

## **PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT STUDIES (MSPAS) COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

Note: All physician assistant courses require admission to the School Health and Natural Sciences in the Masters of Science Physician Assistant Studies Program.

### ***PA 5100 Current Topics in the PA Profession & US Healthcare Policy & Systems (2 units)***

This course will provide an introduction and an overview of the PA Profession for the PA student. It will provide information regarding the development of the PA profession and will explore in depth the current status of the PA profession. It will also provide an overview of the healthcare delivery system including public health, health policy, international healthcare, and current roles of physician assistants within these systems. Additionally, the course will focus on the provision of care in various delivery systems, reimbursement policies and their effect on patient access, physician assistant practice and the economics of public and private financing. Fall semester Phase I.

### ***PA/PAL 5110 Clinical Assessment/Lab (3 units)***

The cornerstone of what physician assistants do is to obtain a medical history and perform a physical examination. As a profession we have gained recognition for our ability to do this in an extremely organized and thorough manner, many times discovering aspects or physical findings not previously uncovered. This lecture/laboratory course is designed to present and teach the techniques for performing and documenting a complete and competent history and physical examination and to begin to interpret both historical and physical findings as applicable to the physiologic and/or disease state of a patient. Lectures will focus on history taking skills including communication skills and the normal physiologic findings for each system of the body in addition to discussing abnormal findings indicative of disease states. PAL 5110 is the laboratory component for PA 5110. The laboratory sessions will focus on practicing and mastering the skills needed to competently perform both the medical interview and a thorough head to toe physical examination, as well as documentation techniques. Fall semester Phase I.

### ***PA 5120 Foundations of Clinical Medicine (6 units)***

The Foundations of Clinical Medicine course is designed to provide the first year physician assistant student with a baseline level of knowledge of the basic sciences (Anatomy, Biochemistry, Pathology, Genetics, Introduction to Laboratory Medicine, Introduction to Pharmacology) and to the study of health and disease upon which studies in medicine will further build. Upon completion of this course the first year PA student will be able to: 1) discuss the essential components of the basic sciences as a precursor to studying health and disease; 2) apply the basic concepts of human anatomy & physiology, biochemistry, pathology, genetics, pharmacology, laboratory medicine to the study of health and disease; 3) select appropriate laboratory studies to diagnose various disease states; 4) propose how chemical and structural changes at the tissue and cellular levels cause or result from disease; 5) discuss the essential biochemical components and functions

related to health and disease; 6) explain the interaction of genetic, environmental, and behavioral factors in predisposition to disease, onset of disease, response to treatment, and maintenance of health; 7) understand the basic pharmacological concepts of pharmacodynamics, pharmacokinetics, drug metabolism and drug interactions; and 8) discuss how radiologic imaging and procedures are performed. Explain the particular imaging studies, plain radiography and cross sectional imaging, including CT, MRI and ultrasound. Fall semester Phase I.

***PA 5130 Medical Ethics and Professionalism (1 unit)***

This course is an in depth study of the concepts of healthcare ethics. The course of study analyzes the fundamentals of ethical principles as they relate to healthcare, and examines the core values and beliefs of the medical professionalism. Methods of ethical analysis and a review of current case studies will be used in discussions of ethical dilemmas faced by healthcare personnel in areas such as medical errors, informed consent, and care of the dying patient. The Physician Assistant student will explore the personal values, professional standards, and institutional guidelines that define the roles and responsibilities of a healthcare practitioner. This course will include both lectures and small group activities which will focus on the development of an understanding of the philosophical and practical principles related to professional ethics. Fall semester Phase I.

***PA 5140 Immunology, Medical Microbiology & Infectious Disease Principles (2 units)***

The Microbiology & Infectious Diseases course is a component of the Foundations of Clinical Medicine (FCM) and an introduction to the basic concepts in the fields of medical microbiology and infectious diseases. These concepts will later be applied to the infectious disease components of Clinical Medicine courses with an in-depth course PA 5440 Current Topics of Infectious Disease offered in the fourth semester. An introduction to immunology, bacteriology, virology, infectious disease epidemiology, and prevention of infectious diseases will be addressed in this section. Fall semester Phase I.

***PA 5150 Introduction to Evidence Based Healthcare and Research (2 units)***

This course is intended for students to acquire and develop both the knowledge and the skills for applying evidence-based medicine (EBM) and research to clinical practice. Health professionals need to acquire knowledge and develop skills to determine the validity, the meaning, and the applicability into practice of clinical research evidence findings. This course additionally provides an introduction to research design and methods including the biostatistical analyses that are most commonly encountered within health research. Students will develop the knowledge and skills to identify and formulate research questions, evaluate research design, critically appraise research methodologies, and select and interpret appropriate statistical analyses. Small group work will focus on the application of course topics with emphasis on studies assessing therapeutic interventions, diagnostic testing, and prognostic indicators of health and disease. Fall semester Phase I.

***PA 5200 CM Dermatology, Eye, ENT (3 units)***

The goal of the Clinical Medicine concentration in the integumentary system and Eyes, Ears, Nose and Throat (EENT) is designed to educate the student in the presentation, diagnosis, management and treatment of the most common dermatologic and EENT conditions seen by healthcare providers. Spring semester Phase I.

***PA 5210 CM Cardiology and ECG (2 units)***

The goal of the Clinical Medicine concentration in Cardiac System is designed to educate the student in the presentation, diagnosis, management and treatment of the most common cardiac conditions seen by healthcare providers. Spring semester Phase I.

***PA 5220 CM Pulmonology (2 units)***

The goal of the Clinical Medicine concentration in Pulmonary System is designed to educate the student in the presentation, diagnosis, management and treatment of the most common pulmonology conditions seen by healthcare providers. Spring semester Phase I.

***PA 5230 CM Gastroenterology (2 units)***

The goal of the Clinical Medicine concentration in Gastrointestinal System is designed to educate the student in the presentation, diagnosis, management, and treatment of the most common gastrointestinal conditions seen by healthcare providers. Spring semester Phase I.

***PA 5240 CM Neurology (2 units)***

The goal of the Clinical Medicine concentration in Neurological System is designed to educate the student in the presentation, diagnosis, management, and treatment of the most common neurological conditions seen by healthcare providers. Spring semester Phase I.

***PA 5250 CM Hematology/Oncology (2 units)***

The goal of the Clinical Medicine concentration in the Hematologic System and Oncology which may occur in this system. The course is designed to educate the student in the presentation, diagnosis, management and treatment of the most common hematologic and oncological conditions seen by healthcare providers. Spring semester Phase I.

***PA 5260 CM Behavioral/Psychiatric Medicine (2 units)***

The purpose of the Behavioral Medicine course is to introduce the Physician Assistant student to the role of the clinician providing care for patients with psychiatric disorders. Additionally, the course will provide an overview of the complex dynamics of the varied psychosocial aspects of patient's lives which influence their health and wellbeing.

The PA student will be expected to examine and integrate the relevance of psychological, social, and cultural factors contributing to a patient's mental health. The PA student will be taught to explore the concepts of health behavior change and the applications of various principles to the human and community domains. These concepts will be applied in depth through case studies in patient care. Spring semester Phase I.

***PA 5300 CM Endocrinology (2 units)***

The goal of the Clinical Medicine concentration in the Endocrine System is designed to educate the student in the presentation, diagnosis, management and treatment of the most common endocrine conditions seen by healthcare providers. Summer semester Phase I.

***PA 5310 CM Urology/Nephrology (2 units)***

The goal of the Clinical Medicine concentration in the Urology/Nephrology System is designed to educate the student in the presentation, diagnosis, management and treatment of the most common renal and urological conditions seen by healthcare providers. Summer semester Phase I.

***PA 5320 CM Musculoskeletal (2 units)***

The goal of the Clinical Medicine concentration in the Musculoskeletal System is designed to educate the student in the presentation, diagnosis, management and treatment of the most common musculoskeletal conditions seen by healthcare providers. Summer semester Phase I.

***PA 5330 CM Women's Health/Men's Health (3 units)***

The Clinical Medicine Women's Health/Men's Health course is a comprehensive and integrated approach to learning medicine about the male and female reproductive and genitourinary system. The goal of the course in the Women's and Men's Health is designed to educate the student in the well-woman and well-male care, and the presentation, diagnosis, management and treatment of the most common Women's and Men's health disorders and diseases seen by healthcare providers. Summer semester Phase I.

***PA 5340 CM Pediatric Medicine (3 units)***

The goal of the Clinical Medicine concentration in the Pediatric Medicine course is designed to educate the student in well-infant/child/adolescent healthcare maintenance and in the presentation, diagnosis, management, and treatment of the most common pediatric diseases and disorders seen by healthcare providers. Summer semester Phase I.

***PA 5400 CM Geriatrics (1 unit)***

The goal of the Clinical Medicine concentration in the Geriatric Medicine course is designed to educate the student in the presentation, diagnosis, management and treatment of the most common Geriatric diseases and disorders seen by healthcare providers. Fall semester Phase I.

***PA/PAL 5410 CM Emergency Medicine/Lab (3 units)***

The goal of the Clinical Medicine concentration in Emergency Medicine is to educate the student in the presentation, diagnosis, management and treatment of the most common emergent conditions seen by healthcare providers in an emergency medicine setting. PAL 5410 is the laboratory component for PA 5410. A comprehensive and integrated approach to learning emergency medicine. Clinical skill sessions on suturing, IV's, casting, bedside ultrasound, other diagnostic imaging, and ACLS certification. Fall semester Phase I.

***PA/PAL 5420 CM Surgery, Hospital Care/Lab (3 units)***

Hospital Care/Surgical Skills is an integrated course designed to introduce the physician assistant student to the care of patients in the hospital setting. This foundational educational experience will serve to develop clinical knowledge, skills and attitudes essential to the practice of hospital medicine, and the delivery of the highest quality patient care. Students will gain a critical thinking framework from which they will continue building their cognitive and procedural abilities as they gain clinical experience throughout their education and careers. PAL 5420 is the laboratory component for PA 5420. The surgical component of this course introduces the role of the physician assistant in the operating room and surgical ward. Students learn principles of pre and postoperative evaluation, management of common perioperative and postoperative complications, as well as documentation for various surgical encounters. This course includes a practical skills lab in which the students will learn and practice the proper surgical terms and techniques for performing common tasks necessary for a physician assistant in an operating room, including sterile technique, gowning/gloving, suturing, and venipuncture. Fall semester Phase I.

***PA 5430 Professional Practice Seminar/Interprofessional Competency in Practice (2 units)***

This course provides active learning opportunities that simulate the diversity of healthcare disciplines and services encountered during clinical training. Through lectures, role playing, simulation exercises, and small group activities focused on scope of practice, roles and responsibilities, ethical decision making, and clinical problem solving, PA students will gain the necessary knowledge and skills that facilitate the transition from the academic to clinical environment and promote high quality clinical education experiences. Fall semester Phase I.

***PA 5440 CM Current Topics in Infectious Diseases (1 unit)***

The Current Topics in Infectious Disease course is a comprehensive and integrated approach to learning medicine as it relates to infectious diseases: their epidemiology, clinical presentations, diagnosis, treatment and prevention. The PA student will develop the ability to apply critical thinking and clinical problem solving through the practice of case-based learning and evidence-based clinical practice. Fall semester Phase I.

***PA 5500 CM Whole Patient Integration I – Continuity Clinic (1 unit)***

The Continuity Clinic experience involves shadowing a supervising preceptor in an outpatient community clinic one-half day per week over three consecutive semesters during the first year of PA education. The Continuity Clinic curriculum offers the PA student the opportunity to (1) begin the process of professional development

early in the 28 month curriculum and establish norms for patient-centered professional behavior; (2) expose students early to the process of clinical problem solving; (3) provide students with a longitudinal clinical experience, which will give them a relevant context for the basic science curriculum; and (4) expose students to excellent primary care physician role models early in their PA education. Spring semester Phase I.

***PA 5510 CM Whole Patient Integration II – Continuity Clinic (1 unit)***

The Continuity Clinic will provide opportunities for the student to observe their preceptor interviewing and examining patients, selecting, ordering and interpreting diagnostics, implementing treatment plans, and educating patients on diagnosis, prevention and health maintenance of disease processes. Students should observe common clinical skills and procedures that are specific to ambulatory care patients. Students should engage in discussions with their supervising physician about the complexities and rewards of the healthcare field and reflect on their induction to clinical medicine. The activities and patient encounters of each student during Continuity Clinic sessions will follow the objectives of the course. However, specific experiences will vary depending on the specialty and scope of practice of the assigned preceptor. Summer semester Phase I.

***PA 5520 CM Whole Patient Integration III – Continuity Clinic (1 unit)***

A comprehensive and integrated approach to the whole patient in a clinical setting. Case-based clinical skill session on patient interviewing and physical exam skills. Sessions will include clinical site orientation for continuity clinic sessions and clinical rotations. Fall semester Phase I.

***PA 5600/5610/5620/5630 | Primary Care Rotation I, II, III, IV (4 units each)***

The Ambulatory Care Clinical Practicum is a 20 week (4 rotations), required clinical rotation for second-year PA students, which focuses on the role of the physician assistant in an ambulatory care setting (clinic or private practice). The PA student will be expected to see Family Medicine, Pediatric, Internal Medicine, Women's Health, and Behavioral Medicine patient encounters during these rotations. The student will actively engage in applying the medical knowledge and clinical skills gained during the didactic year while continuing to develop clinical reasoning through an evidence-based approach to the evaluation and management of primary care problems encountered in ambulatory care settings. Students will also work to incorporate health promotion and disease prevention into patient care and advocate for healthy lifestyles. Phase II.

***PA 5640 In-patient Medicine Rotation (4 units)***

This is a five-week required clinical rotation for second year PA students which focuses on the role of the physician assistant in a hospital based in-patient setting. The student will actively engage in applying the medical knowledge and clinical skills gained during the didactic year while continuing to develop clinical reasoning through an evidence-based approach to the evaluation and management of problems commonly encountered in inpatient settings. Students will also work to incorporate health promotion and disease prevention as well as advocacy for healthy lifestyles, preventive medicine practices, and patient support. Phase II.

***PA 5650 Surgery Rotation (4 units)***

The Surgery Inpatient Clinical Practicum is a five-week, required clinical rotation for second year PA students, which focuses on inpatient care of the surgical patient and the role of the physician assistant on the surgical management team. The focus of this practicum is general surgery. Students are required to complete a minimum of 3 weeks in general surgery. The last 2 weeks may be spent in a surgical subspecialty area if offered by the clinical site. Phase II.

***PA 5660 Emergency Medicine Rotation (4 units)***

This is a five-week required clinical practicum for second year PA students, which focuses on the role of the physician assistant in the emergency department setting. The student will actively engage in applying the medical knowledge and clinical skills gained during the didactic year while continuing to develop clinical reasoning through an evidence-based approach to the evaluation and management of common problems encountered in emergency medicine. Phase II.

***PA 5670/5680 Specialty Practice/Primary Care Rotation I, II (4 units)***

This is a five-week required clinical practicum for second year PA students, which focuses on the role of the physician assistant in a specialty practice (ENT, Dermatology, OB/GYN, etc.), another primary care setting, or a community medicine setting such as a prison, health department, family planning/STD clinic, community mental health or other community based locations. Phase II.

***PA 5700/5710/5720 Professional Practice Seminar I, II, III (1-2 units)***

One-week seminar course dealing with professional practice issues, clinical rotations discussion groups and presentations, introduction and preparation for the Capstone Project. PA faculty will be assigned to and assisting the students with the development of the clinical project proposal/capstone. Summative Clinical Assessments will be administered through high-fidelity simulations and standardized patients objective structured clinical examinations (OSCE). End of Rotation examinations. Phase II.

***PA/PAL 5800 Summative Course/Lab (4 units)***

Three week course of a review of all areas of medicine covered in the didactic and clinical months. Students will participate in interprofessional simulations managing patient care. Additional specialized skills training will be completed and evaluated individually. Final clinical summative assessments will occur in objective structured clinical examinations (OSCE). Phase III.

***PA 5900 Clinical Graduate Project/Capstone (2 units)***

Student conducts a clinical project followed by on-site presentation of results to PA faculty and other PA students with a final written paper of publishable quality or poster presentation. Professional practice issues seminars. Phase III.

### ***PA 5100 Current Topics in the PA Profession & US Healthcare Policy & Systems (2 units)***

This course will provide an introduction and an overview of the PA Profession for the PA student. It will provide information regarding the development of the PA profession and will explore in depth the current status of the PA profession. It will also provide an overview of the healthcare delivery system including public health, health policy, international healthcare, and current roles of physician assistants within these systems. Additionally, the course will focus on the provision of care in various delivery systems, reimbursement policies and their effect on patient access, physician assistant practice and the economics of public and private financing. Fall semester Phase I.

### ***PA/PAL 5110 Clinical Assessment/Lab (3 units)***

The cornerstone of what physician assistants do is to obtain a medical history and perform a physical examination. As a profession we have gained recognition for our ability to do this in an extremely organized and thorough manner, many times discovering aspects or physical findings not previously uncovered. This lecture/laboratory course is designed to present and teach the techniques for performing and documenting a complete and competent history and physical examination and to begin to interpret both historical and physical findings as applicable to the physiologic and/or disease state of a patient. Lectures will focus on history taking skills including communication skills and the normal physiologic findings for each system of the body in addition to discussing abnormal findings indicative of disease states. PAL 5110 is the laboratory component for PA 5110. The laboratory sessions will focus on practicing and mastering the skills needed to competently perform both the medical interview and a thorough head to toe physical examination, as well as documentation techniques. Fall semester Phase I.

### ***PA 5120 Foundations of Clinical Medicine (6 units)***

The Foundations of Clinical Medicine course is designed to provide the first year physician assistant student with a baseline level of knowledge of the basic sciences (Anatomy, Biochemistry, Pathology, Genetics, Introduction to Laboratory Medicine, Introduction to Pharmacology) and to the study of health and disease upon which studies in medicine will further build. Upon completion of this course the first year PA student will be able to: 1) discuss the essential components of the basic sciences as a precursor to studying health and disease; 2) apply the basic concepts of human anatomy & physiology, biochemistry, pathology, genetics, pharmacology, laboratory medicine to the study of health and disease; 3) select appropriate laboratory studies to diagnose various disease states; 4) propose how chemical and structural changes at the tissue and cellular levels cause or result from disease; 5) discuss the essential biochemical components and functions related to health and disease; 6) explain the interaction of genetic, environmental, and behavioral factors in predisposition to disease, onset of disease, response to treatment, and maintenance of health; 7) understand the basic pharmacological concepts of pharmacodynamics, pharmacokinetics, drug metabolism and drug interactions; and 8) discuss how radiologic imaging and procedures are performed. Explain the particular imaging studies, plain radiography and cross sectional imaging, including CT, MRI and ultrasound. Fall semester Phase I.

***PA 5130 Medical Ethics and Professionalism (1 unit)***

This course is an in depth study of the concepts of healthcare ethics. The course of study analyzes the fundamentals of ethical principles as they relate to healthcare, and examines the core values and beliefs of the medical professionalism. Methods of ethical analysis and a review of current case studies will be used in discussions of ethical dilemmas faced by healthcare personnel in areas such as medical errors, informed consent, and care of the dying patient. The Physician Assistant student will explore the personal values, professional standards, and institutional guidelines that define the roles and responsibilities of a healthcare practitioner. This course will include both lectures and small group activities which will focus on the development of an understanding of the philosophical and practical principles related to professional ethics. Fall semester Phase I.

***PA 5140 Immunology, Medical Microbiology & Infectious Disease Principles (2 units)***

The Microbiology & Infectious Diseases course is a component of the Foundations of Clinical Medicine (FCM) and an introduction to the basic concepts in the fields of medical microbiology and infectious diseases. These concepts will later be applied to the infectious disease components of Clinical Medicine courses with an in-depth course PA 5440 Current Topics of Infectious Disease offered in the fourth semester. An introduction to immunology, bacteriology, virology, infectious disease epidemiology, and prevention of infectious diseases will be addressed in this section. Fall semester Phase I.

***PA 5150 Introduction to Evidence Based Healthcare and Research (2 units)***

This course is intended for students to acquire and develop both the knowledge and the skills for applying evidence-based medicine (EBM) and research to clinical practice. Health professionals need to acquire knowledge and develop skills to determine the validity, the meaning, and the applicability into practice of clinical research evidence findings. This course additionally provides an introduction to research design and methods including the biostatistical analyses that are most commonly encountered within health research. Students will develop the knowledge and skills to identify and formulate research questions, evaluate research design, critically appraise research methodologies, and select and interpret appropriate statistical analyses. Small group work will focus on the application of course topics with emphasis on studies assessing therapeutic interventions, diagnostic testing, and prognostic indicators of health and disease. Fall semester Phase I.

***PA 5200 CM Dermatology, Eye, ENT (3 units)***

The goal of the Clinical Medicine concentration in the integumentary system and Eyes, Ears, Nose and Throat (EENT) is designed to educate the student in the presentation, diagnosis, management and treatment of the most common dermatologic and EENT conditions seen by healthcare providers. Spring semester Phase I.

***PA 5210 CM Cardiology and ECG (2 units)***

The goal of the Clinical Medicine concentration in Cardiac System is designed to educate the student in the presentation, diagnosis, management and treatment of the most common cardiac conditions seen by healthcare providers. Spring semester Phase I.

***PA 5220 CM Pulmonology (2 units)***

The goal of the Clinical Medicine concentration in Pulmonary System is designed to educate the student in the presentation, diagnosis, management and treatment of the most common pulmonology conditions seen by healthcare providers. Spring semester Phase I.

***PA 5230 CM Gastroenterology (2 units)***

The goal of the Clinical Medicine concentration in Gastrointestinal System is designed to educate the student in the presentation, diagnosis, management, and treatment of the most common gastrointestinal conditions seen by healthcare providers. Spring semester Phase I.

***PA 5240 CM Neurology (2 units)***

The goal of the Clinical Medicine concentration in Neurological System is designed to educate the student in the presentation, diagnosis, management, and treatment of the most common neurological conditions seen by healthcare providers. Spring semester Phase I.

***PA 5250 CM Hematology/Oncology (2 units)***

The goal of the Clinical Medicine concentration in the Hematologic System and Oncology which may occur in this system. The course is designed to educate the student in the presentation, diagnosis, management and treatment of the most common hematologic and oncological conditions seen by healthcare providers. Spring semester Phase I.

***PA 5260 CM Behavioral/Psychiatric Medicine (2 units)***

The purpose of the Behavioral Medicine course is to introduce the Physician Assistant student to the role of the clinician providing care for patients with psychiatric disorders. Additionally, the course will provide an overview of the complex dynamics of the varied psychosocial aspects of patient's lives which influence their health and wellbeing.

The PA student will be expected to examine and integrate the relevance of psychological, social, and cultural factors contributing to a patient's mental health. The PA student will be taught to explore the concepts of health behavior change and the applications of various principles to the human and community domains. These concepts will be applied in depth through case studies in patient care. Spring semester Phase I.

***PA 5300 CM Endocrinology (2 units)***

The goal of the Clinical Medicine concentration in the Endocrine System is designed to educate the student in the presentation, diagnosis, management and treatment of the most common endocrine conditions seen by healthcare providers. Summer semester Phase I.

***PA 5310 CM Urology/Nephrology (2 units)***

The goal of the Clinical Medicine concentration in the Urology/Nephrology System is designed to educate the student in the presentation, diagnosis, management and treatment of the most common renal and urological conditions seen by healthcare providers. Summer semester Phase I.

***PA 5320 CM Musculoskeletal (2 units)***

The goal of the Clinical Medicine concentration in the Musculoskeletal System is designed to educate the student in the presentation, diagnosis, management and treatment of the most common musculoskeletal conditions seen by healthcare providers. Summer semester Phase I.

***PA 5330 CM Women's Health/Men's Health (3 units)***

The Clinical Medicine Women's Health/Men's Health course is a comprehensive and integrated approach to learning medicine about the male and female reproductive and genitourinary system. The goal of the course in the Women's and Men's Health is designed to educate the student in the well-woman and well-male care, and the presentation, diagnosis, management and treatment of the most common Women's and Men's health disorders and diseases seen by healthcare providers. Summer semester Phase I.

***PA 5340 CM Pediatric Medicine (3 units)***

The goal of the Clinical Medicine concentration in the Pediatric Medicine course is designed to educate the student in well-infant/child/adolescent healthcare maintenance and in the presentation, diagnosis, management, and treatment of the most common pediatric diseases and disorders seen by healthcare providers. Summer semester Phase I.

***PA 5400 CM Geriatrics (1 unit)***

The goal of the Clinical Medicine concentration in the Geriatric Medicine course is designed to educate the student in the presentation, diagnosis, management and treatment of the most common Geriatric diseases and disorders seen by healthcare providers. Fall semester Phase I.

***PA/PAL 5410 CM Emergency Medicine/Lab (3 units)***

The goal of the Clinical Medicine concentration in Emergency Medicine is to educate the student in the presentation, diagnosis, management and treatment of the most common emergent conditions seen by healthcare providers in an emergency medicine setting. PAL 5410 is the laboratory component for PA 5410. A comprehensive and integrated approach to learning emergency medicine. Clinical skill sessions on suturing, IV's, casting, bedside ultrasound, other diagnostic imaging, and ACLS certification. Fall semester Phase I.

***PA/PAL 5420 CM Surgery, Hospital Care/Lab (3 units)***

Hospital Care/Surgical Skills is an integrated course designed to introduce the physician assistant student to the care of patients in the hospital setting. This foundational educational experience will serve to develop clinical knowledge, skills and attitudes essential to the practice of hospital medicine, and the delivery of the highest quality patient care. Students will gain a critical thinking framework from which they will continue building their cognitive and procedural abilities as they gain clinical experience throughout their education and careers. PAL 5420 is the laboratory component for PA 5420. The surgical component of this course introduces the role of the physician assistant in the operating room and surgical ward. Students learn principles of pre and postoperative evaluation, management of common perioperative and postoperative complications, as well as documentation for various surgical encounters. This course includes a practical skills lab in which the students will learn and practice the proper surgical terms and techniques for performing common tasks necessary for a physician assistant in an operating room, including sterile technique, gowning/gloving, suturing, and venipuncture. Fall semester Phase I.

***PA 5430 Professional Practice Seminar/Interprofessional Competency in Practice (2 units)***

This course provides active learning opportunities that simulate the diversity of healthcare disciplines and services encountered during clinical training. Through lectures, role playing, simulation exercises, and small group activities focused on scope of practice, roles and responsibilities, ethical decision making, and clinical problem solving, PA students will gain the necessary knowledge and skills that facilitate the transition from the academic to clinical environment and promote high quality clinical education experiences. Fall semester Phase I.

***PA 5440 CM Current Topics in Infectious Diseases (1 unit)***

The Current Topics in Infectious Disease course is a comprehensive and integrated approach to learning medicine as it relates to infectious diseases: their epidemiology, clinical presentations, diagnosis, treatment and prevention. The PA student will develop the ability to apply critical thinking and clinical problem solving through the practice of case-based learning and evidence-based clinical practice. Fall semester Phase I.

***PA 5500 CM Whole Patient Integration I – Continuity Clinic (1 unit)***

The Continuity Clinic experience involves shadowing a supervising preceptor in an outpatient community clinic one-half day per week over three consecutive semesters during the first year of PA education. The Continuity Clinic curriculum offers the PA student the opportunity to (1) begin the process of professional development early in the 28 month curriculum and establish norms for patient-centered professional behavior; (2) expose students early to the process of clinical problem solving; (3) provide students with a longitudinal clinical experience, which will give them a relevant context for the basic science curriculum; and (4) expose students to excellent primary care physician role models early in their PA education. Spring semester Phase I.

***PA 5510 CM Whole Patient Integration II – Continuity Clinic (1 unit)***

The Continuity Clinic will provide opportunities for the student to observe their preceptor interviewing and examining patients, selecting, ordering and interpreting diagnostics, implementing treatment plans, and educating patients on diagnosis, prevention and health maintenance of disease processes. Students should observe common clinical skills and procedures that are specific to ambulatory care patients. Students should engage in discussions with their supervising physician about the complexities and rewards of the healthcare field and reflect on their induction to clinical medicine. The activities and patient encounters of each student during Continuity Clinic sessions will follow the objectives of the course. However, specific experiences will vary depending on the specialty and scope of practice of the assigned preceptor. Summer semester Phase I.

***PA 5520 CM Whole Patient Integration III – Continuity Clinic (1 unit)***

A comprehensive and integrated approach to the whole patient in a clinical setting. Case-based clinical skill session on patient interviewing and physical exam skills. Sessions will include clinical site orientation for continuity clinic sessions and clinical rotations. Fall semester Phase I.

***PA 5600/5610/5620/5630 | Primary Care Rotation I, II, III, IV (4 units each)***

The Ambulatory Care Clinical Practicum is a 20 week (4 rotations), required clinical rotation for second-year PA students, which focuses on the role of the physician assistant in an ambulatory care setting (clinic or private practice). The PA student will be expected to see Family Medicine, Pediatric, Internal Medicine, Women's Health, and Behavioral Medicine patient encounters during these rotations. The student will actively engage in applying the medical knowledge and clinical skills gained during the didactic year while continuing to develop clinical reasoning through an evidence-based approach to the evaluation and management of primary care problems encountered in ambulatory care settings. Students will also work to incorporate health promotion and disease prevention into patient care and advocate for healthy lifestyles. Phase II.

***PA 5640 In-patient Medicine Rotation (4 units)***

This is a five-week required clinical rotation for second year PA students which focuses on the role of the physician assistant in a hospital based in-patient setting. The student will actively engage in applying the medical knowledge and clinical skills gained during the didactic year while continuing to develop clinical reasoning through an evidence-based approach to the evaluation and management of problems commonly encountered in inpatient settings. Students will also work to incorporate health promotion and disease prevention as well as advocacy for healthy lifestyles, preventive medicine practices, and patient support. Phase II.

***PA 5650 Surgery Rotation (4 units)***

The Surgery Inpatient Clinical Practicum is a five-week, required clinical rotation for second year PA students, which focuses on inpatient care of the surgical patient and the role of the physician assistant on the surgical management team. The focus of this practicum is general surgery. Students are required to complete a minimum of 3 weeks in general surgery. The last 2 weeks may be spent in a surgical subspecialty area if offered by the clinical site. Phase II.

***PA 5660 Emergency Medicine Rotation (4 units)***

This is a five-week required clinical practicum for second year PA students, which focuses on the role of the physician assistant in the emergency department setting. The student will actively engage in applying the medical knowledge and clinical skills gained during the didactic year while continuing to develop clinical reasoning through an evidence-based approach to the evaluation and management of common problems encountered in emergency medicine. Phase II.

***PA 5670/5680 Specialty Practice/Primary Care Rotation I, II (4 units)***

This is a five-week required clinical practicum for second year PA students, which focuses on the role of the physician assistant in a specialty practice (ENT, Dermatology, OB/GYN, etc.), another primary care setting, or a community medicine setting such as a prison, health department, family planning/STD clinic, community mental health or other community based locations. Phase II.

***PA 5700/5710/5720 Professional Practice Seminar I, II, III (1-2 units)***

One-week seminar course dealing with professional practice issues, clinical rotations discussion groups and presentations, introduction and preparation for the Capstone Project. PA faculty will be assigned to and assisting the students with the development of the clinical project proposal/capstone. Summative Clinical Assessments will be administered through high-fidelity simulations and standardized patients objective structured clinical examinations (OSCE). End of Rotation examinations. Phase II.

***PA/PAL 5800 Summative Course/Lab (4 units)***

Three week course of a review of all areas of medicine covered in the didactic and clinical months. Students will participate in interprofessional simulations managing patient care. Additional specialized skills training will be completed and evaluated individually. Final clinical summative assessments will occur in objective structured clinical examinations (OSCE). Phase III.

***PA 5900 Clinical Graduate Project/Capstone (2 units)***

Student conducts a clinical project followed by on-site presentation of results to PA faculty and other PA students with a final written paper of publishable quality or poster presentation. Professional practice issues seminars. Phase III.