Aim of the course

The aim of this course is to provide an introduction to the major psychological disorders in a theoretical and scientifically based aspect. Psychological theories and models of formation, manifestation, and dynamics of mental disorders will be discussed. The students will be trained to recognize the different types of mental disorders and to identify the underlying causes. There will be a special focus on different diagnostics systems (ICD, DSM-5) of mental disorders and the psychoanalytic theory, learning, and cognitive theories relating to mental disorders. The most serious mental disorders schizophrenia, personality disorders, organic syndromes, psychosis, anxiety and mood disorders are particularly emphasized. Diagnostic and treatment possibilities will also be discussed, special emphasis will be laid on various psychotherapeutic modalities. During the course the students will be presented with case-studies including a description of symptoms and etiological ideas of the formation of the disorders.

Learning outcome, competences

Knowledge:
Concering the biological and psychological basis for the most serious mental disorders.
Symptomatology of the main categories of mental disorders
Major categories of current ICD and DSM manuals.
Different assessment tools to identify symptoms, cognitive functioning and general malfunction.
Major psychotherapeutic modalities.

Attitude:
- Respect of the patients and their relatives
- Considering ethical standards of clinical evaluation
- Viewing adult mental disorders in a complex bio-psycho-social model
- Using current findings of evidence-based research and scientific standards in evaluating adult mental disorders

Skills:
- Communication with patients
- Communication with relatives
- Communication with colleagues

Content of the course

Topics of the course
Process of diagnosis making
Basics of mental state examination
Psychopathology of mood and anxiety disorders, psychotic condition, dementia and cognitive disorders.
Personality and its disorders.
Classification systems used in psychiatry
Differential diagnosis and therapies of psychiatric conditions.

**Learning activities, learning methods**
Frontal lecture

**Evaluation of outcomes**
Learning requirements, mode of evaluation, criteria of evaluation:
- requirements
- Written exam.
- mode of evaluation:
- 1-5 scale
- criteria of evaluation:
- Exactness of knowledge

**Reading list**

**Compulsory reading list**
1. Sadock BJ et al. (edit) (2009). Kaplan and Sadock’s Concise Textbook of Clinical Psychiatry. LWW. **Section 8**: Clinical manifestations of psychiatric disorders

**Recommended reading list**