

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICIAN ASSOCIATE STUDIES

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Didactic Phase

PHAS 5710 BIOSTATISTICS (3 hours)

This course covers the basic concepts of statistical models and use of samples; measures of variation and central tendency; normal, t, chi-square, and F distributions; test of hypothesis, analysis of variance, regression, and correlation; emphasis on laboratory-oriented and medical research problems; computer software applications are introduced. Prerequisites: PHAS 5726, 5740, 5742, 5750, and 5755.

PHAS 5715 RESEARCH METHODS (3 hours)

Covers research and evaluation methods and techniques commonly used in health care, including problem selection, literature review, instrumentation, methodology, statistical analyses, and the writing of research reports and articles. Includes the interpretation of published research, application of statistical analyses, and application of research methodologies. Prerequisites: PHAS 5710, 5726, 5740, 5742, 5750, 5755, 5727, 5731, 5745, 5751, 5760, and 5762.

PHAS 5720 INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND AIDS (3 hours)

This course presents the various infectious diseases commonly seen in medical practice. It identifies the organisms that cause the diseases and discusses their appropriate treatment and management. The history and epidemiology of AIDS is also presented including a discussion of its signs and symptoms together with the common treatments available. Prerequisites: PHAS 5710, 5726, 5727, 5731, 5740, 5742, 5745, 5750, 5751, 5755, and 5762.

PHAS 5725 PA SEMINAR (1 hour)

This multifaceted course spans the clinical phase of the Program. It includes sessions on PA employment, health promotion and disease prevention, alternative medicine and clinical problem solving. Prerequisites: PHAS 5710, 5715, 5720, 5726, 5727, 5728, 5731, 5732, 5740, 5742, 5745, 5750, 5751, 5752, 5753, 5755, 5760, and 5762.

PHAS 5726 PA HISTORY AND PROFESSIONAL ISSUES (2 hours)

This course introduces the new PA student to the history of the PA profession, the elements of PA practice, and the credentials necessary for practice. In addition, the course exposes students to contemporary issues in the organization and delivery of health care services and discusses interaction with other future health care professionals. A variety of professional and legal issues pertinent to PA practice are discussed and debated.

PHAS 5727 PATIENT ASSESSMENT: INTERVIEWING AND PHYSICAL EXAMINATION (4 hours)

This course focuses on the medical interview and physical exam as clinical skills. The various components of the medical history are presented along with techniques for effective medical interviewing. Students apply these skills while obtaining histories from selected patients. Guidance is provided with respect to communicating with patients of all cultural backgrounds, ages and personalities. The tools, techniques, procedures, and skills of the diagnostic physical examination are presented in a systems approach as they relate to the systematic performance and documentation of complete and problem focused physical examinations. Prerequisites: PHAS 5726, 5740, 5742, 5750, and 5755.

PHAS 5728 CLINICAL MEDICINE SKILLS (3 hours)

Basic surgical principles and techniques are presented, including asepsis fundamentals, O.R. procedure and conduct, wound care and healing, closure, debridement and dressings. Laboratory sessions include minor surgical techniques and other procedures necessary for diagnosis and treatment. Surgical instruments, anesthesia, pre- and post-operative care, common surgical procedures and surgical complications are discussed. ACLS training is included in this course. This course also focuses on how to

record pre and post-operative notes and the surgical medical record. Students learn to integrate history and physical exam data as they perform histories and physicals on selected patients and then document their findings in the complete write up. Prerequisites: PHAS 5710, 5726, 5727, 5731, 5745, 5740, 5742, 5750, 5751, 5755, and 5762.

PHAS 5731 PHARMACOTHERAPEUTICS I (3 hours)

This is the first course in a two course in-depth study of hormonal agents, autonomic drugs, anesthetics, analgesics, anti-infective agents, antibiotics, hypnotics, cardiac drugs, vitamins, renal drugs, and topical agents, as well as the principles of pharmacokinetics, chemotherapy, and toxicology. Both oral and intravenous modes of delivery are discussed. Prerequisites: PHAS 5726, 5740, 5742, 5750, and 5755.

PHAS 5732 PHARMACOTHERAPEUTICS II (3 hours)

This course is a continuation of PHAS 531 Pharmacotherapeutics I. It covers the second half of the material as correlated to the Medicine and Surgery courses. Prerequisites: PHAS 5710, 5726, 5727, 5731, 5740, 5742, 5745, 5750, 5751, 5755, and 5762.

PHAS 5740 MEDICAL ANATOMY AND NEUROANATOMY (6 hours)

This course is a region oriented study of the structure and function of the human body with emphasis on anatomical concepts and relationships relevant to the practice of medicine. A computer software program is utilized in addition to lecture material and clinical case studies are included.

PHAS 5742 MEDICAL PHYSIOLOGY (4 hours)

This is a comprehensive course covering the physiology of all major systems of the human body. Special emphasis is placed on the clinical application of this knowledge to patient management. It is designed specifically for PA students and interrelates with their courses in clinical medicine.

PHAS 5745 ELECTROCARDIOGRAPHY AND RADIOLOGY (2 hours)

This course covers intermediate and advanced electrocardiography, including cardiac electrophysiology, lead systems, dysrhythmia recognition and treatment, axis, infarction, ischemia, hypertrophy, and the effects of cardiovascular drugs and exercise on the ECG. The second half of the course teaches the student how to read and interpret the various forms of diagnostic imaging. Prerequisites: PHAS 5726, 5740, 5742, 5750, and 5755.

PHAS 5750 FOUNDATIONS OF CLINICAL MEDICINE AND SURGERY I (3 hours)

The essentials of human pathophysiology and their relationship to clinical signs and symptoms elicited in the medical history and physical examination are presented. The etiology, epidemiology, pathophysiology, clinical manifestations, and diagnostic aspects of common diseases within each organ system are discussed and correlated. General approaches to medical management of selected problems are also presented. Although an organ-systems approach is utilized, the systems are integrated for discussion of multi-system pathology.

PHAS 5751 FOUNDATIONS OF CLINICAL MEDICINE AND SURGERY II (3 hours)

This course is a continuation of PHAS 5750 which is its prerequisite. The organ systems are divided among the four clinical medicine courses as correlated with other elements of the curriculum. Prerequisites: PHAS 5726, 5740, 5742, 5750, and 5755.

PHAS 5752 FOUNDATIONS OF CLINICAL MEDICINE AND SURGERY III (3 hours)

This is the third course in the four course series in clinical medicine. Prerequisites: PHAS 5710, 5726, 5740, 5742, 5750, 5755, 5727, 5731, 5745, 5751, and 5762.

PHAS 5753 FOUNDATIONS OF CLINICAL MEDICINE AND SURGERY IV (2 hours)

This is the fourth course in the four course series in clinical medicine. Prerequisites: PHAS 5710, 5726, 5740, 5742, 5750, 5755, 5727, 5731, 5745, 5751, and 5762.

PHAS 5755 INTRODUCTION TO CLINICAL LABORATORY MEDICINE (3 hours)

Presented in multiple formats including traditional lectures, labs, and case studies, this course introduces the student to the importance of clinical laboratory medicine in the delivery of health care. In addition to basic theory, the course focuses on the selection, collection and handling of samples for testing. Emphasis is placed on the interpretation and clinical application of common diagnostic laboratory studies. Topic areas include blood banking, chemistry, coagulation, hematology, immunology, microbiology, and urinalysis.

PHAS 5760 PA ETHICS AND MEDICAL LAW (1 hour)

Medical ethics are discussed and a variety of ethical cases are debated by students after completing on line research into the issues involved. Lectures in medical law and the legal obligations of health professionals are presented. Prerequisites: PHAS 5710, 5726, 5727, 5731, 5740, 5742, 5745, 5750, 5755, 5751, and 5762.

PHAS 5762 PSYCHIATRY AND PSYCHOSOCIAL DYNAMICS (3 hours)

This course introduces the student to the psychological, social and family context of health, illness and health care. A major premise of this course is that to adequately meet the needs of the patient, the PA must consider not only disease factors, but also psychosocial factors, which affect the disease and are affected by it as well. Topics include personality development from infancy through old age, the family's role in health care, sex and sexuality, abuse of substances, and death and dying. Prerequisites: PHAS 5726, 5740, 5742, 5750, and 5755.

PHAS 5790 MASTERS SEMINAR (3 hours)

Five weeks. In this course, students critically research one area of the medical literature based on a clinical question of interest. They develop a hypothesis and develop a comprehensive Research Study Proposal that includes an abstract, introduction, literature review, methodology, and conclusions. Students are not required to complete the associated data collection but are allowed to do so provide such collection does not interfere with the completion of rotations. Prerequisites: PHAS 5710, 5715, 5720, 5728, 5726, 5740, 5742, 5750, 5755, 5727, 5731, 5732, 5745, 5751, 5752, 5753, 5760, and 5762.

Clinical Phase

Rotation Descriptions

PHAS 5770 EMERGENCY MEDICINE (2.5 hours)

Five weeks. This clinical experience includes the management of acute medical and surgical problems with an emphasis on the importance of precise diagnosis as well as the principles of emergency therapy. Prerequisite: Completion of the PA didactic phase.

PHAS 5771 INTERNAL MEDICINE I (2.5 hours)

Five weeks. Students actively participate in all aspects of direct patient care in inpatient and/or outpatient adult medicine. This fundamental clinical experience places emphasis on patient evaluation and assessment, oral and written case presentations, understanding the complexities and interrelationships of disease processes and diagnostic and therapeutic collaboration. Prerequisite: Completion of the PA didactic phase.

PHAS 5772 INTERNAL MEDICINE II (2.5 hours)

Five weeks. As an adjunct to PHAS 5774, the direct patient care fundamentals of outpatient and/or inpatient adult medicine are continued in this clinical experience. Prerequisite: Completion of the PA didactic phase.

PHAS 5773 GENERAL SURGERY (2.5 hours)

Five weeks. This clinical experience provides exposure to concepts and principles that characterize the practice of general surgery. Students participate in the pre-operative, operative and post-operative care of patients admitted to a surgical service in inpatient, and outpatient settings. Prerequisite: Completion of the PA didactic phase.

PHAS 5774 PEDIATRICS (2.5 hours)

Five weeks. Practical experience in the recognition and management of pediatric problems is provided, including assessment of the newborn, well baby care, preventive pediatrics, developmental assessment, infectious disease, adolescent medicine and parent counseling. Prerequisite: Completion of the PA didactic phase.

PHAS 5775 OBSTETRICS & GYNECOLOGY (2.5 hours)

Five weeks. This clinical experience encompasses the fundamentals of women's gynecological health and pregnancy. Emphasis is on the medical history, physical examination, diagnosis and treatment involved with pre-natal, post-natal, and general gynecologic care. Prerequisite: Completion of the PA didactic phase.

PHAS 5776 FAMILY/GENERAL MEDICINE I (2.5 hours)

Five weeks. This rotation provides the second-year student with an opportunity to gain experience in a primary care setting. This experience exposes the student to a wide range of common ambulatory care problems. Prerequisite: Completion of the PA didactic phase.

PHAS 5777 FAMILY/GENERAL MEDICINE II (2.5 hours)

Five weeks. This rotation is a continuation of PHAS 570. The ten week exposure to a general medicine setting allows the student to experience patient follow-up and to learn the elements of continuity of patient care. Prerequisite: Completion of the PA didactic phase.

PHAS 5778 PSYCHIATRY (2.5 hours)

Five weeks. This rotation provides an inpatient and/or outpatient clinical experience working with patients who have mental health problems. Emphasis is placed on the presentation, recognition and management of these problems as well as understanding the overall role of mental health in the clinical setting. Prerequisite: Completion of the PA didactic phase.

PHAS 5779 ELECTIVE ROTATION I (2.5 hours)

Five weeks. This rotation is an elective chosen by the student from a list of the Program's available rotations. It may be a repeat of a mandatory rotation if space is available. One (but only one) of the three elective rotations may be a student-identified rotation, approved and arranged by the clinical coordinator. Such student-identified rotations may be denied at the discretion of the PA Program Director. Each choice must be approved by the clinical coordinator. These electives may not necessarily occur in the 2nd summer semester. Prerequisite: Completion of the PA didactic phase.

PHAS 5780 ELECTIVE ROTATION II (2.5 hours)

Five weeks. As described in PHAS 5779. Prerequisite: Completion of the PA didactic phase.

PHAS 5781 ELECTIVE ROTATION III (2.5 hours)

Five weeks. As described in PHAS 5779. Prerequisite: Completion of the PA didactic phase.