

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS – NEW CURRICULUM

PROFESSION OF MEDICINE (POM)

This first course of medical school is interwoven with Orientation to medical school, and serves as a prologue to the student's medical school experience. It introduces the student to the profession of medicine and encourages life-long learning and reflection. Topics to be included are how to take vital signs, basic life support certification, beginning interview skills, health care quality and safety, and concepts of patient centered care. Also skills such as finding reliable resources and honing study skills to match the volume and pace of work in medical school. The two week course concludes with the White Coat Ceremony during which the modern Oath of Hippocrates is administered.

HUMAN GROSS ANATOMY (ANAT)

This 8 week course will introduce entering medical students to human anatomy, emphasizing integumentary structures, vascular and neural structures, bone and muscle relationships, organs of the thorax and abdomen, skull, major nerves and vasculature. Anatomical relationships are featured, and a cadaveric dissection lab is integral to the course.

SCIENTIFIC PRINCIPLES OF MEDICINE (SPM)

This 12 week course will provide the foundational principles of cell biology, biochemistry, molecular genetics, histology, microbiology, immunology, cancer biology, and pharmacology that are necessary for students to understand the mechanisms that underlie organ system physiology, pathology, pathophysiology and pharmacology. This course is in the fall semester of year 1.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIO-ECOLOGICAL MEDICINE (PHSM)

The objective of this course is to teach future physicians the principles and application of public health and socio-ecological medicine so as to maintain/improve the health of individual patients and communities. It will include the role and authority of local, state, national and international public health organizations, measures of health and disease, and models for disease prevention and health promotion. This course is in the fall semester of year 1.

HUMANITIES (HUM)

Medical Humanities introduces students of medicine to topics which explore questions of value and meaning in and around medicine. Issues addressed are the patients' experience of illness, social and cultural context of illness and healing, moral dimensions of the doctor-patient relationship, historical development of the profession of medicine, and relationship of the medical profession to society. This course is taught in Phase 1, spring semester of the first year.

EVIDENCE-BASED MEDICINE I (EBM)

This course allows students to learn to apply the basic principles of clinical epidemiology/biostatistics to clinical medicine. Physicians must be knowledgeable consumers of medical literature/information, and to be able to judge the validity of scientific evidence and apply it to patient care. It includes statistical procedures to analyze and interpret clinical data, recognize appropriate study designs, determine validity and reliability of studies, and calculate measures of disease or impact on population health. This course is taught in the spring semester of Phase 1, year 1.

EVIDENCE-BASED MEDICINE II (EBM)

This course extends the concepts of EBM I, and includes constructing good clinical questions, developing good strategies to identify appropriate sources of primary literature, critically appraising clinical literature, judge the applicability of medical information to patient care, and combining best evidence with patient preference. The course is taught in the fall semester Phase 1, second year.

FOUNDATIONS OF PATIENT CENTERED CARE AND LONGITUDINAL CLINICAL EXPERIENCE (FPCC)

This is a four semester course designed to integrate clinical interviewing and history taking skills and physical examination skills at the proficient level in a patient-centered model with emphasis on the patient-physician relationship and factors that affect the effectiveness of that relationship and healthcare management. The course incorporates integrative practice and application of skills, effective communication with patients and other healthcare providers, and documentation, as well as healthcare topics which impact effective healthcare implementation and management. It runs through the entire Phase I.

MEDICAL ETHICS AND PROFESSIONALISM (MEP)

This course provides an introduction to bioethics and professionalism, and provides a framework for understanding ethical issues in medicine. Included are interrelationships between legal and ethical issues in medicine, justice, fairness and rights, informed consent, confidential issues, ethics of research in medicine, ethical issues in genetics, and end of life decisions. This course is taught in the fall semester of Phase I, in the second years.

BEHAVIORAL INFLUENCES ON HEALTH (BIH)

The fundamental course of behavioral science is designed to teach year students emerging systems of care that looks at the mind - body connection within the context of the bi psychosocial-spiritual environment of the individual, and includes provision of quality care needs to include cognitive, behavioral, familial and life style interventions. This course prepares students to integrate the science and the art of medicine. This course is taught in the spring semester of Phase 1 for second year students.

ORGAN SYSTEM COURSES

The organ system courses include **Hematology, Cardiology, Pulmonary Medicine, Renal Medicine, Gastrointestinal Medicine and Nutrition, Musculoskeletal Medicine, Dermatology, Neural and Behavioral Science, Reproductive Medicine, and Endocrinology**. All of these courses will include normal physiology, histology, pathology, pathophysiology, and associated anatomy, embryology, biochemistry, genetics, microbiology, immunology, and pharmacology. These courses begin in the first January of Phase I and extend through the following year, ending in February.