

Course Descriptions

DIDACTIC YEAR

ME531 Human Anatomy I (2 credits)

This course is the first in a series of four courses designed to acquire understanding of normal clinical anatomy, through an organ systems-based approach. This course will start with a comprehensive review of histology and an in-depth coverage of the integumentary system. It will additionally examine the normal clinical anatomy and physiology associated with eyes, ears, nose and throat. Lectures will be synchronous and include both anatomy and physiology content. We will use programs that provide the opportunity to explore anatomy in a virtual setting. Laboratory assignments will be completed using Visible Body®, Primal Pictures software and Anatomy Physiology Revealed®. Offered Term IV (Summer)

ME541 Human Anatomy II (3 credits)

This course is the second in a series of four courses designed to acquire understanding of normal clinical anatomy, through an organ systems-based approach. This course covers the cardiovascular, pulmonary and gastrointestinal systems. Lectures will be synchronous and include both anatomy and physiology content. We will use programs that provide the opportunity to explore anatomy in a virtual setting. Laboratory assignments will be completed using Visible Body®, Primal Pictures software and Anatomy Physiology Revealed®. Offered Term I (Fall)

ME551 Human Anatomy III (3 credits)

This course is the third in a series of four courses designed to acquire understanding of normal clinical anatomy, through an organ systems-based approach. The systems that will be covered in this course are the nervous, musculoskeletal, and endocrine systems. Additionally, the immune system will be explored for better understanding of infectious diseases. Lectures will be synchronous and include both anatomy and physiology content. We will use programs that provide the opportunity to explore anatomy in a virtual setting. Laboratory assignments will be completed using Visible Body®, Primal Pictures software and Anatomy Physiology Revealed®. Offered Term II (Winter)

ME561 Human Anatomy IV (2 credits)

This course is the fourth in a series of four courses designed to acquire understanding of normal clinical anatomy, through an organ systems-based approach. The systems covered in this course will be renal and male and female genitourinary systems with an emphasis on female physiology. Lectures will be synchronous and include anatomy and physiology content. Lectures will be synchronous and include both anatomy and physiology content. We will use programs that provide the opportunity to explore anatomy in a virtual setting. Laboratory assignments will be completed using Visible Body®, Primal Pictures software and Anatomy Physiology Revealed®. Offered Term III (Spring)

ME533 Basic Sciences I (2 credits)

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This course is the first in a series of four courses designed to introduce students to the broad scope of pathophysiology through an organ systems-based approach. Students will learn the evaluation, management, and therapeutics by learning the pathophysiology of the different organ systems. This course will explore diseases of the skin and eyes, ears, nose and throat.

ME543 Basic Sciences II (2 credits)

This course is the second in a series of four courses designed to introduce students to pathophysiology with an organ systems-based approach. Students will integrate anatomic and physiologic principles to develop an understanding of selected diseases with an emphasis on epidemiology, etiology, pathophysiology, and clinical manifestations. This course will explore diseases of cardiovascular, pulmonary and gastroenterological systems.

ME553 Basic Sciences III (2 credits)

This course is the third in a series of four courses designed to introduce students to pathophysiology with an organ systems-based approach. Students will integrate anatomic and physiologic principles to develop an understanding of selected diseases with an emphasis on epidemiology, etiology, pathophysiology, and clinical manifestations. This course will explore diseases of neurology, musculoskeletal system, endocrinology and infectious diseases.

ME563 Basic Sciences IV (2 credits)

This course is the fourth in a series of four courses designed to introduce students to pathophysiology with an organ systems-based approach. Students will integrate anatomic and physiologic principles to develop an understanding of selected diseases with an emphasis on epidemiology, etiology, pathophysiology, and clinical manifestations. This course will explore diseases of Nephrology/GU, Women's Health, Extremes of Age and Hematology.

ME507 Patient Assessment I (3 credits)

This course is the first in a series of four courses designed to introduce students to patient assessment using an organ systems-based approach to history taking and the completion of physical examinations. The Patient Assessment I course will specifically cover general principles of history taking and physical examinations, as well as assessment components in the disciplines of dermatology, ophthalmology, and otorhinolaryngology (ear, nose, and throat). During this course, the student will be given the opportunity to 1) communicate skillfully with patients using appropriate interviewing and patient education methods; 2) obtain thorough focused and general medical histories; 3) demonstrate proper use of instruments and techniques in the performance of physical examinations; 4) apply knowledge acquired in anatomy, physiology, and other courses to the assessment of patients; 5) detect and analyze abnormal interview and physical exam findings; 6) correlate essential historical data with exam findings; and 7) discuss pertinent available patient resources.

ME547 Patient Assessment II (3 credits)

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This course is the second in a series of four courses designed to introduce students to patient assessment using an organ systems-based approach to history taking and the completion of physical examinations. The Patient Assessment II course will specifically cover assessment components in the disciplines of cardiology, pulmonology, and gastroenterology. During this course, the student will be given the opportunity to 1) communicate skillfully with patients using appropriate interviewing and patient education methods; 2) obtain thorough focused and general medical histories; 3) demonstrate proper use of instruments and techniques in the performance of physical examinations; 4) apply knowledge acquired in anatomy, physiology, and other courses to the assessment of patients; 5) detect and analyze abnormal interview and physical exam findings; 6) correlate essential historical data with exam findings; and 7) discuss pertinent available patient resources.

ME557 Patient Assessment III (3 credits)

This course is the third in a series of four courses designed to introduce students to patient assessment using an organ systems-based approach to history taking and the completion of physical examinations. The Patient Assessment III course will specifically cover assessment components in the disciplines of neurology, orthopedics, endocrinology, and infectious disease. During this course, the student will be given the opportunity to 1) communicate skillfully with patients using appropriate interviewing and patient education methods; 2) obtain thorough focused and general medical histories; 3) demonstrate proper use of instruments and techniques in the performance of physical examinations; 4) apply knowledge acquired in anatomy, physiology, and other courses to the assessment of patients; 5) detect and analyze abnormal interview and physical exam findings; 6) correlate essential historical data with exam findings; and 7) discuss pertinent available patient resources.

ME567 Patient Assessment IV (3 credits)

This course is the final in a series of four courses designed to introduce students to patient assessment using an organ systems-based approach to history taking and the completion of physical examinations. The Patient Assessment IV course will specifically cover assessment components in the disciplines of nephrology, urology, women's health, pediatrics, geriatrics, hematology, and rheumatology. During this course, the student will be given the opportunity to 1) communicate skillfully with patients using appropriate interviewing and patient education methods; 2) obtain thorough focused and general medical histories; 3) demonstrate proper use of instruments and techniques in the performance of physical examinations; 4) apply knowledge acquired in anatomy, physiology, and other courses to the assessment of patients; 5) detect and analyze abnormal interview and physical exam findings; 6) correlate essential historical data with exam findings; and 7) discuss pertinent available patient resources.

ME503 Clinical Pharmacology I (2 credits)

This course is the first in a series of four courses designed to introduce students to the broad scope of clinical pharmacology through an organ systems-based approach. The Clinical Pharmacology I course will specifically cover the basic principles of pharmacology, principles of pharmacogenomics, anti-infective agents, and dietary supplements and herbal medications, as

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well as cover therapeutics used to treat conditions found in the dermatological, ophthalmological, and otorhinolaryngological (ENT) organ systems. During this course, the student will be given the opportunity to demonstrate the ability to: 1) identify the classes of drugs used to treat diseases commonly encountered in a primary care and emergency settings; 2) recognize the commonly used drugs in each class; 3) identify the basic pharmacodynamic properties of each class of drug, the mechanism of action, and important consequences of using each class of drug; 4) recognize the signs and symptoms of common adverse effects and of possible toxic or life-threatening effects of drugs; 5) identify precautions or contraindications to the use of a drug; 6) identify significant drug-drug interactions; 7) recognize the importance of patient education in determining compliance, avoidance of potential problems, and success of therapy; 8) apply statistical and critical thinking skills to evaluate literature data; 9) use resource materials for determining proper usage of chemotherapeutic agents; and 10) understand the role of the physician assistant in writing prescriptions.

ME549 Clinical Pharmacology II (2 credits)

This course is the second in a series of four courses designed to introduce students to the broad scope of clinical pharmacology through an organ systems-based approach. The Clinical Pharmacology II course will specifically cover therapeutics used to treat conditions found in the cardiovascular, pulmonary, and gastrointestinal organ systems. During this course, the student will be given the opportunity to demonstrate the ability to: 1) identify the classes of drugs used to treat diseases commonly encountered in a primary care and emergency settings; 2) recognize the commonly used drugs in each class; 3) identify the basic pharmacodynamic properties of each class of drug, the mechanism of action, and important consequences of using each class of drug; 4) recognize the signs and symptoms of common adverse effects and of possible toxic or life-threatening effects of drugs; 5) identify precautions or contraindications to the use of a drug; 6) identify significant drug-drug interactions; 7) recognize the importance of patient education in determining compliance, avoidance of potential problems, and success of therapy; 8) apply statistical and critical thinking skills to evaluate literature data; 9) use resource materials for determining proper usage of chemotherapeutic agents; and 10) understand the role of the physician assistant in writing prescriptions.

ME559 Clinical Pharmacology III (2 credits)

This course is the third in a series of four courses designed to introduce students to the broad scope of clinical pharmacology through an organ systems-based approach. The Clinical Pharmacology III course will specifically cover therapeutics used to treat conditions found in the neurological, musculoskeletal, and endocrine systems, as well as drugs used to treat obesity and special topics in infectious disease. During this course, the student will be given the opportunity to demonstrate the ability to: 1) identify the classes of drugs used to treat diseases commonly encountered in a primary care and emergency settings; 2) recognize the commonly used drugs in each class; 3) identify the basic pharmacodynamic properties of each class of drug, the mechanism of action, and important consequences of using each class of drug; 4) recognize the signs and symptoms of common adverse effects and of possible toxic or life-threatening effects of drugs; 5) identify precautions or contraindications to the use of a drug; 6) identify significant

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drug-drug interactions; 7) recognize the importance of patient education in determining compliance, avoidance of potential problems, and success of therapy; 8) apply statistical and critical thinking skills to evaluate literature data; 9) use resource materials for determining proper usage of chemotherapeutic agents; and 10) understand the role of the physician assistant in writing prescriptions.

ME569 Clinical Pharmacology IV (2 credits)

This course is the final in a series of four courses designed to introduce students to the broad scope of clinical pharmacology through an organ systems-based approach. The Clinical Pharmacology IV course will specifically cover therapeutics used to treat conditions found in the renal and genitourinary organ systems, as well as drugs used in women's health, pediatrics, geriatrics, hematology/oncology, and rheumatology. During this course, the student will be given the opportunity to demonstrate the ability to: 1) identify the classes of drugs used to treat diseases commonly encountered in a primary care and emergency settings; 2) recognize the commonly used drugs in each class; 3) identify the basic pharmacodynamic properties of each class of drug, the mechanism of action, and important consequences of using each class of drug; 4) recognize the signs and symptoms of common adverse effects and of possible toxic or life-threatening effects of drugs; 5) identify precautions or contraindications to the use of a drug; 6) identify significant drug-drug interactions; 7) recognize the importance of patient education in determining compliance, avoidance of potential problems, and success of therapy; 8) apply statistical and critical thinking skills to evaluate literature data; 9) use resource materials for determining proper usage of chemotherapeutic agents; and 10) understand the role of the physician assistant in writing prescriptions.

ME515 Clinical Medicine I (2 credits)

This course is the first in a series of four courses designed to introduce students to the broad scope of clinical medicine through an organ systems-based approach. The Clinical Medicine I course will specifically cover diseases found in dermatology, ophthalmology, and otorhinolaryngology (ear, nose, and throat). During this course, for each disease/disorder covered, the student will be given the opportunity to: 1) identify pathophysiological processes; 2) understand biological processes and genetics in relation to pathologic disease; 3) recognize common and atypical presentations of disease; 4) develop a high quality list of differential diagnoses; 5) design an appropriate diagnostic approach; 6) interpret common radiological and laboratory studies needed for evaluation; 7) construct an appropriate treatment plan; and 8) recognize the impact of consulting other healthcare professionals in a patient's management as clinically indicated.

ME545 Clinical Medicine II (3 credits)

This course is the second in a series of four courses designed to introduce students to the broad scope of clinical medicine through an organ systems-based approach. The Clinical Medicine II course will specifically cover diseases found in the cardiovascular, pulmonary, and gastrointestinal systems. During this course, for each disease/disorder covered, the student will be given the opportunity to: 1) identify pathophysiological processes; 2) understand biological

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processes and genetics in relation to pathologic disease; 3) recognize common and atypical presentations of disease; 4) develop a high quality list of differential diagnoses; 5) design an appropriate diagnostic approach; 6) interpret common radiological and laboratory studies needed for evaluation; 7) construct an appropriate treatment plan; and 8) recognize the impact of consulting other healthcare professionals in a patient's management as clinically indicated.

ME555 Clinical Medicine III (3 credits)

This course is the third in a series of four courses designed to introduce students to the broad scope of clinical medicine through an organ systems-based approach. The Clinical Medicine III course will specifically cover diseases found in the neurological, musculoskeletal, and endocrine systems as well as infectious diseases. During this course, for each disease/disorder covered, the student will be given the opportunity to: 1) identify pathophysiological processes; 2) understand biological processes and genetics in relation to pathologic disease; 3) recognize common and atypical presentations of disease; 4) develop a high quality list of differential diagnoses; 5) design an appropriate diagnostic approach; 6) interpret common radiological and laboratory studies needed for evaluation; 7) construct an appropriate treatment plan; and 8) recognize the impact of consulting other healthcare professionals in a patient's management as clinically indicated.

ME565 Clinical Medicine IV (3 credits)

This course is the final in a series of four courses designed to introduce students to the broad scope of clinical medicine through an organ systems-based approach. The Clinical Medicine IV course will specifically cover diseases found in the renal and genitourinary organ systems, as well as drugs used in women's health, pediatrics, geriatrics, hematology, and rheumatology. During this course, for each disease/disorder covered, the student will be given the opportunity to: 1) identify pathophysiological processes; 2) understand biological processes and genetics in relation to pathologic disease; 3) recognize common and atypical presentations of disease; 4) develop a high quality list of differential diagnoses; 5) design an appropriate diagnostic approach; 6) interpret common radiological and laboratory studies needed for evaluation; 7) construct an appropriate treatment plan; and 8) recognize the impact of consulting other healthcare professionals in a patient's management as clinically indicated.

ME523 Diagnostic Methods I (1 credit)

This course is the first in a series of three courses designed to introduce students to the different diagnostic methods available for the evaluation and diagnosis of medical conditions. The Diagnostic Methods I course will specifically cover general laboratory tests encountered in primary care as well as an introduction to the different imaging modalities including plain radiography (X-ray), computed tomography (CT), magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), and ultrasonography. During this course, the student will be given the opportunity to: 1) list commonly used diagnostic studies; 2) understand risks associated with these studies; 3) list contraindications to the use of certain studies; 4) provide basic interpretations of each diagnostic study; 5) understand the use of contrast in certain radiological studies; and 6) appreciate the difference between routine, urgent, and emergent studies.

ME542 Diagnostic Methods II (2 credits)

This course is the second in a series of three courses designed to introduce students to the different diagnostic methods available for the evaluation and diagnosis of medical conditions. The Diagnostic Methods II course will specifically cover chest, abdomen, and vascular imaging, as well as electrocardiograms (ECGs), echocardiograms (ECHOs), and pulmonary function tests (PFTs). During this course, the student will be given the opportunity to: 1) list commonly used diagnostic studies; 2) understand risks associated with these studies; 3) list contraindications to the use of certain studies; 4) provide basic interpretations of each diagnostic study; 5) understand the use of contrast in certain radiological studies; and 6) appreciate the difference between routine, urgent, and emergent studies.

ME558 Diagnostic Methods III (2 credits)

This course is the final in a series of three courses designed to introduce students to the different diagnostic methods available for the evaluation and diagnosis of medical conditions. The Diagnostic Methods III course will specifically cover neuroimaging, orthopedic imaging, pelvic imaging, pediatric imaging, and point of care ultrasound. During this course, the student will be given the opportunity to: 1) list commonly used diagnostic studies; 2) understand risks associated with these studies; 3) list contraindications to the use of certain studies; 4) provide basic interpretations of each diagnostic study; 5) understand the use of contrast in certain radiological studies; and 6) appreciate the difference between routine, urgent, and emergent studies.

ME534 Evidence-Based Medicine (1 credit)

This course is designed to help students navigate the medical literature to find answers to clinical questions that are based on valid medical research evidence, referred to as evidence-based medicine (EBM). Understanding of research methods is essential for an effective practice of EBM as future clinicians. During this course, students will learn and practice how to: 1) formulate research and clinical questions; 2) search common databases of available medical literature; 3) differentiate between various types of research studies; 4) recognize different types of biases in research and threats to validity of research findings; 5) compare and contrast different types of sampling methods; 6) critically appraise the literature for selected clinical topics; and 7) appreciate the value of lifelong learning in the health professions.

ME574 Research (1 credit)

This is the second of two sequential courses in the track of evidence-based medicine. Building on the knowledge gained from the Evidence-based Medicine course, students will be engaged in critically appraising synthesized evidence such as scoping review, systematic reviews and meta-analyses, and to analyze clinical practice guidelines. They will be given opportunities to complete a project on critically appraised topics and to disseminate this project in a manuscript format and a poster presentation.

ME501 Introduction to the Health Professions (1 credit)

In this course the student will be given the opportunity to: 1) examine the role of the physician assistant in health care delivery and the scope of PA practice; 2) interpret health policy and law;

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3) review the physician assistant profession and its history; 4) discuss the ethical dimensions in health care; and 5) recognize the PA role in interprofessional health care.

ME522 Mindfulness in Medicine (1 credit)

The most efficient way of understanding others is by understanding oneself. This course explores the inner workings of conscious and subconscious awareness through the applied intention of mindfulness. The human psyche is designed to observe, interpret, adapt, take action, and/or change with every piece of information it receives; however, most decisions take place without the conscious mind.

ME535 Preventive Medicine (2 credits)

This course is designed to introduce students to the discipline of health promotion and preventive medicine. Many illnesses that patients suffer from and succumb to could be avoided with timely and appropriate behavioral intervention, screening, and preventive measures. Benjamin Franklin understood this concept in 1736 when he famously stated that “an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure”. This Preventive Medicine course will give students the evidence-based knowledge and tools necessary to impart meaningful changes in their patients’ lives.

Specifically, the student will be given the opportunity to: 1) gain familiarity with methods to promote overall health and well-being; 2) discuss the importance of identifying risk factors for disease; 3) explore commonly used preventive medicine guidelines; 4) discuss different types of commonly used screening tools; 5) understand common cancer screening guidelines, 6) gain familiarity with routine immunization schedules for both pediatric and adult patients; 7) discuss the importance of smoking cessation for all patients; 8) discuss the social determinants of health and how they impact patient well-being; 9) describe patient advocacy; and 10) discuss disease reporting and surveillance, the public health system, and population health.

ME550 Behavioral Health (1 credits)

During this course, the student will be given the opportunity to: 1) Identify normal physical, social, and psychosocial processes and distinguish these from processes due to illness and injury; 2) Understand the neurobiological processes and genetics in relation to mental illness; 3) Provide a foundation for assessing a patient’s state of mental health and development; 4) Explain the classification of common mental illnesses set forth in the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders* 5) Recognize the importance of an appropriate and timely referral; 6) Recognize the importance of other healthcare professionals in the management of patients with mental illness; 7) Recognize the importance of family and community dynamics in the management of patients with mental illness; and 8) Discover health and well-being in the clinician’s personal life and how this may intertwine in the clinician-patient relationship, professionalism, and cultural competence.

ME554 Cross Cultural Health (1 credits)

In this course, the student will be challenged to interrogate and refine his/her own belief systems as he/she works to build a general understanding of cultural knowledge. The student will be

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given the opportunity to recognize and mitigate factors that contribute to health disparities and limited access. The student will also learn practical strategies for engaging patients in a manner that demonstrates cultural humility.

ME575 Medical Ethics (1 credits)

As stated by William Osler, “the practice of medicine is an art, not a trade; a calling, not a business; a calling in which your heart will be exercised equally with your head”. One must always act by a code of ethics and a duty of service that, in medicine, puts patient care above self-interest.

This course is designed to introduce students to the field of medical ethics and allow students to think through common ethical scenarios they may face throughout clinical practice. The Franklin Pierce University PA Program supports the AAPA’s Guidelines for Ethical Conduct for the Physician Assistant Profession <https://www.aapa.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/16-EthicalConduct.pdf> and the NCCPA’s Code of Conduct for Certified and Certifying Physician Assistants <https://www.nccpa.net/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Code-of-Conduct.pdf>. During this course, the student will be given the opportunity to discuss topics covered in each of these publications as well as discuss patient cases in which ethical decision making was required.

ME573 Clinical Skills (4 credits)

This course is designed to prepare the student for supervised clinical practice by introducing procedures commonly performed in the clinical setting. The student will be given the opportunity to demonstrate the ability to: 1) Understand the indications for performing specific clinical procedures; 2) perform the appropriate procedures; 3) counsel the patient regarding both procedures and management; 4) interpret data acquired from procedures in the primary care and relevant subspecialty areas; 5) successfully perform resuscitative procedures under simulated clinical conditions and 6) appreciate the significance of cultural and ethnic factors in patient management.

This course is taught using a variety of instruction methods including textbooks, lectures, online videos, class discussion, and small group work.

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ME656 Behavioral Medicine/ Psychiatry (5 credits)

The Behavioral Medicine (Psychiatry) supervised clinical practice experience (SCPE) allow for the students’ application of history taking, physical examination, diagnosis, and management of patients with behavioral health and/or psychiatric conditions. During this five-week course the student will be given the opportunity to: (1) perform basic psychiatric evaluations, (2) monitor medications, and (3) support the clinical management plan for patients following psychiatric evaluation and treatment. This course may include extended clinical care hours, inpatient services, emergency department, hospital call, and community responsibilities as deemed appropriate by the supervising preceptor.

ME652 Emergency Medicine (5 credits)

This five-week course is designed to allow students to use knowledge, skills, and abilities gained throughout the didactic year to interact with, evaluate, diagnose, and treat emergency patients under appropriate supervision. During this course, students will be given the opportunity to: 1) prepare and present patient records and a problem list in an organized fashion appropriate for the emergency medicine service; 2) understand the indications, contraindications, possible complications, and limitations in the management of emergent conditions; 3) understand the indications and limitations of various emergency procedures; 4) assist effectively with emergency procedures in the emergency room setting; 5) manage and document patient information in the emergency room setting; 6) assist in all particulars delegated by the supervising practitioner; 7) apply previously-acquired problem-solving skills in the management of patients; 8) apply principles of evidence-based medicine; 9) create a diagnosis sheet that the student and peers may use to study for end of block examinations; and 10) make written and oral presentations on selected patient conditions; 11) organize and present information and medical decision making to other members of the healthcare team through oral presentation and construction of clinical notes; 12) provide high-yield education to patients and their families; and 13) showcase professionalism and respect for patients, their families, other students, and all members of the healthcare team throughout the clerkship. This course may include extended clinical care hours, inpatient services, emergency department, hospital call, and community responsibilities as deemed appropriate by the supervising preceptor.

ME651 Family Medicine (5 credits)

This course is designed to allow students to use knowledge, skills, and abilities gained throughout the didactic year to interact with, evaluate, diagnose, and treat primary care patients under appropriate supervision. During this five-week course, students will be given the opportunity to: 1) Apply a fund of knowledge in basic and clinical sciences to the understanding of common diseases encountered in family medicine; 2) effectively interact and communicate with patients to obtain a thorough history and conduct pertinent physical examinations; 3) use critical thinking to generate high-quality differential diagnoses; 4) formulate, justify, and carry out appropriate diagnostic and management plans based on current medical evidence; 5) successfully practice common procedures encountered in primary care settings; 6) Organize and present information and medical decision making to other members of the healthcare team through oral presentation and construction of clinical notes; 7) provide high-yield education to patients and their families; and 8) showcase professionalism and respect for patients, their families, other students, and all members of the healthcare team throughout the clerkship. This course may include extended clinical care hours, inpatient services, emergency department, hospital call, and community responsibilities as deemed appropriate by the supervising preceptor.

ME650 Internal Medicine (5 credits)

In the supervised clinical practice experience (SCPE) setting, the student will apply the

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fundamental medical knowledge developed during the didactic year. The Internal Medicine SCPE will advance the students' clinical skills in the primary and specialty care areas of medicine. In this five-week clinical course/ rotation, the student will have the opportunity to (1) build and increase the ability to develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills while seeing patients within the outpatient and/ or inpatient setting, (2) assess commonly encountered medical problems, (3) order and interpret appropriate diagnostic studies, (4) manage common medical problems in patients, (5) practicing medicine as part of a health care team, and (6) observe, assist, or perform common internal medicine procedures under the supervision of a clinical preceptor. Patient-centered, physician assistant practice reflects a number of overarching themes including an unwavering commitment to patient safety, cultural competence, quality health care, lifelong learning, and professional growth. This course may include extended clinical care hours, inpatient services, emergency department, hospital call, and community responsibilities as deemed appropriate by the supervising preceptor.

ME654 Pediatrics (5 credits)

The Pediatrics supervised clinical practice experience (SCPE) allow for the students' application of history taking, physical examination, diagnosis, and management of patients in the pediatric population. During this five-week course the student will be given the opportunity to: (1) perform well child exams, (2) perform pediatric problem-oriented exams, (3) evaluate common pediatric illnesses, and (4) evaluate the care of the newborn. Emphasis will also be placed on patient and family education on treatment and preventative measures for common pediatric conditions. This course may include extended clinical care hours, inpatient services, emergency department, hospital call, and community responsibilities as deemed appropriate by the supervising preceptor. This course may include extended clinical care hours, inpatient services, emergency department, hospital call, and community responsibilities as deemed appropriate by the supervising preceptor.

ME653 Surgery (5 credits)

This five-week course is designed to allow students to use knowledge, skills, and abilities gained throughout the didactic year to interact with, evaluate, diagnose, and treat surgery patients under appropriate supervision. During this course, students will be given the opportunity to: 1) prepare and present patient records and a problem list in an organized fashion appropriate for the surgical service; 2) understand the indications, contraindications, possible complications, and limitations in the management of surgical conditions; 3) understand the indications and limitations of various surgical procedures; 4) assist effectively with surgical procedures in the intraoperative setting and patient and information management in the pre- and post-operative periods; 5) assist in all particulars delegated by the supervising practitioner; 6) apply previously-acquired problem-solving skills in the management of patients; 7) apply principles of evidence-based medicine; 8) create a diagnosis sheet that the student and peers may use to study for end of block examinations; 9) make written and oral presentations on selected patient conditions; 10) organize and present information and medical decision making to other members of the healthcare team through oral presentation and construction of clinical notes; 11) provide high-yield education to patients and their families; and 12) showcase professionalism and respect for patients, their families, other students, and all members of the healthcare team throughout the clerkship. This course may

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include extended clinical care hours, inpatient services, emergency department, hospital call, and community responsibilities as deemed appropriate by the supervising preceptor.

ME655 Women's Health (5 credits)

This course is designed to allow students to use knowledge, skills, and abilities gained throughout the didactic year to interact with, evaluate, diagnose, and treat women's health patients under appropriate supervision. During this five-week course, students will be given the opportunity to: 1) Apply a fund of knowledge in basic and clinical sciences to the understanding of common diseases encountered in women's health; 2) effectively interact and communicate with patients to obtain a thorough history and conduct pertinent physical examinations; 3) use critical thinking to generate high-quality differential diagnoses; 4) formulate, justify, and carry out appropriate diagnostic and management plans based on current medical evidence; 5) successfully practice common procedures encountered in women's health; 6) understand key components of pre-operative, intra-operative, and post-operative care of surgical conditions encountered in women's health; 7) Organize and present information and medical decision making to other members of the healthcare team through oral presentation and construction of clinical notes; 8) provide high-yield education to patients and their families; and 9) showcase professionalism and respect for patients, their families, other students, and all members of the healthcare team throughout the clerkship. This course may include extended clinical care hours, inpatient services, emergency department, hospital call, and community responsibilities as deemed appropriate by the supervising preceptor.

ME657, ME658 Elective Rotations I and II (5 credits each)

Each five-week course/rotation for Electives I and II provide students with supervised clinical practice experiences chosen from medical/surgical specialties and/or subspecialties. In each of these elective course/rotations the student will be given the opportunity to: (1) gain clinical skills specific to the specialty of the rotation, (2) recognize conditions treatable by the specialty so appropriate referrals can be made, (3) continue to develop skills in systematic medical problem-solving and patient management, (4) continue to establish or reinforce patterns of independent learning, self-evaluation, professional behavior, and communication skills.

ME693 Professional Practice I (1 credit)

This course is part one of a 4-part course series during the students' clinical year. During this course, the student will be given the opportunity to: 1) Exhibit their clinical skills and review didactic knowledge gained throughout the curriculum; 2) Prepare for clinical practice by developing an understanding of billing and coding, reimbursement, and professionalism issues; and 3) Prepare for the physician assistant national certification exam (*PANCE*) by early study of board review questions.

ME694 Professional Practice II (1 credit)

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This course is part two of a 4-part course series during the students' clinical year. During this course, the student will be given the opportunity to: 1) Exhibit their clinical skills and review didactic knowledge gained throughout the curriculum; 2) Understand the importance of ethical behavior within a healthcare team; and 3) Prepare for the physician assistant national certification exam (*PANCE*) by early study of board review questions.

ME695 Professional Practice III (1 credit)

This course is part three of a 4-part course series during the students' clinical year. During this course, the student will be given the opportunity to: 1) Exhibit their clinical skills and review didactic knowledge gained throughout the curriculum; 2) Understand the importance of interprofessional practice within a healthcare team; and 3) Prepare for the physician assistant national certification exam (*PANCE*) by early study of board review questions.

ME696 Professional Practice IV (1 credit)

This course is part four of a 4-part course series during the students' clinical year. During this course, the student will be given the opportunity to: 1) exhibit their clinical skills and review didactic knowledge gained throughout the curriculum through summative assessments; 2) recognize the importance of the physician assistant national certification exam (*PANCE*), state licensure maintenance, and continuing medical education (CME) requirements; 3) prepare for successful completion of the national certification examination through assignments, self-learning, and board review questions; and 4) prepare for employment.