Physician Assistant  Master of Medical Science
at Arcadia University

Global Perspectives…Personal Attention…Real-World Integrative Learning Experiences

Faculty

Director
Michael Dryer, PA-C, Dr.P.H.
Chair and Director

Core Faculty
Irwin Wolfert, M.D., FACFP,
Medical Director
John Madden, M.D., FACEP,
Associate Medical Director
Christopher Sim, M.P.A.S., PA-C,
Director of Clinical Education
Donna Agnew, M.S.P.A.S., PA-C, Associate
Director, Glenside Campus
Diana Noller, M.M.S., M.P.T., PA-C,
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Thomas Lynch, Ph.D., PA-C, Basic Sciences
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Clinical Coordinator
Rachel Ditoro, M.S.P.A.S., PA-C,
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Jeanette Smith, M.A., PA-C,
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Program Support Specialists
Corrine Days
Patricia Simon
Gloria Patterson
Nicole Portzline-Miller
Cathy Schifflbein

Master’s Degrees

Master of Medical Science
Dual Degree Program: M.M.S. and Master of
Public Health (See separate section in
Graduate Catalog.)

About the Physician
Assistant Program

The PA program is within the College of Health
Sciences which also includes the departments and
programs in physical therapy, genetic counseling
and public community and global health.

• Two campuses: Glenside, Pa., and
Christiana, Del.
• Dual Degree program with Public Health
• Strong ties with regional medical communities
• International global health experiences
• Electronic note service and podcasting of
lectures
• Attendance at National PA Conference
included in tuition

Mission: Arcadia University’s Physician Assistant
Program prepares graduate
students from across the country for
careers in today’s rapidly changing medical
environment. Utilizing the resources of
the medical community within the Delaware Valley,
the Program provides students with
the foundation for professional growth through
personal attention, global perspective, and a
commitment to excellence.
The master’s degree program in Medical Science
(M.M.S) at Arcadia University is designed to
produce graduates who are
well-equipped to deliver high-quality,
cost-effective primary health care in a
wide variety of settings, including hospitals, clinics,
physicians’ offices and other community settings.

Accreditation: The Arcadia University PA program
is fully accredited by the Accreditation Review
Commission of Education for the Physician
Assistant (ARC-PA). The ARC-PA only accredits
physician assistant programs. The Council on
Education for Public Health is the agency
responsible for accrediting public health programs.

Coursework: The first three semesters of the
program consist of didactic and laboratory
coursework in the basic and clinical sciences,
including a 9-week anatomy course with cadaver
dissection at Jefferson Medical College. First-year
students are introduced into clinical settings as part
of the Physical Diagnosis I course in the fall
semester. At the conclusion of the didactic phase
of the program and prior to the start of the clinical
rotations, students participate in a transitional
phase. During several weeks, students complete
their core competency examinations, receive
training in clinical procedures and
participate in standardized patient simulation
experiences. The transitional phase concludes with
student attendance at the AAPA National
Physician Assistant (Master of Medical Science) at Arcadia University

Conference. The conference is expected to be held in Boston in 2014 and San Francisco in 2015. Most of the costs associated with attending the conference are included in the tuition.

Clinical Rotations: The clinical phase consists of seven required rotations including Emergency Medicine, Family Medicine, Community Medicine, Internal Medicine, Women’s Health, Pediatrics, and Surgery. In addition, there are 12 weeks of clinical electives. During the clinical rotations, the students are visited by a faculty member to ensure that they are getting an appropriate learning experience. Every 12 weeks, the students return to campus for exams and professional practice lectures.

Two Campuses: The Arcadia University Department of Medical Science and Community Health opened a campus in Christiana, Del., in the fall of 2006. This program builds on the relationships that Arcadia enjoys in the Delaware, Maryland and New Jersey medical communities. Arcadia University has affiliations with all Delaware hospitals and numerous physician practices for the clinical education of Physician Assistant students. The Christiana Campus is located in an executive center in the growing Newark area and provides an adult learning environment.

The campus is immediately adjacent to the Christiana Hospital and the Delaware Academy of Medicine Library, which provides access to all students. The campus includes classrooms and laboratory spaces, a Student Center, offices and meeting rooms.

The Glenside campus is the historic home of Arcadia University and serves both undergraduate and graduate students. The Physician Assistant program is located in Brubaker Hall, which offers dedicated classrooms, laboratory space, offices and a student resource room. Students at the Glenside campus have access to student services including the Landman Library. The Physician Assistant program faculty is based at each respective campus, but the faculty share teaching and supervisory responsibilities at both campuses.

Both campuses follow the same curriculum and share many lecturers. Student from both campuses attend Anatomy class together at the Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia and also attend the annual conference of the American Academy of Physician Assistants. Combined, the two campuses offer the resources and advantages of a large program with the personal attention of smaller classes. Students come to Arcadia to pursue their careers as Physician Assistants of distinction.

General Admissions Procedures

Application Deadline: All applications are processed by the Central Application Service for Physician Assistants (CASPA) at www.caspaonline.org. Official transcripts and references are considered part of the CASPA application and should be sent directly to CASPA. A paper application is available by calling CASPA at 240-497-1895.

Applications will not be accepted by CASPA after December 1st. Students are accepted on a rolling basis and encouraged to apply as soon as possible. Arcadia students applying for assured admission must submit their application no later than September 1st.

Deposit: A $500 deposit must accompany the acceptance reply. This deposit is applied to the first semester’s tuition, but it is nonrefundable if the student fails to enter the program on the date for which he or she is accepted. A second deposit of $1,000 is required by April 1.

Admissions Requirements for the Physician Assistant Program

1. A Physician Assistant application to be completed through CASPA at www.caspaonline.org.

2. A bachelor’s degree from an accredited institution with a recommended GPA of 3.0 or better.

3. One official transcript from each college, university or professional school attended. Transfer credits included on a transcript must include grades earned; if not, an official transcript from the original school must be submitted. Transcripts must be sent from the issuing school in a sealed envelope and contain the appropriate signatures and seals to be considered official. Please send transcripts directly to CASPA.

4. Students must have completed the following prerequisites:
   a. Biological Sciences—five courses to include Anatomy, Physiology, and Microbiology. Biochemistry is recommended.
   b. Chemistry—three courses to include at least one semester of Organic Chemistry.
   c. Psychology—one course.
   d. Statistics—one course.
NOTE: Students with exceptional clinical experience may have one or more prerequisites waived. The program does not allow students to waive courses, nor does it accept students with advanced standing.

5. Three letters of recommendation. Ideally, one should be from a professor and one from a practicing licensed physician or physician assistant.

6. Test scores from either the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) or the Medical College Admissions Test (MCAT), taken within the last five years. (Arcadia’s GRE code is 2039.) These tests are required for all applicants, including those who already have a graduate degree.

7. A minimum of 200 hours of patient care experience.

8. Students must meet the minimal technical requirements for admission, continuation and graduation. The technical standards are posted on the program Web page at www.arcadia.edu/pa

9. An interview is required and is by invitation only.

10. International applicants should visit www.arcadia.edu/international for detailed information on admissions requirements and application procedures. Official results from the TOEFL or IELTS are required for all students for whom English is a second language except for non-native speakers of English who hold degrees or diplomas from post-secondary institutions in English-speaking countries (e.g. the United States, Canada, England, Ireland, Australia, and New Zealand). A course-by-course evaluation of all transcripts by an independent evaluation service based in the United States also is required.

11. Arcadia performs a holistic review of each student’s application. The program does not allow students to waive courses, nor does it admit students with advanced standing. However, students who have withdrawn or who have been dismissed from the program can be readmitted and granted credit for courses they have completed successfully.

12. Increasingly, clinical facilities are requiring that students seeking placements undergo various criminal background checks, child abuse clearances, and/or drug screens prior to placements. Therefore, students should be prepared to participate in these screenings. Applicants who are unable to pass these background checks may be denied admission into the program.

Support Services

Professional counseling services are available through the Arcadia University Counseling Center. Students with suspected or documented disability are recommended to consult with the Office of Academic Development located in Knight Hall.

Expenses

Approximate costs are calculated annually and subject to change. Please note that all tuition listed is for 2013-2014.

M.M.S. (Physician Assistant)

For students entering in May of 2013, tuition for the two-year Master of Medical Science (Physician Assistant) program is as follows:

- Year One: $34,650 (includes Summer, Fall and Spring Semesters)
- Year Two: $34,650 (Includes Summer, Fall and Spring Semesters)

Fees Not Covered By Tuition

1. Technology/Lab Fee (paid over the life of the program): $1,200
2. AAPA Student Membership (required) (one-time fee that expires four months after date of graduation): $75
3. Mandatory clearances, which include criminal background checks, immunization tracking, child abuse screening, etc. Additional costs associated with drug screening varies upon clinical rotation: $150
4. Books, supplies and medical equipment
   Didactic phase: $1,500
   Clinical phase: $500
5. Students are required to cover housing and transportation costs related to all off-campus and clinical experiences.
6. University provided student health insurance 2013-2014 annual premium-$1160 *

*Medical Insurance: Upon enrollment into their programs, all students must provide proof of medical insurance and also provide information about their health and medical history. Students who do not provide proof of adequate health insurance will be required to purchase health insurance through the University. Information and applications are available in Office of the Student Health Services.
Financial Aid
Tuition and fees for the program are billed in equal increments over the course of the program. Information on current costs is available at www.arcadia.edu/finaid. Financial aid is available to assist qualified students in covering tuition and related expenses, as well as living costs. Upon review for admission, students automatically will be reviewed by the academic department for a limited number of merit scholarships. Additionally, students can apply to receive up to $20,500 annually through the Federal Direct Stafford Loan at a fixed interest rate. In addition to the Stafford Loan, students can choose to borrow either a Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loan or a private alternative student loan to cover remaining expenses. Graduate assistantships also may be available to those who qualify. For more information on available financial aid and how to apply, visit www.arcadia.edu/finaid and click on Graduate.

Program-Specific Loan Options: The National Health Service Corps offers loan repayment programs for primary care physician assistants who agree to provide service in a priority health-professional shortage area (HPSA) for a two-year period following graduation. Other loan programs are available through the Allied Health Education Loan Program.

Scholarships: Information on the following scholarships can be obtained from the Office of Enrollment Management in Grey Towers Castle:
- Salzer Foundation: grants ranging from $1,000 to $2,000.
- Association of Physician Assistants in Cardiovascular Surgery: scholarships for second-year students.
- Department of Veterans Affairs: full scholarships plus monthly stipends for second-year students. (Obligation is two years’ service at a V.A. medical center.)
- Pennsylvania Society of Physician Assistants: scholarship of $500 to students in their final year of study.

Laptop Computer
Students are required to bring their own laptop computer to PA classes.

Academic Policies and Procedures
A student accepted into the Physician Assistant program is expected to abide by the regulations set forth by Arcadia University and the written policies of the Physician Assistant program. For a discussion of the general academic policies and procedures for graduate students, see the Student Handbook www.arcadia.edu/handbook on the Web. The policies of the Physician Assistant program are published in the Physician Assistant Policies and Guidelines Handbook, revised annually and provided to students at orientation.

To remain in good academic standing, students must maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.70 in each semester. Failure to meet this standard for two consecutive semesters will result in the student being dismissed from the program.

All courses in the Physician Assistant curriculum are required and are sequential, and students must receive a minimum grade of "C" in courses before progressing in the program. If a grade lower than a "C" is earned in a course, it is considered a failing grade and the student will be dismissed from the program.

In order to progress to the clinical phase of the program, the student must have no course grades below "C" and a minimum GPA of 2.70 ("B--"). The student also must successfully complete the core competency examinations, and obtain permission of the Physician Assistant program. If this minimum GPA requirement has not been met by the end of the didactic phase, students will not be allowed to enter the Clinical Phase and will be dismissed from the program. The student also must meet all compliance issues, which include immunizations and physical examination, criminal background checks and drug screening.

In the second year of the program, the student must continue to maintain a minimum 2.70 cumulative GPA. In addition, students must pass a comprehensive written and practical exam. Students who fail one clinical rotation may be allowed to repeat the clinical rotation and must meet all academic requirements, and receive Department permission before continuing into the next clinical affiliation. Permission to continue is dependent upon the cause of the unsatisfactory performance and is determined by the program in
consultation with clinical preceptors, the clinical coordinators, the program director and the student. Failure of an additional clinical rotation experience will result in the student being dismissed from the program. Students who must repeat a rotation will be billed at the prevailing credit fee.

Students who withdraw or are dismissed from the program and who want to re-enter must apply for readmission within six months of departure. Permission to do so is determined by the Academic and Professional Review Committee after careful, deliberate consideration. Based upon a review of their performance, those students may be re-admitted with the possibility of advanced standing.

Student Work Policy: Due to the intensity of the PA programs, students are discouraged from outside employment while enrolled in the PA program. Employment during this program makes it difficult to have time for social activities, hobbies and recreational activities, and rest. Students are prohibited from applying compensated clinical experience toward academic credit. Additionally, students may not provide services within a preceptor’s practice apart from those rendered as part of the clinical year of the program. Students are not permitted to have clerical or teaching responsibilities within the PA program. Students may not receive compensation for any work performed within the preceptor’s site or practice.

Academic and Clinical Facilities

This program utilizes the extensive academic facilities of Arcadia University and has specialized audio-visual computer-based instructional materials, physical examination equipment and facilities for the first-year didactic and workshop activities. Human cadaver dissection is conducted at a gross anatomy laboratory at Jefferson Medical College.

Clinical training is conducted in required and elective clinical rotations in area hospitals and physician practices. The program has more than 300 clinical affiliations with hospitals, clinics and physicians’ offices.

Requirements for the Master of Medical Science Degree (Physician Assistant)

The Master of Medical Science degree is awarded after completion of the following requirements:

1. The program’s curriculum with a minimum GPA of 2.70 maintained throughout the program.
2. All courses and clinical rotations with a grade of “C” or higher.
3. Successful completion of core competency exams, comprehensive written and practical exams.
4. Meet technical standards for admission, continuation and graduation. (Technical standards are available at www.arcadia.edu/pa.)

Master of Medical Science Degree Requirements and Program Design (116 credits)

Didactic Phase

Summer (18 credits)

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<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tr>
<td>PA 509A</td>
<td>Professional Practice I</td>
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<tr>
<td>PA 510</td>
<td>Medical Interview and Counseling Skills</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>PA 517</td>
<td>Human Gross Anatomy</td>
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<tr>
<td>PA 522</td>
<td>Microbiology and Immunology</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>PA 524</td>
<td>Mechanisms of Disease (6 credits)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PA526A</td>
<td>Pharmacology Therapeutics I</td>
<td>1</td>
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Fall (23 credits)

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<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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<tr>
<td>PA 504</td>
<td>Evidence-Based Practice (2 credits)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PA 509B</td>
<td>Professional Practice II</td>
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<tr>
<td>PA 514</td>
<td>Physical Diagnosis I</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>PA 526B</td>
<td>Pharmacology and Therapeutics II (3 credits)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PA 532A</td>
<td>Diagnostics and Clinical Procedures I (4 credits)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PA 536A</td>
<td>Medicine I (8 credits)</td>
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Spring (27 credits)
PA 509C Professional Practice III (1 credit)
PA 526C Pharmacology and Therapeutics III (3 credits)
PA 528 Behavioral Health (3 credits)
PA 530 Physical Diagnosis II (3 credits)
PA 532B Diagnostics and Clinical Procedures II (2 credits)
PA 536B Medicine II (6 credits)
PA 540 Emergency Medicine (3 credits)
PA 541 Surgery (3 credits)
PA 542 Clinical Decision Making in Primary Care (3 credits)

Transitional Phase
Clinical Skills and Simulations
National PA Conference

Clinical Year
(48 credits)
(Summer, Fall, Spring)
Core Rotations: (1 week = 1 credit)
Clinical Phase (36 weeks of required rotations, 36 credits)
PA 561 Emergency Medicine (8 weeks)
PA 562 Family Medicine (8 weeks)
PA 568 Community Medicine (4 weeks)
PA 564 Internal Medicine (4 weeks)
PA 565 Women’s Health (4 weeks)
PA 566 Pediatrics (4 weeks)
PA 567 Surgery (4 weeks)
PA 577-579 Electives (total of 12 weeks)

Elective Clinical Rotations may be selected from the following: (12 weeks, 12 credits):
Cardiology
Cardiothoracic Surgery
Dermatology
Forensic Medicine
Neonatology
Neurology
Neurosurgery
Orthopedics
Public Health
Radiology
Rehabilitation
Trauma Surgery

Other medical and surgical subspecialties may be arranged. With approval of the program, students may suggest as many as two of their own rotation sites. These external rotations will be arranged by the clinical coordinators to ensure that the experience meets all clinical rotation objectives. The program does not allow students to waive courses, nor does it accept students for advanced standing. Curriculum is subject to change.

Physician Assistant Courses (PA)

509A Professional Practice I
(1 credit, Summer)
This is a first course in a three part seminar course series that will begin with presentations on the US Health Care System that provides a broad overview of the US health system and its major components. This course also serves as a lead-in to discussion of the role of the PA and their participation in this system.

509B Professional Practice II
(1 credit, Fall)
This is the second course in a three part seminar series that began with presentations on the US Health Care System and provides a broad overview of how health care is delivered. This course also serves as a lead-in to a discussion on ethical practices and the role of the PA in the health care system.

509C Professional Practice III
(1 credit, Spring)
This is the third course in a three part seminar series that began with presentations on the US Health Care System and provides a broad overview of how health care is delivered. This course also serves as a lead-in to a discussion on ethical practices and the role of the PA in the health care system.

510 Medical Interview and Counseling Skills
(2 credits, Summer)
This course provides direction on the general approach to the patient with special attention to providing culturally competent care. Instruction is provided on how to elicit and document a complete history and how to offer basic counseling to patients.
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517
Human Gross Anatomy
(5 credits, Summer)
The gross anatomy segment consists of lectures, demonstrations, and cadaver dissection to identify and explore the interrelationships of gross structures of the body. Also includes small group training in radiographic anatomy.

522
Microbiology and Immunology
(3 credits, Summer)
The course begins with a review of principles and techniques in the laboratory diagnosis of infectious disease. This is followed by a systematic review of clinically relevant infectious disease agents. Each of the major organisms is reviewed in terms of its most salient morphologic and physiologic characteristics.

524
Mechanisms of Disease
(6 credits, Summer)
Lectures and conferences cover the function of cells, tissues, organs, and systems of the human body and the pathogenesis of common human illnesses.

526A
Pharmacology and Therapeutics I
(1 credit, Summer)
This course covers chemical concepts fundamental to understanding how pharmacotherapeutic agents exert their effects, to include physiologic and pharmacologic receptors, dose-response relationships and the pharmacokinetics of drug absorption, distribution, biotransformation and excretion. Further discussion is on the autonomic nervous system and drugs that affect it.

526B
Pharmacology and Therapeutics II
(3 credits, Fall)
Lectures and conferences cover the pharmacology of drugs commonly used for the treatment and management of disease states.

526C
Pharmacology and Therapeutics III
(3 credits, Spring)
This course is a continuation of Pharmacology and Therapeutics I and II and includes lectures and conferences on the pharmacology of drugs commonly used for the treatment and management of disease states.

504
Evidence-Based Practice
(2 credits, Fall)
This course reviews how to conduct a medical literature review with application to the practice of evidence-based medicine. Lecture and discussion include the basics of clinical research study designs, epidemiology, clinical testing parameters, and inferential and clinical statistics.

532A
Diagnostic and Clinical Procedures I
(4 credits, Fall)
Lectures and demonstrations provide a systematic presentation of the common clinical modalities used in the diagnosis of disease. The course includes instruction in laboratory medicine, diagnostic imaging and electrocardiography.

532B
Diagnostic and Clinical Procedures II
(2 credits, Spring)
The technique of diagnostic and clinical procedural skills is reviewed through small group instruction and workshop participation. The course consists of three modules which include clinical skills, CPR/ACLS, and standardized patient experiences.

528
Behavioral Health
(3 credits, Spring)
This course provides an overview of behavioral health conditions commonly encountered in medical practice as well as various treatment modalities. Evaluation and management of the psychiatric patient is explored in both the primary care and emergent settings.

514
Physical Diagnosis I
(5 credits, Fall)
This course includes lectures, demonstrations and practical exercises in the principles of medical history-taking and an introduction to the medical physical examination.

530
Physical Diagnosis II
(3 credits, Spring)
A continuation of PA514, this course consists of lectures, demonstrations and hands-on practical instruction in the process and techniques of physical examination, including adults, children, obstetric, gynecologic and geriatric patients.

536A
Medicine I
(8 credits, Fall)
This is the first of two Medicine courses. This course is divided into modules related to body systems. Each module typically begins with a brief review of related anatomy and physiology followed by a discussion of pathophysiology, symptoms and signs, diagnostic testing, and therapeutic management of specific conditions.

536B
Medicine II
(6 credits, Spring)
This is the second of two Medicine courses. This course is divided into modules related to body systems or disease conditions. Each module typically begins with a brief review of related anatomy and physiology followed by a discussion of pathophysiology, symptoms and signs, diagnostic testing, and therapeutic management of specific conditions.
testing, and evidence based therapeutic management. Also included are conditions related to the obstetric, gynecologic and pediatric patient.

540 Emergency Medicine
(3 credits, Spring)
General concepts needed for the physician assistant to function in emergency medicine, urgent care, as well as primary care settings are presented. The course emphasizes stabilization, medical management, and emergency procedures.

541 Surgery
(3 credits, Spring)
This course is designed to prepare the physician assistant student for the field of Surgery and provide a foundation regarding the care of the surgical patient. General surgical concepts needed for the physician assistant to function in primary care and surgical settings are presented. The course emphasizes the role of the surgical Physician Assistant, the concept of and techniques used to maintain asepsis, various surgical procedures, and anesthesia. Evidence-based medicine practice is woven through the above areas where available and appropriate.

542 Clinical Decision Making in Primary Care
(3 credits, Spring)
This is an interactive case-based course where students learn to do diagnostic work-ups, develop differential diagnoses and treatment plans for primary care patients. The students prepare their cases both individually and in teams. They learn to defend their decisions using the current medical literature.

561 Emergency Medicine
(8 credits/weeks)
The eight (8) week Emergency Medicine rotation takes place in an Emergency Department and provides the students with exposure to urgent care and acute problems. Through supervised patient contact, the student will gain experience in performing the directed history and physical examination, triage, managing episodic illness, performing lifesaving techniques, and handling emergency equipment. Emphasis is on providing the student with practical clinical experience in the management of acute medical and surgical emergencies. 
Prerequisite: Successful completion of the didactic phase of the PA program.

562 Family Medicine
(8 credits/weeks)
The eight (8) week Family Medicine rotation is spent with a physician, physician assistant, and/or nurse practitioner preceptor in a primary care setting. Strong attention is given to utilizing preceptors who currently employ or have previously worked with physician assistants. Through supervised exposure to patients in a family practice environment, the student is given the opportunity to apply, integrate, and affirm those skills necessary for becoming a certified physician assistant. During this phase, the student masters the technique of directed data collection through exposure to ambulatory medical patients. Emphasis is placed on the evaluation and management of primary care medical problems. Patient education and counseling are stressed, and the student is familiarized with the role of the physician assistant in a general practice setting. Prerequisite: Successful completion of the didactic phase of the PA program.

564 Internal Medicine
(4 credits/weeks)
The four (4) week Internal Medicine rotation takes place in a hospital and/or out-patient setting. The purpose of the Internal Medicine rotation is to provide the student with practical clinical experience in working with the hospitalized or ambulatory patient who presents with acute or chronic diseases that are routinely seen by Internists. Students may be required to attend conferences, lectures, and take call. Prerequisite: Successful completion of the didactic phase of the PA program.

565 Women’s Health
(4 credits/weeks)
This is a required four (4) week rotation which takes place in a hospital, clinic or private practice setting. The purpose of the Women’s Health rotation is to provide the student with practical clinical experience in the differential diagnosis, evaluation, and management of normal and abnormal conditions within obstetrics and gynecology. Prerequisite: Successful completion of the didactic phase of the PA program.

566 Pediatrics
(4 credits/weeks)
This four (4) week rotation takes place in an outpatient and /or inpatient setting. Through supervised exposure to patients in a pediatric practice setting, the student is given the opportunity to become familiar with the parameters of normal growth and development, proper assessment of the newborn, immunizations schedules, nutritional requirements, the evaluation and management of common pediatric problems, and acute illness in the pediatric population. Prerequisite: Successful completion of the didactic phase of the PA program.

567 Surgery
(4 credits/weeks)
The four (4) week General Surgery rotation provides the student with the opportunity to apply basic principles of surgery. The student is provided with practical experience in data collection, and evaluation and management of surgical problems. An
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opportunity is afforded for development of manual skills and for exposure to basic operating room procedures and techniques. Longitudinal care is encouraged in order to provide the student with an opportunity to follow patients from admission through the post-operative process. Students may be required to attend conferences, lectures, and take call. **Prerequisite:** successful completion of the didactic phase of the PA program.

568 Community Medicine (4 credits/weeks)
This is a four-week rotation that takes place in a setting that addresses the care of patients in the context of their daily lives. Community medicine involves comprehensive health services ranging from preventive, promotive, curative to rehabilitative and behavioral health services. The emphasis in community medicine is on the early diagnosis of disease, the recognition of environmental and occupational hazards to good health, and the prevention of disease in the community. Community medicine takes place in a variety of settings which include outpatient and institutionalized populations which may include children, adolescents, adults and geriatric patients. The purpose of the community medicine rotation is to provide the student with practical experience in caring for patients with an emphasis on understanding and appreciating the socioeconomic, cultural and behavioral challenges patients confront while receiving care in a complex often disorganized health care system.

**Electives**
There are twelve (12) weeks of elective rotation time, divided into three four (4) week courses. This is an opportunity for the student to increase his/her knowledge base and skill in a field of interest, or in a complimentary medical field.

577 Clinical Elective I (4 credits)

578 Clinical Elective II (4 credits)

579 Clinical Elective III (4 credits)