



University of Nebraska Medical Center
School of Allied Health Professions
Physician Assistant Education Program

CURRICULUM COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Updated 08/10/2011

CIP 606 Physiology (6 cr)

Students will be introduced to fundamental principles of physiology. The course covers cell physiology, neurophysiology, the physiology of the musculoskeletal system, cardiovascular physiology, renal physiology, respiratory physiology, gastrointestinal physiology, endocrinology and reproductive physiology.

CLS 500 Laboratory Techniques & Clinical Applications (2 cr)

This course will provide the Physician Assistant student with an overview of commonly utilized laboratory tests, the appropriate application of these tests in a clinical setting, and the interpretation of selected clinical laboratory data. The course will include basic laboratory techniques such as urinalysis, as well as application of CLIA (Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments) regulations, quality control and other quality measures.

CLS 511 Medical Microbiology (2 cr)

This course includes the application, evaluation and correlation of laboratory data used in the diagnosis and treatment of common infectious disease states. Opportunities for building problem solving and communication skills are provided in small and large group clinical case discussions. Instructional methods will include lecture, large and small group case discussion, independent reading assignments, self-assessments, quizzes and online instruction including PowerPoint presentations and videos.

Upon successful completion of Medical Microbiology the student will:

1. Correlate clinical, epidemiological and clinical laboratory findings associated with infectious disease, including bacteriology, mycology, parasitology and virology.
2. Apply best practices when collecting and submitting specimens for infectious disease clinical laboratory testing.
3. Evaluate the acceptability of antimicrobial test results based on national, regional and local data of an organism's characteristic antimicrobial profile.
4. Develop communication, teamwork, interpersonal and problem-solving skills while correlating clinical laboratory test results to normal and abnormal human physiology.

GCBA 571 Structures of the Human Body (9 cr)

This one semester course features a study of the structure and development of the human body to include the upper extremity and back, head, neck, thorax, pelvis, perineum, and lower extremity. Structural features are studied by gross dissection, demonstration, cross section, radiographs, and CT scans correlated to the appropriate living anatomy. Systemic embryology lectures provide an understanding of the development of definitive anatomical structures. Emphasis is placed on the structure: function correlation and the relationship of anatomic configuration to diagnosis of clinical problems. The format of the course includes lectures, laboratories, demonstrations, small group discussions and many varieties of audiovisual aids. Student evaluation is accomplished through laboratory and written examinations.

PAMM 690 Biology of Disease (5 cr)

This course involves the study of the underlying biochemical, cellular, and physiological changes occurring in human disease with an emphasis on those most commonly encountered. The integration of laboratory medicine with general pathology serves to prepare the students for their clinical medicine course.

**PHAR 507 Pharmacology (5 cr)**

The primary goal of this course is to provide physician assistant and clinical perfusion students with basic pharmacologic information and to impart an understanding of the actions of drugs in humans so that they can apply this knowledge to the judicious use of drugs in practice as a physician assistant. Pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamic aspects of various classes of drugs will be emphasized.

To achieve these goals, the following broad topics are covered:

1. General principles of pharmacokinetics (effects of the body on the drug), pharmacodynamics (effects of the drug on the body), drug-drug interactions, definition of common terms used in pharmacology, and identification of sources of pharmacological information.
2. Systems pharmacology: drug actions on various biochemical pathways and physiological systems and functions of the body, including the central and autonomic nervous systems, the cardiovascular, renal, endocrine, and gastrointestinal systems, and metabolic functions.
3. Chemotherapy: major emphasis on drugs for antimicrobial use, with lesser coverage of certain antineoplastic, antiparasitic, and antiviral agents.
4. Toxicology: definition, important principles, modern requirements for toxicology testing, mechanism of action of selective toxicants, and methods for treating.

PHAS 620 Introduction to the Physician Assistant Profession (1 cr)

This course is designed to introduce students to the physician assistant profession through the use of lectures, selected readings, examinations and written assignments. Students will gain an understanding of the role of the PA on the health care team and the responsibilities of being a health care professional. Attention will be focused on professionalism. Information will be presented about the history of the profession, professional organizations, competency-based PA education, practicing patterns, credentialing & certification. Additional topics will include health care economics and future directions of the PA profession.

PHAS 630 Clinical Skills I (2 cr)

This course is designed to provide instruction and practice in the fundamental clinical skills necessary for patient care, with a primary focus on performance of a complete physical examination. This subject is taught weekly by group lecture, and additional lab with one clinical instructor and two students. Students also participate a few hours a month in clinical activities with practicing PAs and learn to identify relevant subjective and objective clinical information, later analyzing and integrating this information in a well-written SOAP note of the encounter. In addition the students develop diagnostic and therapeutic skills as they participate in problem based learning (PBL), utilizing simulated clinical cases.

PHAS 632 Communication in Medicine I (1 cr)

This course is designed to provide students the skills necessary to become proficient in communication – including verbal communication, non-verbal communication, and medical writing skills. Communication is recognized as a core component in the practice of medicine. Communication bridges the gap between evidence-based medicine and the patient. Research has shown that good communication between provider and patient results in improved patient outcomes by more accurate diagnosis, increased patient adherence, increased provider job satisfaction, and decreased malpractice claims.

To effectively build communication skills, the course will address the basic fundamentals and integrate these skills into the clinical curriculum. This method will allow the student to reiterate the learned skills and take them to higher complexity levels throughout the educational program.

PHAS 635 Clinical Skills II (2 cr)

Clinical Skills II is a continuation of Clinical Skills I. Students finish instruction on completing the comprehensive history and physical examination skills. Many of the more technical aspects of patient care are taught in this course including suturing, casting, splinting, IV/injection techniques, gowning, gloving, and a general orientation to the operating room. Students are also given an introduction to many common procedures. Students complete BLS, ACLS certification and PALS. Finally the students independently complete the Basic Life Support certification process during this semester.

**PHAS 637 Communication in Medicine II (1 cr)**

This course is designed to allow students to build on the medical communication skills that were presented in Communication in Medicine I. Students will continue to improve their competency in the areas of verbal communication, non-verbal communication, and medical writing skills. Patient education and counseling skills will be presented. Communication is a core component in the practice of medicine and it is critical that medical providers become proficient at this task. This course will challenge the student to integrate the skills learned in CIM I and take them to higher complexity levels. There will be significant emphasis placed on communication necessary for interdisciplinary care. The skills learned in this course will be integrated into the clinical curriculum, thereby allowing the student to become more familiar with medical communication. Students are given opportunities to carry out case presentations in small groups in preparation for the clinical phase of their education.

PHAS 645 Behavioral Medicine (4 cr)

The course in Behavioral Medical will present an introduction to the neurobiological, psychobiological, emotional, social, and cultural influences on health and illness in the practice of primary care medicine. Personality, sexual, emotional, and behavioral development across the lifespan including end of life issues will be reviewed. Normative and maladaptive responses to developmental tasks and life stressors in relation to physical and emotional health will be emphasized. Principles of violence, identification and prevention will be examined. Instruction and practice in basic counseling skills for patient health care management and implementation of healthier lifestyle practices will be an important focus throughout the course.

PHAS 650 Adult & Pediatric Medicine I (8 cr)

The Med/Peds I course is designed to expose students to the most common medical and surgical conditions that are seen in primary care practice and to prepare pre-clinical students for a more in-depth study of medicine in the second part of the course and for their clinical clerkships in Phase II of the PA Program and lay the foundation for the life-long process of self-directed education in medicine. The course will consist of lectures, discussions, assigned readings, problem-based learning cases, quizzes and examinations during the Spring Semester. Selected topics from the following organ systems will be covered in this course: pediatrics, dermatologic system, head and neck, immunology, otolaryngology, ophthalmology, pulmonary system, cardiovascular system, musculoskeletal system, neurologic system, reproductive system, genitourinary system, endocrine system, hematologic system, surgery and emergency medicine.

Many important topics will be covered by lecture. Most of these will be presented by the Physician Assistant program core faculty, although some topics will be presented by guest lecturers who are clinicians with expertise in a particular area of study. It is impossible, however, to cover all essential topics adequately in a lecture format. Assigned readings are important adjuncts to supplement the lecture material, and will also cover other topics not presented in lecture. This process of self-directed learning will be vitally important during your clinical rotations, in preparation for the National Board Examination, and in developing good reading and study habits for life-long learning.

PHAS 655 Adult & Pediatric Medicine II (11 cr)

The Adult and Pediatric Medicine course is designed to build upon the material that has been presented in the Adult & Pediatric Medicine I course and to prepare pre-clinical students for their clinical clerkships in Phase II of the PA Program and lay the foundation for the life-long process of self education in medicine. The course will consist of lectures, discussions, assigned readings, problem-based learning cases, and examinations during the Summer Semester. The course will familiarize the student with the etiology, pathology, clinical course and manifestations, diagnosis, treatment, patient education, epidemiology and preventive aspects related to selected diseases and disorders which are commonly encountered in clinical practice. Selected topics from the following areas of medicine and surgery will be covered in this course: Neurology, Endocrinology, Urology, Nephrology, Orthopedics, Rheumatology, Hematology, Oncology, Infectious Disease, Ophthalmology, Otolaryngology, Pulmonology, Radiology, Genitourinary, Gastrointestinal system, Nutrition, General Surgery, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Orthopedics, Rheumatology, Geriatrics, and Cardiovascular system (including ECG interpretation).

**PHAS 660 Medical Ethics (1 cr)**

This course is designed to introduce PA students to the main concepts and practices in medical ethics. Three areas of medical ethics are examined: professional ethics, clinical ethics and ethics in relation to selected aspects of medical law. In the area of professional ethics, emphasis will be placed on the ethical obligations of a professional practitioner to patients in clinical practice. In clinical ethics, current ethical issues in clinical practice will be reviewed. Additionally, students will be introduced to a structured approach for identifying, analyzing and resolving ethical issues in clinical medicine. The interaction of medical law and medical ethics will be examined particularly in relation to patient rights and protections in clinical practice, medical practice acts, professional liability and medical malpractice.

PHAS 665 Systems in Health Care and Management (1 cr)

The course Systems in Health Care and Management is to provide PA students with an overview of the history and structure of the major types of health care systems currently operating in the United States along with socioeconomic issues associated with these systems. Instruction will also be provided in clinical management practices and procedures including coding systems for diagnosis and reimbursement, quality assurance and risk management, and legal issues that impact medical practice.

PHAS 670 Research Applications in Medicine (1 cr)

This course is designed to introduce PA students to clinical research in medicine and its application to clinical decision making through the concepts and principles of evidence-based medicine. Additionally, the course will provide the student with the skills to complete a written research project through the investigation of a clinical topic utilizing the medical literature. Searching, interpreting and critically evaluating the medical literature and its application to patient care in order to promote evidence-based clinical practice will be emphasized.

PHAS 699 Independent Study (1 to 8 cr)

For the physician assistant student who has need of special or additional study. Independent study is designed to provide options for study around the interests and needs of the individual student in one of two areas. **Research Study** or **Advanced Clinical Study**. Under the Research Study option, a student, with the direction of a program faculty member, may investigate a problem in a selected area of medicine with the intent of publishing or presenting the results in a public forum. Under the Advanced Clinical Study option, a student may pursue advanced study in a selected area of clinical medicine under the direction of a program faculty member. Prerequisite: Permission of program faculty advisor or Program Director.

PHAS 702 Psychiatry Clerkship (4 cr)

A four-week clinical experience in outpatient and/or inpatient psychiatry, geared to the anticipated role of a physician assistant. Students have the opportunity to initiate patient evaluation, learn to do psychiatric interviews, assess mental status, develop a working diagnosis and tentative medical management plan, make referral to a physician or community agency, and learn follow-up management with the treating physician or agency.

PHAS 703 Internal Medicine Clerkship (4 cr)

A four-week rotation in which the student will learn many of the common disease states seen in an Internal Medicine practice. In addition, the indications, limitations, and methods of performing the necessary diagnostic procedures and therapeutic measures used in the treatment of general medicine disorders are reviewed. Patient problems and conditions as experienced in the outpatient clinic and/or the hospital ward are covered in this course. Through the collection and acquisition of historical, physical, and laboratory data, the student develops an understanding of patient evaluation and treatment under preceptor supervision.

PHAS 704 Pediatric Clerkship (4 cr)

This is a four-week clinical experience in which the student will have many learning opportunities in the outpatient clinic and/or inpatient ward under the supervision of a community-based pediatrician and/or pediatric Physician Assistant. The student will learn to manage various acute and chronic childhood illnesses and learn to evaluate normal variations of growth and development by participating in the outpatient clinic.

**PHAS 705 Obstetric/Gynecology Clerkship (4 cr)**

A four-week clinical experience studying a broad spectrum of common obstetric and gynecological problems. During this clerkship, the management of pregnancy, labor, and delivery including prenatal, natal, and postnatal complications is taught. The student is responsible for taking obstetrical histories, performing obstetrical physical examinations, and following patients through labor, delivery, and the early postpartum period. The student is exposed to methods and programs relating to cancer detection, sexually transmitted diseases, and contraception. Learning to take gynecologically oriented patient histories and perform complete and accurate gynecological examinations is required.

PHAS 706 Surgery Clerkship (4 cr)

This is a four-week rotation during which students learn about surgical patients and the surgical service. Students participate in the care of the patients on the wards, during the preoperative phase, in the operating room, and during their postoperative follow-up. At the end of the four weeks they are expected to understand the course of surgical illness, to be able to conduct themselves appropriately in the operating room and to have gained the skills commensurate with care of the surgical patient including intravenous access, suturing, and other appropriate procedures as required by the clerkship preceptor.

PHAS 707 Family Medicine Clerkship (12 cr)

This is a twelve-week clinical experience (three 4-week clerkships) under the supervision of a community-based primary care physician and/or Physician Assistant designed to acquaint the student with those aspects of the practice of medicine unique to the community setting. The student works with the preceptor in the hospital, the office, long-term care facilities, and all other areas where the preceptor works. In the hospital the student makes rounds with the preceptor and assists him in fulfilling his inpatient responsibilities. In the office the student learns about management procedures in a private practice and helps the preceptor by providing services consonant with his individual background and clinical training. Students will observe the team practice concept of health care. Some home health care clinical training is available.

PHAS 708 Emergency Medicine Clerkship (4 cr)

This is a four-week clerkship that presents the student with opportunities to deal with a variety of common medical emergencies under the supervision of Emergency Department physicians and staff. The student learns to collect and integrate information regarding the emergency patient. Management of trauma, drug overdose, cardiac life support, and common illnesses and injuries seen in an emergency care setting are emphasized.

PHAS 709 Geriatric Clerkship (4 cr)

This clerkship is designed to provide students with a geriatric-specific clinical experience. The fundamental principles of geriatric medicine will be explored by providing opportunities for exposure to the various aspects of restorative and rehabilitative care, interdisciplinary approaches to the delivery of geriatric health services, and an examination of the primary care PA role and responsibility in the long-term care system. There is a specific focus on interactions with older adults, decision making as it effects the well being of patients, and the strengths and weaknesses of the referral system.

PHAS 721 Cardiology Elective (4 cr)

A four-week rotation during which the indications, limitations, and methods of performing the necessary diagnostic procedures and therapeutic regimen for the evaluation of disorders of the cardiovascular systems are studied. Students conduct initial patient evaluations including the history and physical examination, and perform relevant diagnostic and therapeutic studies including the interpretation of electrocardiographic, stress testing and other cardiac studies. Students follow patients from admission to discharge, attend all daily rounds and conferences, assist in the provision of patient care, record progress notes, perform discharge physical examinations, and write narrative summaries under the guidance of the preceptor.

**PHAS 722 Endocrinology Elective (4cr)**

A four-week elective clerkship in which the student will care for patients with diabetes and other endocrine and metabolism disorders. Particular emphasis is placed on the diagnosis and treatment of endocrine disorders which are commonly encountered in primary care, specifically diabetes mellitus and thyroid diseases. There will also be adequate opportunity for the student to acquire a working understanding of diagnostic approaches for the less common endocrine disorders (adrenal, pituitary and others).

PHAS 723 Gastroenterology (4 cr)

This is a four-week elective rotation during which the student will learn about the full spectrum of GI disease, evaluation, diagnosis, and management. Students conduct initial patient evaluations including the history and physical examination, and perform relevant diagnostic and therapeutic studies including the interpretation of GI specific studies. Students follow patients from admission to discharge, attend all daily rounds and conferences, assist in the provision of patient care, record progress notes, perform discharge physical examinations, and write narrative summaries under the guidance of the preceptor.

PHAS 724 Infectious Disease Elective (4 cr)

This is a four-week clinical experience dealing with communicable disease in an inpatient and/or outpatient setting. Students will learn to assess and treat common and uncommon diseases due to microorganisms. Students are expected to recognize the manifestations of HIV/AIDS and the current treatment of associated opportunistic infections. Evaluation, integration of data and management of ID patients is the focus of this rotation. The student will have the opportunities to obtain patient histories, perform exams and procedures, develop treatment plans, and provide patient education.

PHAS 725 Nephrology Elective (4 cr)

This is a four-week course designed to introduce the student to the fluid and electrolyte abnormalities common in patients with renal disease. Acute renal failure and chronic kidney disease will be stressed in this rotation, with exposure to drug therapy, hemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis. Inpatient and out-patient care will be included.

PHAS 726 Oncology/Hematology Elective (4 cr)

This is a four-week elective rotation during which the student will learn about common disease states associated with oncology and hematology. Patient problems and conditions as experienced in the outpatient clinic, the inpatient setting, and the emergency room are covered in this course. Through the collection and acquisition of historical, physical, and laboratory data, the student is expected to attain an adequate level of knowledge to provide appropriate treatment or referral of conditions encountered in a general oncology/hematology practice.

PHAS 727 Pulmonary Medicine Elective (4 cr)

This is a four-week elective in Pulmonary Medicine providing the student with an opportunity to receive advanced training in managing a wide variety of pulmonary disorders. Students will conduct initial patient evaluations including the history and physical examination, and perform relevant diagnostic and therapeutic studies including spirometry, pulmonary function testing, interpretation of chest x-rays, and blood gas analysis. Students will follow patients from admission to discharge, attend all daily rounds and conferences, assist in the provision of patient care, record progress notes, perform discharge physical examinations, and write narrative summaries under the guidance of the preceptor.

PHAS 728 Rheumatology Elective (4 cr)

This is a four-week elective course, which provides the students with an opportunity to work with both inpatients and outpatients with various rheumatic diseases such as rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis, gout, and systemic lupus erythematosus. Students will be actively involved in evaluation of patients with rheumatic diseases and will be exposed to common used medications for rheumatic conditions as well as common procedures utilized in rheumatology practice.

**PHAS 729 Cardiovascular Surgery Elective (4 cr)**

This is a four-week surgical rotation which provides the opportunity to practice cardiovascular surgical skills. The student will perform intake history and physical exams, assist in surgery, follow patient progress, and counsel patients at discharge. Observation and assistance with diagnostic and therapeutic procedures (i.e., echocardiogram, angiogram) are included. The student will have the opportunity to work with clinical perfusionists, respiratory therapists, and/or radiologists.

PHAS 731 Neurosurgery Elective (4 cr)

A four-week elective clerkship which offers the student experience with respect to the evaluation, diagnosis, and management of neurological surgical diseases. Students will be involved with surgical patients admitted to their service. They will participate in the care of patients on the wards, in the operating room, and during their post-operative follow-up care. Students are expected to participate in daily rounds, clinic, conferences, and other activities as designated by the preceptor.

PHAS 732 Orthopedic Surgery Elective (4 cr)

A four-week rotation surveying the knowledge necessary for understanding the common problems in general orthopedics. This experience includes learning specialized orthopedic historical review and physical examination techniques, delivering emergency care to patients suffering from acute trauma, caring for the pre- and post-surgical orthopedic patient, and maintaining sterile operating room techniques. An understanding of the pathophysiology and the complications of bone and joint injury as well as the ability to fabricate and apply a variety of splints, tractions, and casts is taught.

PHAS 733 Orthopedic Sports Medicine Elective (4 cr)

This is a four-week elective clerkship which provides students with experience in the evaluation, management, treatment, and rehabilitation of patients with musculoskeletal sports injuries or related medical problems. Students will participate in the care of patients in the out-patient clinic, emergency department, on the wards, in the operating room, and during their post-operative follow-up care. Students may also have the opportunity to participate in covering athletic events with medical staff.

PHAS 735 Orthopedic Spine Surgery Elective (4 cr)

This is a four-week elective clerkship which provides students with experience in the evaluation, management, treatment, and rehabilitation of patients with musculoskeletal spine disease and injuries. Students will participate in the care of patients in the outpatient clinic, the pre-operative evaluation, the operating room, the post-operative area and during their inpatient stay. Students will work closely with the team to provide appropriate and safe care.

PHAS 736 Plastic Surgery Elective (4 cr)

This is a four-week elective clerkship which provides students with experience in the evaluation, management, treatment, and rehabilitation of patients with conditions treated with plastic and reconstructive surgery procedures. Students will learn the principles of plastic surgery and participate in the care of patients in the out-patient clinic, on the wards, in the operating room, and during their post-operative follow-up care.

PHAS 737 Urology Elective (4 cr)

This is a four-week rotation during which students learn about urology patients and the urological service. Students participate in the care of the patients (adult and pediatric) in the clinic, on the wards, in the operating room, and during their postoperative follow-up. At the end of the four weeks they are expected to understand the course of urological illness, be able to conduct themselves appropriately in the operating room and to have gained the skills commensurate with care of the urology patient including intravenous access, placement of catheters, and other appropriate procedures as required by the clerkship preceptor.

PHAS 739 Allergy/Immunology (4 cr)

This is a four-week elective clerkship which provides students with experience in the evaluation and management of patients with asthma, allergies, and immunological conditions. Students will actively participate in patient evaluation and management of patients in the outpatient situation as well as in-patient care when appropriate. The student will be exposed to common diagnostic and therapeutic procedures such as allergy testing.

**PHAS 741 Complementary & Alternative Medicine Elective (4 cr)**

This is a four-week clinical elective experience under the supervision of a community-based Complementary or Alternative medicine provider designed to acquaint the student with those aspects of the practice of medicine unique to the Complementary and Alternative setting. The student works with the preceptor in the office and other areas appropriate to their practice. The student will develop an appreciation and understanding of Complementary and Alternative Medicine.

PHAS 742 Dermatology Elective (4 cr)

A four-week rotation reviewing the spectrum of dermatologic diseases encountered primarily in the outpatient setting. Taking histories and performing physical examinations with special emphasis on problems concerning dermatologic diseases as well as carrying out common dermatologic procedures on prescribed patients are included in this rotation. The student becomes familiar with the diagnostic procedures and therapeutic regimen, their indications, availability, reliability, and limitations in the treatment of dermatologic diseases.

PHAS 743 Infertility Elective (4 cr)

This is a four-week clinical elective experience during which the student will be exposed to a broad spectrum of Infertility problems and procedures. During this clerkship, the evaluation, diagnosis, and management of Infertility will be examined. The student is responsible for taking infertility histories, performing gynecologic physical examinations, and following patients through the infertility evaluation and management.

PHAS 744 International Elective (4 cr)

This four-week elective offers students the opportunity to participate in a clinical health care setting in a foreign country. Students may participate in a variety of experiences at international sites. These may include clinical experiences, teaching sessions of international and third world health care systems and public health topics. Most courses are coordinated through the UNMC Office of International Studies. The main focus of this elective will be hands-on primary care clinical experiences in a foreign country under the supervision of a local preceptor.

PHAS 745 Neonatology Elective (4 cr)

This is a four-week didactic and clinical experience in which the student will have many learning opportunities in the well-baby nursery and neonatal intensive care unit under the supervision of attending physicians, House officers, and neonatal nurse practitioners. The student will learn to manage various acute and chronic newborn illnesses and learn to evaluate normal variations of growth and development by participating in this elective.

PHAS 746 Neurology (4 cr)

This is a four-week elective clerkship that offers students a clinical experience where evaluation, diagnosis and managerial approaches of patients with neurological conditions are studied. Students will have exposure to neuropathology and to special studies such as electromyography and electroencephalography. Student experiences will include the outpatient clinic, the in-patient setting, and the emergency room.

PHAS 747 Occupational Medicine Elective (4 cr)

This is a four-week elective rotation during which the indications, limitations, and methods of performing the necessary diagnostic procedures and therapeutic measures used in the treatment of Occupational Medicine disorders are reviewed. Patient problems and conditions as experienced in the outpatient clinic, the emergency room and the worksite are covered in this rotation. Through the collection and acquisition of historical, physical, and laboratory data, the student develops an understanding of patient evaluation and treatment under preceptor supervision.

PHAS 749 Otolaryngology Elective (4 cr)

This is a four-week elective clinical experience studying ear, nose and throat diseases. The student will develop an understanding of ENT problems and how to initiate the first step in the management of such problems. A wide spectrum of patients with ear, nose and throat problems will be seen in a variety of settings. Learning and performing tracheotomy care, assisting with the management of the pre- and post-operative patient, assisting in the operating room, and learning to perform other specialized ENT tests are also included.

**PHAS 751 Rehabilitative Medicine Elective (4 cr)**

This is a four-week rotation surveying the knowledge necessary for understanding the many problems facing rehabilitative patients. This experience includes learning to take a meticulous and germane history concerning the patient's medical issues and performing physical examination techniques, evaluating the patient's functional capacity, and caring for the rehabilitation patient. An understanding and appreciation of the multidisciplinary nature of the rehabilitation process will be expected. As an elective course, students are expected to gain an appreciation of the specialty, obtain experience in evaluating and managing patients, and work within the multidisciplinary care team in this area.

PHAS 754 Radiology Elective (4 cr)

A four-week elective consisting of daily observation of x-ray interpretation, fluoroscopic examination and special radiographic procedures including CT, MRI, ultrasound, mammography, angiography, and nuclear imaging. Students will also be exposed to specialized areas such as pediatric radiology, cardiovascular radiology, ultrasound, neuroradiology and interventional radiology.

PHAS 771 Primary Care Elective (4 cr)

This is a four-week elective clinical rotation for the student desiring a more comprehensive experience in primary care. Areas available include pediatrics, internal medicine, family practice, correctional medicine, and urgent care. The student works under the supervision of a community or institutionally based physician or PA and acquires hands-on clinical experience in the principles and clinical application of diagnostic, therapeutic, and management techniques pertinent to their area of expertise and interest.

PHAS 772 Psychiatry Elective (4 cr)

A four-week clinical experience in outpatient and/or inpatient psychiatry, geared to the anticipated role of a physician assistant. Students have the opportunity to initiate patient evaluation, learn to do psychiatric interviews, assess mental status, develop a working diagnosis and tentative medical management plan, make referral to a physician or community agency, and learn follow-up management with the treating physician or agency.

PHAS 773 Internal Medicine Elective (4 cr)

A four-week rotation during which the indications, limitations, and methods of performing the necessary diagnostic procedures and therapeutic measures used in the treatment of general medicine disorders is reviewed. Patient problems and conditions as experienced in the outpatient clinic and/or the hospital ward are covered in this course. Through the collection and acquisition of historical, physical, and laboratory data, the student develops an understanding of patient evaluation and treatment under preceptor supervision.

PHAS 774 Pediatric Elective (4 cr)

This is a four-week clinical experience in which the student will have many learning opportunities in the outpatient clinic and/or inpatient ward under the supervision of a community-based pediatrician and/or pediatric Physician Assistant. The student will learn to manage various acute and chronic childhood illnesses and learn to evaluate normal variations of growth and development by participating in the outpatient clinic.

PHAS 775 OB/GYN Elective (4 cr)

This four-week clinical experience will focus on the broad spectrum of common obstetric and gynecological problems. During this clerkship, the management of pregnancy, labor, and delivery including prenatal, natal, and postnatal complications is taught. The student is responsible for taking obstetrical histories, performing obstetrical physical examinations, and following patients through labor, delivery, and the early postpartum period. The student is exposed to methods and programs relating to cancer detection, sexually transmitted diseases, and contraception. Learning to take gynecologically oriented patient histories and perform complete and accurate gynecological examinations are required.



PHAS 776 Surgery Elective (4 cr)

This is a four-week rotation during which students learn about surgical patients and the surgical service. Students participate in the care of the patients on the wards, during the preoperative phase, in the operating room, and during their postoperative follow-up. At the end of the four weeks students are expected to understand the course of surgical illness, be able to conduct themselves appropriately in the operating room and to have gained the skills commensurate with care of the surgical patient including intravenous access, suturing, and other appropriate procedures as required by the clerkship preceptor.

PHAS 777 Family Medicine Elective (4 cr)

This is a four-week clinical experience under the supervision of a community-based primary care physician and/or Physician Assistant designed to acquaint the student with those aspects of the practice of medicine unique to the community setting. The student works with the preceptor in the outpatient and/or inpatient areas, long-term care facility, and other areas as needed. In the office the student learns about management procedures in a private practice and helps the preceptor by providing services consonant with their individual background and clinical training.

PHAS 778 Emergency Medicine Elective (4 cr)

This is a four-week clerkship that presents the student with opportunities to deal with a variety of common medical emergencies under the supervision of Emergency Department physicians and staff. The student learns to collect and integrate information regarding the emergency patient. Management of trauma, drug overdose, cardiac life support, and common illnesses and injuries seen in an emergency care setting are emphasized.

PHAS 779 Geriatric Elective (4 cr)

This clerkship is designed to provide students with a geriatric-specific clinical experience. The fundamental principles of geriatric medicine will be explored by providing opportunities for exposure to the various aspects of restorative and rehabilitative care, interdisciplinary approaches to the delivery of geriatric health services, and an examination of the primary care PA role and responsibility in the long-term care system. There is a specific focus on interactions with older adults, decision making as it effects the well-being of patients, and the strengths and weaknesses of the referral system.