# Legal Medicine

## Prof. Antonio Oliva

***COURSE AIMS AND INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES***

The course aims to outline the role of the coroner and the methods and limits of forensic analysis in all legal areas, and to provide students with the essential elements of purely biomedical subjects (e.g., pathology, toxicology, genetics) to effectively orient themselves in medico-legal matters. The teaching approach will be strongly focused on emphasising and promoting the integration and synergy of medico-legal and legal knowledge. A rigorous theoretical-doctrinal training will be accompanied by a rich presentation of practical notions, also through the presentation of real cases and practical examples.

For the exam preparation of attending and non-attending students, the study of the reference manual is highly recommended (Oliva A., Caputo M. Itineraries of Legal Medicine and responsibilities in the health field. G. Giappichelli Editore, 2020. ISBN 9788892132634), supplemented for attending students by lecture notes and material given during lectures.

***COURSE CONTENT***

1. Medico-legal aspects of causal analysis and implications in criminal, civil, private insurance and partner insurance sector;
2. Criminal and civil liability of health professions;
3. Informed consent, advance treatment provisions and mandatory health treatments;
4. Imputability and neuroscience;
5. Medical report, crime report and mandatory health reports;
6. Offenses in the field of medical documentation;
7. Beatings, personal injury, facial scarring and permanent disfigurement, personal injuries from road accident, second-degree murder, wilful murder, involuntary manslaughter, vehicular homicide, death or injury as a result of another crime, aided suicide or instigation to suicide: medico-legal aspects;
8. Sexual offenses;
9. Pregnancy termination and reproduction;
10. Professional secret;
11. Medico-legal aspects regarding interdiction, incapacitation, support administration, natural incapacity and circumvention of incapacitated people;
12. The quantification of permanent and temporary biological damage, the estimation of impairment-related suffering and personalisation of damages;
13. Medico-legal aspects of private insurance against accidents and illnesses, life insurance and for the reimbursement of medical expenses;
14. Clinical and insurance risk management in healthcare facilities;
15. Medical ethics;
16. The role of the coroner in criminal justice and in the judicial and extrajudicial resolution of disputes;
17. The Mortuary Police Regulations;
18. Essential elements of forensic pathology (post-mortem phenomena, time of death, stab wounds, injuries caused by blunt instruments, fall trauma, precipitation and road accidents, mechanical asphyxiation and drowning, injuries caused by firearms, damage caused by thermal, radiant and electrical energy;
19. Forensic analysis of vital injuries in cases of abuse;
20. Essential elements of forensic genetics: paternity test (consent and non-consent, methods of execution, limits and interpretation of results), personal identification tests (criteria for choosing the biological matrix to be analysed, methods of analysing simple and mixed biological traces, limits and interpretation of results) and molecular autopsies;
21. Essential elements of forensic radiology: radiological examinations for identification purposes, post-mortem radiological examinations (virtospy);
22. Essentials of forensic toxicology: diagnosis of acute and chronic alcohol and drug intoxication;
23. Social insurance INPS and INAIL.

***READING LIST***

The reference textbook for lecture preparation and strictly recommended for exam preparation is:

oliva a., caputo m. itinerari di medicina legale e delle responsabilità in campo sanitario. g. giappichelli editore, 2020. ISBN 9788892132634

***TEACHING METHOD***

Lectures and presentation/discussion of practical cases in the classroom; opportunity to attend forensic investigations at the Forensic Medicine Section of the Catholic University of the Sacred Heart (Rome office).

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

Oral exams.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

Further information can be found on the lecturer's webpage at http://docenti.unicatt.it/web/searchByName.do?language=ENG or on the Faculty notice board.