

# Clinical Year (48 credits) -Summer, Fall, Spring

## PA 581 Clinical Year Seminar (4 credits) (4 weeks)

The Clinical Year Seminar course is delivered over four sessions throughout the clinical (second) year of the physician assistant program. Students return to campus from clinical rotations every three months and engage in didactic work, complete formative and summative simulation activities, practice clinical procedural skills, and deliver case presentations to peers and faculty in the PA program. The course concludes with a capstone paper submission and poster presentation representing the scholarly work students have engaged in throughout their time in the PA program.

## PA 562 Family Medicine (4 credits/weeks)

The four (4) 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.

## PA 580 Behavioral Medicine (4 credits/weeks)

This is a four-week rotation which takes place in a behavioral health setting, including an inpatient or outpatient psychiatric facility, partial diagnosis day program, or support service for chronic illness which includes a significant behavioral health component. The purpose of the Behavioral Health rotation is to provide the student with practical clinical experience in identifying, evaluating, and referring patients presenting with common and/or emergent psychiatric problems. Emphasis is placed on the acute and on-going care of the Behavioral Health patient. The Physician Assistant student will gain exposure to these patient populations through direct patient contact. There will be an additional emphasis on the socioeconomic risks and impacts for behavioral health patients, environmental and occupational aspects of these patients and their diagnoses, and challenges to effective treatment in these patients. Students may be required to attend conferences and lectures, assist in group therapy sessions, do home visits, take call, or potentially provide other services appropriate to the nature of the setting within which they are placed.

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of the didactic phase of the PA Program.

## PA 564 Internal Medicine (4 credits/weeks)

The four-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.

## PA 565 Women's Health (4 credits/weeks)

The four-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 gynecology to include prenatal care and women's health.

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of the didactic phase of the PA program.

## PA 566 Pediatrics (4 credits/weeks)

This four-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.

### PA 567 Surgery (4 credits/weeks)

The four-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 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.

### PA 570 Core Elective (4 credits/weeks)

This four-week course is a transition rotation for students to improve upon the medical knowledge and refine the clinical skills learned throughout the didactic phase of the program. This course is designed to reinforce general attributes necessary to be successful in the clinical year. The course will also provide the student with the knowledge and skills necessary to build a solid foundation for the evaluation, documentation, diagnosis and treatment of common conditions in one of the areas of medicine covered in the core rotations. The core elective rotation is completed with a focus in one of the following areas: family medicine, emergency medicine, behavioral medicine, women's health, internal medicine, pediatrics, or surgery.

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of the didactic phase of the PA program.

### PA 577 Clinical Elective I (4 credits/weeks)

### PA 578 Clinical Elective II (4 credits/weeks)

### PA 579 Clinical Elective III (4 credits/weeks)

There are 12 required weeks of elective rotation time, divided into three four-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.

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of the didactic phase of the PA Program.

## Clinical Rotation Fields

Choose from the following:

- Cardiology
- Cardiothoracic Surgery
- Dermatology
- Forensic Medicine
- Infectious Disease
- International Rotations
- Neonatology
- Neurology
- Neurosurgery
- Orthopedic Surgery
- Pediatric Subspecialties
- Public Health
- Radiology
- Rehabilitation
- Rheumatology
- Trauma Surgery
- Other medical and surgical subspecialties may be arranged at the discretion of the program.

With approval of the program, students may suggest as many as three of their own rotation sites. These external rotations will be arranged by the Program to ensure that the experience meets all clinical rotation objectives.