OF BIOMEDICINE AND BIOETHICS

VOL. II NO. 1 JUNE 2025

ISSN 3043-7164

About the Journal

Health-Related Quality of Life of the Patients with Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease in Relation to Negative Psychological/Emotional States: A Cross-Sectional Study

Job Satisfaction Among Nurses in the Republic of Croatia: A Cross-Sectional Study

Assessment of Dietary Habits Among Healthcare Workers in Morning and Shift Work: A Cross-Sectional Study

Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices in Malaria Prevention Among the Residents of the Southern Part of Benin: A Cross-Sectional Study

Biomedical Needs in Palliative Care Among Health and Psychosocial Care Professionals in Croatia: A Qualitative Study

The MECA Matrix: A New Framework for Analysing Media Appearances of Healthcare Professionals

Validation of the Croatian Translation of Perceived Professional Preparedness of Senior Nursing Students' Questionnaire

Complete Molar Cervical Fetal Pregnancy with a Viable Co-Twin and Placental Preclara Following Corporal Hysterotomy: A Case Report

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CUC Established the Faculty of Health Studies

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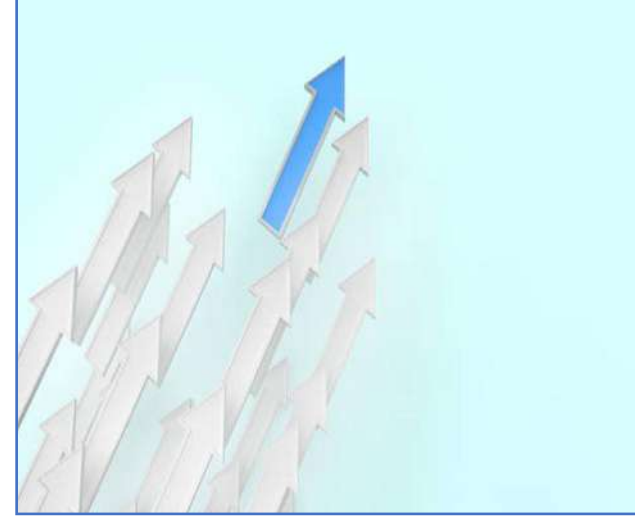
The Faculty brings together the University Study Programmes of Nursing and Midwifery

Midwifery as a Regulated Profession

- Midwifery is a regulated healthcare profession that requires formal education, registration, and adherence to professional and ethical standards.
- Midwives are recognized as autonomous practitioners responsible for providing comprehensive care to women during pregnancy, childbirth, and the postnatal period.
- Regulation ensures that midwives are competent, qualified, and accountable for their practice, thus safeguarding the health and safety of mothers and newborns.
- midwifery education follows specific national or international standards, and continuous professional development is required to maintain registration and uphold high-quality care.



Guidance – learning outcomes and competencies



- Define what students **should know, understand, and be able to do after completing the program**
- **Combine knowledge, skills, attitudes, and professional values**
- Ensure **transparency, quality assurance**, and alignment with healthcare practice and legislation
- Support curriculum **development, assessment, and lifelong learning**
- Include continuous **monitoring and improvement of the study program** to maintain relevance and excellence

Competencies of Bachelor's Degree Nurses (baccalaureus / prvostupnik sestrinstva)

- A bachelor's degree nurse in Croatia is qualified to provide **independent nursing care** in accordance with professional standards and healthcare regulations.
1. **Planning, implementing, and evaluating** nursing care for individuals, families, and communities.
 2. **Providing direct patient care** based on professional knowledge, skills, and ethical principles.
 3. **Collaborating** with members of the healthcare team to ensure continuity and quality of care.
 4. **Educating patients** and promoting health, prevention, and rehabilitation.
 5. **Documenting and evaluating nursing practice**, maintaining patient safety and confidentiality.
 6. **Participating in quality improvement** and evidence-based clinical practice.
 7. **Engaging in lifelong learning** and professional development.



Competencies of Master's Degree Nurses (magistar sestrinstva)

- A master's degree nurse in Croatia is educated **for independent, advanced, and research-based professional work.**
1. **Plan, organize, and manage** nursing care at an advanced level and in complex clinical situations.
 2. **Implement and evaluate evidence-based practice**, participate in and lead research projects in nursing and health sciences.
 3. **Provide mentorship, supervision, and education** for students and other healthcare professionals.
 4. **Participate in developing healthcare policies, strategies, and quality systems** in health institutions.
 5. **Apply ethical principles and legal standards** in professional decision-making and leadership.
 6. **Collaborate interdisciplinarily** in clinical and academic settings, contributing to innovation in nursing care.
 7. **Develop professional standards and protocols** to improve the safety and quality of patient care.



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