



Carver College
of Medicine

Phase II: Core-Required Clerkships

2026 Course Descriptions

Family & Community Medicine (6 wks)

Pediatrics (6)

Obstetrics & Gynecology (6)

Surgery (6)

Internal Medicine (10)

Neurology (4)

Psychiatry (4)

Emergency Medicine (2)

Selectives

(Two taken during Core Year, Three during Advanced Phase)

Anesthesia (2)

Dermatology (2)

Ophthalmology (2)

Orthopedics (2)

Otolaryngology (2)

Pathology (2)

Radiology (2)

Urology (2)

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FAM:8302 Family and Community Medicine - 6 weeks

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Course Overview:

Family Medicine is a unique medical specialty that provides continuous, comprehensive health care to individuals and families throughout their lifespans. The scope of Family Medicine encompasses all ages, genders, organ systems and disease entities. Family physicians provide high quality care in the context of the personal doctor-patient relationship for the individual as well as their family and the community. Their varied skill set in population health, urgent/emergency care, obstetrical care, pediatrics, geriatrics, and palliative care allow them to be uniquely aligned to integrate and serve as medical directors for home health agencies, county health departments, residential care facilities, substance use treatment facilities, and hospice.

The goal of this 6-week clerkship in Family and Community Medicine is to introduce students to the specialty of Family Medicine and the intersection between care delivered within the ambulatory care setting and the local community.

This clerkship is unique in many ways, including that it provides an experience outside of the primary CCOM location (Iowa City or Des Moines) for most medical students. This allows exposure to different healthcare systems, geographic settings, patient populations, and practice structures. It is also unique in that the students get continuity with the healthcare team by working in a community-based practice for 4 weeks. Students are surveyed regarding their placement preferences in the late fall of the M2 year, which are considered when the clerkship team assigns placements.

Course Structure:

This 6-week clerkship is comprised of a 2-week placement at a Regional Medical Education Center (RMEC) and a 4-week placement with a board-certified family physician in a community-based practice. This is a predominantly an outpatient rotation, although students are expected to attend all professional activities of their 4-week preceptor. This may include rounding on hospitalized patients, performing labor & delivery procedures, serving on professional committees, or other activities.

The RMECs are located in: Davenport, Des Moines, Mason City, Sioux City, and Waterloo. A small number of spots will be available with UIHC Family Medicine in Iowa City. The community preceptorship locations are across the state of Iowa.

These experiences will enable students to compare the delivery of care in a community-based practice vs. an academic-based practice. Students will also take part in experiences at local community agencies during their 2-week RMEC portion, which will allow them to learn how these resources aid in health care delivery and population health within a community. Educational sessions regarding common primary care topics are also held during the clerkship.

Additional Course Information

Transportation:

Students will require access to a personal vehicle for this clerkship.

Housing:

All RMEC sites offer students free housing. Housing is also provided by some community-based Family Medicine preceptors. Students are not permitted to bring animals, partners/spouses, or have overnight guests. Students must follow any rules, leave the space in a clean condition, report any damage as soon as possible, and return keys as instructed before leaving. If a student is placed in or near their hometown, they have the option of living at home if they choose; however, this is not required.

Evaluation:

Students' clinical skills will be evaluated by their preceptors via completion of the College of Medicine's standardized clinical evaluation form. Medical knowledge and communication skills will be evaluated by completion of the NBME Family Medicine Shelf Exam and an OSCE during the last week of the clerkship. See the syllabus for more details regarding clinical evaluations, assignments, the time-off policy, and other clerkship details.

PEDS:8301 Clinical Pediatrics - 6 weeks

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Clinical Pediatrics at UI Stead Family Children's Hospital includes 2 weeks of inpatient, 4 weeks of ambulatory which includes: General Pediatrics/Newborn Nursery (utilizing the General Pediatrics Clinics at Iowa River Landing, North Liberty, and Scott Blvd in Iowa City, as well as the Adolescent Medicine Clinic at Iowa River Landing), and specialty clinics.

Additional Course Information

Orientation:

Orientation will take place on the first morning of the clerkship and will be held in the Pediatric Conference Center on 2 JCP across from elevator F, unless otherwise noted. At this time, students will receive instruction on the various aspects of the clerkship and will be taken on a tour of Pediatrics. All students must dress appropriately (no jeans, shorts, exercise attire, sweatshirts, t-shirts with logos, or flip flops - see the Professional Appearance Policy on ICON).

Clerkship Examination:

The final exam is an NBME shelf exam consisting of 110 questions. Students will have 2 hours 45 minutes to complete this. The exam will be held the last Thursday afternoon of the clerkship. The OSCE will be held the last Friday morning of the clerkship.

Student Hours and Time Off:

Four of the six weeks of Pediatrics are spent in outpatient clinics. Hours are Monday – Friday, 7:45 am – 5:30 pm. During the two weeks of inpatient, students will begin work at approximately 6:45 am and will work through sign-out at approximately 5:30 or 6:00 pm, Monday through Friday. Because there is no overnight call on Pediatrics, students are required to work one long day, 6:45 am – 10:00 pm Monday – Thursday. In addition, students will come in one day of the middle weekend of the inpatient block, beginning at 7:00 am and ending once rounds are done and patient care is finished. Students will have all University Holidays off. Students should request time off two weeks prior to the start of the clerkship. Time off is NOT guaranteed.

PEDS:8301 Clinical Pediatrics, Des Moines, Iowa - 6 weeks

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Administrative Des Moines Medical Education
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Clinical Pediatrics at Blank Children's Hospital includes 3 weeks on inpatient, 1-week Newborn Nursery, 1-week in a Community General Pediatrics Clinic and 1 week in Subspecialty Clinics where students receive an exposure to a variety of pediatric subspecialties. These clinics include Adolescent Medicine, Endocrinology, Hematology/Oncology, Nephrology and Pulmonary Medicine. Students participate in weekly didactic lectures, small group sessions, case conferences and all pediatric residency program conferences offered.

Additional Course Information

Orientation:

Orientation will take place during the morning on the first day of the clerkship in Fisk Library on Blank 5. The orientation goes over various aspects of the clerkship, and the students will also be taken on a tour of locations in the hospital that pertain to their Pediatric clerkship. All students must dress appropriately (i.e. no jeans, t-shirts, tennis shoes, shorts, or beach sandals).

Clerkship Examination:

The final exam is an NBME shelf exam consisting of 110 questions. Students will have 2 hours 45 minutes to complete this. The exam is held on the last Thursday afternoon of the clerkship. The OSCE will be held the last Friday morning of the clerkship.

Time Off:

Students work Monday through Friday with the exception of the weeks on inpatient. During Inpatient, students will come in one weekend day during the three-week block to round on their patients. Because Pediatrics does not have overnight call, students will have one weekday during inpatient where they will be required to stay after evening check out until ~10:00 pm. Otherwise, normal inpatient hours are 7:00 am – 6:00 pm. Outpatient hours are typically Monday through Friday, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm. Students will have all University Holidays off. Students should request time off as early as possible and will not be granted more than two consecutive days off unless extenuating circumstances are present. Time off is NOT guaranteed.

Housing:

Students are provided free housing in a private furnished apartment located on the IMMC Campus. Free parking is available adjacent to the apartment building or in the covered parking ramp across the street. Free Fitness Center and Health Science Library access are available 24/7.

OBG:8301 Clinical Obstetrics & Gynecology - 6 weeks

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The clerkship in Obstetrics and Gynecology is a six-week clinical experience which most students complete at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics (UIHC). Three students per block will be assigned to the Broadlawns campus in Des Moines (see Des Moines description below).

At UIHC, the clerkship is divided into three segments, each of which is two weeks in duration. During one segment, the students will rotate through both Benign Gynecology and Gynecologic Oncology. One week is devoted to Benign Gynecology and the second is devoted to the in-patient Gynecologic Oncology service. Students will accompany their teams to the operating rooms, emergency room, conferences, and lectures as directed. Students are expected to make morning rounds with their teams.

The second segment involves two weeks spent rotating through the general and subspecialty outpatient clinics. Students will see patients, take histories, present patients, assist with documentation and perform physical examinations under the supervision of the residents, fellows, and faculty. Students are expected to complete all of their clinical duties before leaving the hospital in the evening.

The third segment is devoted to the study of routine and high-risk obstetrics on Labor & Delivery (L & D) and the inpatient Antepartum service. Each student will cover both day and night shifts on L & D. Students will accompany their teams to L & D, clinics, the Emergency Department, conferences, and lectures.

Students will also have a Continuity of Care Clinic (physician, nurse practitioner, nurse midwife) with whom they will work with for 5-7 sessions over the 6-week curriculum. This continuity component allows students to progressively develop their clinical and communication skills.

Running throughout this rotation is a student lecture series. Students are also expected to attend the weekly Grand Rounds and Morbidity and Mortality conferences, which are currently held on Tuesdays from 7:30 – 9:00. Lectures will be scheduled from 9-12 following Grand Rounds.

The OBGyn/Surgery combined Education Day will include AM/PM sessions about sexual history communication skills (3 hours) and abdominal, female pelvic and breast/physical examination (1 hour each). The goal is to review and expand on key concepts introduced in the pre-clinical curriculum to ensure all students understand the fundamentals and key components to abdominal, breast, and female pelvic examinations as well as communication skills to take a sexual history.

A mandatory OBGyn OSCE is completed during week 5 of the OBGyn rotation. Also mandatory, at the end of the rotation, students take a comprehensive “online” subject examination “shelf exam” authored by the National Board of Medical Examiners.

OBG:8301 Clinical Obstetrics & Gynecology, Des Moines, Iowa - 6 weeks

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Administrative Des Moines Medical Education
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Three students per block complete the clerkship at the Broadlawns campus in Des Moines. The clerkship is divided into three segments, each of which is two weeks in duration. During one segment, students will rotate through gynecology in both the outpatient and inpatient settings at Broadlawns; this will include some operative experience.

During another segment, students will rotate through obstetrics from both the inpatient and outpatient perspective. This will include an opportunity to actively participate in deliveries.

The third segment is a community obstetrics and gynecology experience that includes involvement in high-risk obstetrics, gynecology oncology, family planning and reproductive endocrinology experiences.

Students will alternate being on call nights and weekend days with other students which will increase opportunities to participate in deliveries. Students will participate in weekly didactic lectures and CBL exercises coordinated by Dr. Amy Bingaman. Students will also present to faculty and peers both an obstetrics topic and a gynecology topic of their choosing.

The OBGyn/Surgery combined Education Day will include AM/PM sessions about sexual history communication skills (3 hours) and abdominal, female pelvic and breast/physical examination (1 hour each). The goal is to review and expand on key concepts introduced in the pre-clinical curriculum to ensure all students understand the fundamentals and key components to abdominal, breast, and female pelvic examinations as well as communication skills to take a sexual history

A Mandatory OBGyn OSCE is completed during week 5 of the OBGyn rotation at the Iowa City campus. Also mandatory, at the end of the rotation, students take the comprehensive National Board of Medical Examiners Obstetrics and Gynecology shelf examination.

Additional Course Information

Orientation and Logistics:

Students are sent written information on where and when to report for orientation.

Students are provided free housing. Information about housing and orientation will be provided by Des Moines Branch Campus Education Coordinator Wendi Kruger. Meals are provided free at Broadlawns.

SURG:8301 Clinical Surgery - 6 weeks

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Clerkship Structure:

Surgery is a required six-week core clerkship experience that is divided into three, two-week team assignments. Every student will spend one, two-week period with the Acute Care Surgery (ACS) team where they will be assigned day shifts and required night shifts. The ACS team includes Emergency General Surgery and Trauma. For the other 4 weeks, services are paired such that students will spend 2 weeks on a one set of services and 2 weeks on another. The first set of services include Pediatrics, Plastics, Colorectal, and Vascular. The second set include the following teams: Breast, Burns, Thoracic, Minimally Invasive Surgery, Surgical Oncology, Transplant, and the VA Medical Center. Students are expected to participate in all clinical activities of the team, including inpatient and outpatient care and procedures.

Orientation:

Orientation will take place on the first day of the clerkship. Students will receive instruction on the various aspects of the clerkship from multiple sessions including an orientation from surgery residents and a skills session which focuses on surgical knot-tying and suturing. All students must dress appropriately (no jeans, shorts, exercise attire, sweatshirts, t-shirts with logos, or flip flops - see the Professional Appearance Policy on ICON).

Requirements:

All physicians need to be able to recognize and initially manage surgical emergencies such as trauma, acute abdominal pain, soft tissue infections or limb ischemia, which may originate in patients coming to the emergency room or as consults from within the hospital. During the 2-week ACS rotation, students will be assigned 12-hour day shifts and required night shifts to gain a general surgery experience. Additionally, the students' own teams may work out schedules wherein students may take turns staying late or coming in for off-hours clinical activities. Students and teams should keep in mind that students can work no more than 80 hours per week or an average of 65 hours per week over a four-week period. Students on the core rotation cannot work more than 16 hours per day.

Students are required to attend Surgery core lectures, didactic sessions, case presentation days and department/service conferences. In addition, students are required to attend and participate in combined Surgery/OBGYN educational sessions throughout the 12-week curriculum. More information can be found on ICON (<http://icon.uiowa.edu>).

Surgery: A Case Based Clinical Review by Christian De Virgilio is the recommended text. It is provided in PDF format on ICON. Students are encouraged to download the text onto iPads loaned to each student by the Department of Surgery. Simply attending the teaching sessions and not reading the book will put students at risk for failing the exam.

Additional Course Information

Clerkship Exam:

The final exam is an NBME shelf exam consisting of 110 questions. Students will have 2 hours 45 minutes to complete this. The exam will be held the last Friday of the clerkship. Students are excused from all clinical duties after the exam.

Grades:

The Surgery Clerkship grade is comprised of 100 points for the required elements. These elements are the NBME shelf exam (40%); clinical evaluations from residents, fellows, and faculty members (35%); OSCE (10%); Case Presentation (10%); and course assignments: Logging Duty Hours and RCEs (5%). The minimum passing score for the NBME shelf exam is 55. Students will have one additional opportunity to take the Surgery NBME if they do not pass on the first attempt. However, students who fail the first attempt will not be candidates for either Honors or Near Honors. Students must score at least 65/100 to pass the clerkship.

SURG:8301 Clinical Surgery, Des Moines, Iowa - 6 weeks

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Administrative Wendi Kruger
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Students will be assigned for 3 weeks to two of the Surgery Teaching Services at Iowa Methodist Medical Center. The three services are Oncology/Transplant, Colorectal Surgery, and Vascular Surgery. Each service includes junior and senior surgery residents and members of the Surgery Residency Program faculty and one student. Students will typically follow 3-5 patients and will participate in the pre-operative, operative, and post-operative care of these patients. In the OR, students will generally first assist and will often be allowed to do some suturing. Students will also attend weekly half-day outpatient clinics in the areas of general surgery, trauma surgery and colorectal surgery.

Students will participate in weekly core lectures plus attend residency program teaching conferences on Tuesday afternoons and Thursday mornings. Students will also be assigned one night of call during the clerkship. This allows students to see trauma and other surgical emergencies presenting after hours.

Additional Course Information

Orientation:

Orientation will be provided on the first day of the clerkship in the Des Moines Area Medical Education Consortium office on the campus of Iowa Methodist Medical Center at 1415 Woodland, Suite 130. Consortium staff and Dr. Valliere (clerkship director) will jointly conduct the orientation session. Dr. Valliere will also arrange for students to be oriented to the OR on the first day, including proper scrubbing and gowning procedures. Dr. Valliere will then lead a surgical skills workshop so students can begin working on their suturing skills.

Evaluation:

Students will be evaluated and tested the same way as students in Iowa City. Students will return to Iowa City for the Surgery OSCE exam but will take the NBME Surgery shelf examination in Des Moines.

Grades:

Students will be graded identically to the students completing the clerkship in Iowa City. The top 18% students earn Honors and the next 20% earn Near Honors recognition. Components that contribute to the final grade include shelf exam performance, clinical evaluations from residents and faculty, professionalism, clerkship assignments, case presentation, and OSCE performance.

IM:8310 Internal Medicine - 10 weeks

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Course Structure: 10 week clerkship with 3 components (detailed below)

- Ambulatory clinic experience comprising two 2 week blocks
- Inpatient medicine ward experience on general medicine services at UIHC and the VA hospital and subspecialty ward services at UIHC
- Core curriculum presented during education half-days that occur weekly and an asynchronous online curriculum for self-directed learning

Classroom Activities:

- Curriculum will be presented in small and large group discussion sessions emphasizing interpretation of clinical data, case-based clinical reasoning, advanced communication skills, and physical exam skills.

Additional Course Information

Orientation:

- Students will be oriented on the first day of the clerkship. This will include logistical information about the clerkship requirements and student roles as well as introduction to some basic clinical skills that will be important for participation in patient care.

Time Off:

- Students will work during 3 of the 9 weekends on the clerkship, to be assigned by the clerkship directors. No overnight call.
- Students will have half days for independent study meant for preparation for clinic and review of asynchronous curriculum (ie: online lectures).

Clerkship Examination:

- On the final Friday of the 10 week block students will sit for the NBME Medicine shelf exam which will serve as the knowledge based exam for this clerkship.
- On Friday of the 9th week of the clerkship, students will participate in an OSCE to assess clinical skills in internal medicine

Faculty: Clerkship Directors:
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Administrative Des Moines Medical Education
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Course Structure: 10-week clerkship with 3 components (detailed below)

- One four-week Ambulatory Internal Medicine Clinic block with a mix of general medicine and subspecialty medicine clinics, including GI and Pulmonary procedure experiences.
- One three-week Inpatient Internal Medicine block working on the general medicine teaching service at Iowa Methodist Medical Center.
- One three-week Inpatient Internal Medicine block working on the general medicine teaching service at the Des Moines VA Medical Center.

Classroom Activities:

- Core curriculum presented during education half-days that occur weekly supplemented by an asynchronous online curriculum for self-directed learning.
- Classroom didactic instruction will be presented in small and large group discussion sessions emphasizing interpretation of clinical data, case-based clinical reasoning, advanced communication skills, and physical exam skills.

Additional Course Information

Orientation:

- Students will be oriented on the first day of the clerkship. This will include logistical information about the clerkship requirements and student roles as well as introduction to some basic clinical skills that will be important for participation in patient care.

Time Off:

- Students will work one evening shift and one weekend day shift during each of the inpatient medicine blocks (at Iowa Methodist and at the VA). No overnight call.
- Students will have half days for independent study during the ambulatory block to prepare for clinic and for review of the asynchronous curriculum (ie. online lectures).
- Time off requests are handled on a case-by-case basis in accordance with University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine policies.

Clerkship Examination:

- On the final Friday of the 10 week block students will sit for the NBME Medicine shelf exam which will serve as the knowledge based on exam for this clerkship.
- On Friday of the 9th week of the clerkship, students will participate in an OSCE to assess clinical skills in internal medicine

Housing for Clerkship Students at the Des Moines Branch Campus:

- Students will be provided free housing in a private furnished apartment located on the Iowa Methodist Medical Center campus.
- Free parking is available adjacent to the apartment building and in the covered parking ramp located across the street from the apartment building.
- Free access to the Health Sciences Library and Fitness Center are available 24/7.

NEUR:8301 Clinical Neurology - 4 weeks

Faculty: Director: Hannan Roeder, MD

Associate Directors:

Lama Abdel Wahed, MD

Tracey Cho, MD

Administrative Lucy Fasano, MA

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This course serves to introduce the practice of neurology and familiarize the student with common neurological disorders. All course objectives will be evaluated by observation of student performance by residents, fellows, or faculty. At the completion of the clerkship, students are expected to be able to:

1. Perform a neurological history and examination. PC01, ICS02
2. Formulate and present a neurological localization and differential diagnosis of common neurological conditions. PC02, MK02
3. Understand indications for pertinent neurological diagnostic studies. PC03, MK02
4. Understand the principles of management for common neurological conditions. PC03, MK03

Students in Iowa City will complete two weeks of Adult Inpatient Neurology (one week of Stroke and one week of either General Neurology Ward or Consults) and two weeks of Neurology Clinic (includes both adult and pediatric neurology). Students will have the opportunity to evaluate adult and pediatric patients with a wide variety of neurologic concerns.

Clinical performance is evaluated by a combination of a final written examination and evaluations completed by attending physicians and house staff. Students must pass both the examination and the faculty evaluations to pass the course. If the student fails the final written examination, the student will be asked to do a repeat examination by the course director. If the student fails the repeat examination, the clerkship must be repeated

NEUR:8301 Clinical Neurology, Des Moines, Iowa - 4 weeks

Faculty: Local Clerkship Director:
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This course serves to introduce the practice of neurology and familiarize the student with common neurological disorders. All course objectives will be evaluated by observation of student performance by faculty. At the completion of the clerkship, students are expected to be able to

1. Perform a neurological history and examination. PC01, ICS02
2. Formulate and present a neurological localization and differential diagnosis of common neurological conditions. PC02, MK02
3. Understand indications for pertinent neurological diagnostic studies. PC03, MK02

Understand the principles of management for common neurological conditions. PC03, MK03

Students in Des Moines will complete two weeks of Adult Inpatient Neurology, one week of Adult Outpatient Neurology, and one week of Pediatric Outpatient Neurology. Students will have the opportunity to evaluate adult and pediatric patients with a wide variety of neurologic concerns.

Students will round one of the weekends during their two weeks of inpatient adult neurology. This further enhances the chance that they will see patients presenting with acute ischemic strokes who are candidates for thrombolytic therapy or interventional thrombectomy procedures.

Clinical performance is evaluated by a combination of a final written examination and evaluations completed by attending physicians. Students must pass both the examination and the faculty evaluations to pass the course. If the student fails the final written examination, the student will be required to repeat the examination. If the student fails the repeat examination, the clerkship must be repeated.

PSYC:8301 Clinical Psychiatry - 4 weeks

Faculty: Clerkship Director:
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Clinical Assignments: The rotation will consist of a combination of inpatient and outpatient experiences. Students will be emailed a preference sheet in advance detailing the various clinical service combinations available, with sites at UIHC, and the Iowa City VA Health Care System. Students will typically spend at least 3 weeks working with an inpatient psychiatric team and 2-5 days in an outpatient psychiatry setting (including outpatient clinics, Partial Hospital program, and Emergency Department.)

Required Clinical Experiences: Students are expected to independently evaluate a patient for suicidal ideation and participate in the clinical evaluation/management of at least one patient with each of the following diagnostic groups: psychotic disorders, mood disorders, cognitive disorders, personality disorders, anxiety and related disorders, and substance use disorders. Students will also observe electroconvulsive therapy (ECT).

Learning Activities:

- * Weekly case conferences on key diagnoses (psychotic disorders, mood disorders, and substance use disorders) will apply material from reading to understanding a current patient's case.
- * Simulated patient sessions promote development of advanced interviewing skills in complex patient scenarios (suicide risk assessment).
- * Didactic sessions, lead by faculty and residents, on selected topics of psychiatric pathology and therapeutics are offered, usually on Tuesday afternoons, and also available as recordings on Panopto. Self-study e-modules offered weekly.
- * Review sessions, by residents, covering pharmacology with a Jeopardy-style quiz game and exam preparation with board-style multiple choice questions.

Additional Course Information

Feedback and Evaluation. Students receive formal feedback from faculty on clinical skills of conducting a psychiatric interview and mental status exam, as well as mid-clerkship feedback. Formal evaluations include a series of quizzes, Performance-Based Assessment, the NBME clinical science subject exam in psychiatry, and clinical evaluation by faculty (and residents, if applicable).

PSYC:8301 Clinical Psychiatry, Des Moines, Iowa - 4 weeks

Faculty: Local Clerkship Director:
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Administrative Des Moines Medical Education
Contact: Consortium; 515-241-4455

Clinical Assignments. Students will complete the four-week Des Moines psychiatry core clerkship at Broadlawns Medical Center. This will include caring for a great variety of patients on a busy adult inpatient psychiatry service. Additional patient exposures will include evaluating patients in the Psychiatry Emergency Room, participating in the substance abuse treatment program, participating in ECT treatment sessions, and seeing adult and pediatric patients in an outpatient psychiatry clinic setting.

Required Clinical Experiences. Students are expected to independently evaluate a patient for suicidal ideation and participate in the clinical evaluation/management of at least one patient from each of the following diagnostic groups: psychotic disorders, mood disorders, cognitive disorders, personality disorders, anxiety and related disorders, and substance use disorders. Students will also observe electroconvulsive therapy (ECT).

Learning Activities.

- Weekly case conferences conducted jointly with students on the Iowa City campus will address key diagnoses (psychotic disorders, mood disorders, and substance use disorders) and will apply material from reading to understanding a current patient's case.
- A simulated patient session will promote development of advanced interviewing skills in suicide risk assessment.
- Faculty or resident-led didactic sessions on selected topics of psychiatric pathology and therapeutics are available as recordings on Panopto. Self-study e-modules offered weekly.
- Faculty-led Journal Club will review evidence-based medicine principles in evaluating a psychiatric treatment trial.
- A Jeopardy-style session will be used as a review of psychopharmacology. An exam preparation session with board-style multiple choice questions will also be provided.
- Students attend a mutual-help group of their choosing and submit a brief reflection on the experience.

Additional Course Information

Feedback and Evaluation. Students receive formal feedback from faculty on clinical skills of conducting a psychiatric interview and mental status exam, as well as mid-clerkship feedback. Formal evaluations include a series of quizzes, Objective Structured Clinical Evaluation exercise of simulated patients, the NBME clinical science subject exam in psychiatry, and clinical evaluations by faculty (and residents, if applicable).

Housing. Students are provided free housing in a private furnished apartment in the Inn Towner Apartments located on the campus of Iowa Methodist Medical Center at 1300 Woodland Avenue. Some meal assistance is also provided.

EM:8301 Core Emergency Medicine - 2 weeks

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Contact: 0073 RCP
319-356-3377
victoria-clarke@uiowa.edu

Course Structure: This course serves as an introduction to Emergency Medicine for all Carver College of Medicine students. It is composed primarily of one day of orientation/didactics followed by 7 clinical shifts in the University of Iowa Emergency Department and a written final exam at the end of the rotation. Students will additionally be required to attend an ethics session and mid-clerkship meeting, log Required Clinical Experiences (RCEs), and complete a note writing activity. During clinical shifts, students will have the opportunity to function as a valuable member of the clinical team in the unique emergency medicine environment. Students will participate in direct patient care as a part of a care team and will have the opportunity to evaluate patients with undifferentiated illness, perform supervised bedside procedures, and obtain consults.

Additional Course Information

Course Evaluation: Evaluation is based upon demonstration of patient care/diagnostic ability, medical knowledge, ability to incorporate feedback into clinical practice, and professionalism.

Feedback: Students receive feedback in the way of verbal feedback daily after each clinical shift. This feedback is discussed at the mid-clerkship meeting and will be available to the student throughout the course with the clerkship coordinator. Students also receive note feedback through the note writing activity.

Exam: The exam will consist of a multiple-choice exam developed by the Emergency Medicine educational team. It will be administered on the second Friday of the clerkship.

Grading: Grading will be based upon 66.7% daily clinical shift evaluations filled out by the faculty / senior resident you worked with and 33.3% exam.

Time Off: Time off requests are handled on a case-by-case basis in accordance with University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine policies. In general, students may work any-time between the first Tuesday and the following Thursday of the clerkship.

EM:8301 Core Emergency Medicine, Des Moines, Iowa - 2 weeks

Faculty: Clerkship Director:
Brittany D Jensen, MD
brittany.jensen@unitypoint.org

Administrative Des Moines Medical Education
Contact: Consortium; 515-241-4455

Course Structure: This course serves as an introduction to Emergency Medicine for all Carver College of Medicine students. It is composed primarily of one day of orientation/didactics followed by 7 clinical shifts in one of the UnityPoint Health-Des Moines Emergency Departments and a written final exam at the end of the rotation. Students will additionally be required to attend an ethics session and mid-clerkship meeting, log Required Clinical Experiences (RCEs) and complete a note writing activity. During clinical shifts, students will have the opportunity to function as a valuable member of the clinical team in the unique emergency medicine environment. Students will participate in direct patient care as a part of a care team and will have the opportunity to evaluate patients with undifferentiated illness, perform supervised bedside procedures, and obtain consults.

Additional Course Information

Course Evaluation: Evaluation is based upon demonstration of patient care/diagnostic ability, medical knowledge, ability to incorporate feedback into clinical practice, and professionalism.

Feedback: Students receive feedback in the way of verbal feedback daily after each clinical shift. This feedback will be discussed at the required mid-clerkship meeting and will be available to the student throughout the course via the clerkship coordinator. Students also receive note feedback through the note writing activity.

Exam: The exam will consist of a multiple-choice exam developed by the Emergency Medicine educational team. It will be administered on the second Friday of the clerkship.

Grading: Final clerkship grading will be based upon 66.77% daily clinical shift evaluations completed by faculty and 33.33% final exam performance.

Time Off: Time off requests are handled on a case-by-case basis in accordance with University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine policies. In general, students may work any-time between the first Tuesday and the following Thursday of the two-week clerkship.

Housing: Students will be provided free housing in a private furnished apartment located in the vicinity of the Iowa Methodist Medical Center campus. Free parking is available adjacent to the apartment building and in the covered parking ramp located across the street from the apartment building. Free access to the Health Sciences Library and Fitness Center are available 24/7.

ANES:8301 Clinical Anesthesia - 2 weeks

Faculty: Clerkship Co-Directors:
Yasser El-Hattab, MBChB
8491 JCP
384-9273
yasser-el-hattab@uiowa.edu

Katherine Keech, MD
6415 JCP
384-9273
katherine-keech@uiowa.edu

Offered: Max 5 seats May, June, July & August block.

Administrative Lorri Barnes
Contact: 8490 JCP
319-384-9273
lorri-barnes@uiowa.edu

This introductory two-week rotation in the Department of Anesthesia will acquaint medical students with the perioperative management of patients.

Students will attend department Grand Rounds on Tuesday mornings from 7:00-8:00 AM. In addition, they will attend seven PBLD sessions as a follow-up to viewing online pre-recorded lectures, which are designed specifically for medical students which cover the basic facets of anesthetic management. Students also participate in hands-on skills training sessions provided by our simulator center staff and residents as available. The didactic materials are supplemented with extensive clinical exposure where medical students are assigned with residents, fellows, CRNAs and faculty physicians for a variety of cases. Clinical opportunities are provided in the UIHC Main Operating Room Suites and Ambulatory Surgery Center, as well as the Urology Department, ECT treatment suite, and other satellite locations. Limited opportunity exists for students to spend time in other areas such as OB and SFCH as well.

Additional Course Information

Students will undergo a computerized examination at the completion of their two weeks and are also evaluated clinically during the rotation by faculty, fellows, or residents. Final grade is determined by performance on the examination and the clinical evaluations. Students must pass the computer examination to pass the course. This course serves as a prerequisite for Clinical Anesthesia ANES:8401.

Please contact Lorri Barnes at 384-9273 with questions, or for information regarding the departmental absence policy, including COC clinics, residency interviews, and UI holidays.

NOTE: The Department of Anesthesia offers an Externship program for students in their senior year. Students interested in applying for this program should take the ANES:8301 two-week Anesthesia rotation during their M2-M3 years. They must take the Clinical Anesthesia ANES:8401 four-week rotation by the end of October in their fourth year.

DERM:8301 Clinical Dermatology - 2 weeks

Faculty: Clerkship Director:
Vincent Liu, MD
40035 PFP

Administrative Tori Barnes
Contact: 319-384-5470
victoria-barnes@uiowa.edu

Kate Scheer
319-356-1694
kathryn-scheer@uiowa.edu

Course Structure:

Clinical experience in conjunction with computer-based tutorials, lectures, and a hands-on suturing/procedure session. Students will rotate through the UIHC Dermatology Clinic, the IRL Dermatology Clinic, the Pediatric Specialty Clinic (pediatric dermatology), and the Iowa City VA Medical Center. Students will have the opportunity to participate in inpatient consultations, dermatologic surgery, and the dermatopathology service, according to interest and availability.

Course Requirements:

Students must complete a series of seven dermatology tutorials, 20 of 29 virtual dermatology cases, and a writing assignment (clinical note plus literature query) while on this two-week clerkship.

Course Objectives

Students should demonstrate the following clinical skills:

- I. Skill in obtaining a clinical history
- II. Physical examination – how to perform a complete skin examination
- III. Accurate and complete documentation of clinical encounter
- IV. Use of laboratory methods to aid in diagnosis
- V. Ability to present patient information effectively, efficiently, and thoroughly
- VI. Competence in generating a differential diagnosis
- VII. Judgement in determining appropriate care, including practicing evidence-based medicine

Course Evaluation:

Evaluation is based on demonstration of diagnostic ability, technical skill, general medical and dermatologic knowledge, and demonstration of other professional characteristics.

Grading:

40% clinical evaluations, 40% final exam score, 15% teaching resident evaluation, and 5% completion of educational modules.

OPHT:8301 Ophthalmology - 2 weeks

Faculty: Course Director:
Lindsay De Andrade, MD
11290-C PFP, 356-2864
Email: lindsay-deandrade@uiowa.edu

Administrative Tonya Looker
Contact: 319-356-2921
tonya-looker@uiowa.edu

Course structure:

Clinical Ophthalmology is a two-week outpatient rotation, intended to teach students about diagnosis and management of common eye conditions for the primary care physician. Students are assigned to clinical service at the UIHC Department of Ophthalmology and at the VA Medical Center Eye Clinic. This clerkship is primarily clinical, but there will be at least one opportunity to observe surgery during the clerkship. Each student must complete a series of required clinical encounters. The course website on ICON should be reviewed prior to beginning the rotation. Students must also complete and submit two patient notes via ICON.

Students are required to attend the learning sessions scheduled between 7:30-9:00 am, and read Basic Ophthalmology Essentials for Medical Student, in conjunction with viewing recorded lectures covering the Basic Ophthalmology text. The two course textbooks are provided through the clerkship. All students are expected to be in clinic, OR, or independent study unless prior permission is obtained through the course director or coordinator (two-week notice except emergencies or illness).

Additional Course Information

Grading:

Grades are based both on clinical performance, the final examination, attendance at learning sessions and professionalism. Grades may be: Incomplete, Fail, Pass, Near Honors or Honors. The final exam is administered by computer and must be completed at the end of the two-week rotation. Students are allowed two opportunities to pass the final exam. If the exam is failed twice, the student must repeat the entire rotation. To receive their clinical evaluation, the student initiates the release of three to five evaluation forms. One evaluation must be from a faculty or fellow, and additional evaluations by other faculty, fellows or residents. Both the clinical evaluations and the exam must be passed in order to pass the course.

ORTH:8301 Clinical Orthopedics - 2 weeks

Faculty: COURSE DIRECTORS:

Heather Kowalski, MD
01079 JPP, 354-8614
heather-kowalski@uiowa.edu

Benjamin Miller, MD,
01015 JPP, 356-5535
benjamin-j-miller@uiowa.edu

Administrative Tonia Johnston

Contact: Orthopedics and Rehabilitation
Tel: (319)384-5590
tonia-johnston@uiowa.edu

OBJECTIVES:

The student will: 1) develop in-depth skill in the physical diagnosis of musculoskeletal conditions, 2) recognize basic conditions involving the musculoskeletal system.

This will be achieved by: 1) The course structure will be two weeks total, to include in-patient and out-patient, 2) conference attendance mandatory, 3) clinical performance is done via an evaluation form by two residents and one attending of team assigned to, 4) final grade is based on examination and clinical performance. If student fails, repeat exam may be taken, 5) NBME subject examination is not used, 6) review required lectures on ICON.

Additional Course Information

TEAM ASSIGNMENTS:

Silver team = Oncology/Tumor
Silver team = Foot/Ankle
Black team = Sports Medicine
Blue team = Adult Hip and Knee Reconstruction
Green team = Pediatrics
Orange team = Spine, cervical, lumbar, thoracic
VA team = VA Hospital, general ortho problems
Yellow team = Hand, wrist, elbow
Red team = Musculoskeletal Trauma
Pink team = Shoulder and Elbow

Program Coordinator will email student 2 weeks prior to the beginning of the rotation to ask for team preference. You will be assigned to one team for the rotation and will be required to complete patient Direct Clinical Observation Forms and one 5-hour On-Call shift from 5:00PM to 10:00PM (both will be assigned).

ALL ASSIGNMENTS MADE ON A "FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED" BASIS.

OTO:8301 Clinical Otolaryngology - 2 weeks

Faculty: Course Director:
Jose Manaligod, MD
21166 PFP, 319-353-7848
jose-manaligod@uiowa.edu

Administrative Julie Kobliska
Contact: 319-384-8277
julie-kobliska@uiowa.edu

General:

Develop and demonstrate interpersonal skills that result in effective communication and collaboration with patients, their families, and other health care professionals. Develop and demonstrate clinical skills in the examination, diagnosis, evaluation, and management of common disorders of the ears, nose, and throat. Develop and demonstrate professionalism as manifested through commitment, accountability, ethical behavior, and sensitivity to a diverse patient population.

Specific:

1. Acquire a general overview of the clinical scope of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck surgery (MK02, MK03, MK04) SBP02
2. Compare and contrast the diagnosis and treatment of common otolaryngology problems in pediatric and adult patients (MK03)
3. Recognize complicated ear, nose, and throat disorders that require referral to an otolaryngologist for management (MK02, MK03) PC03
4. Obtain an accurate and focused patient history, with attention to specific ENT and related systemic complaints (ICS01, ICS03, PC01, PC03)
5. Become proficient with performance of and presentation of the focused head and neck examination (ICS01, ICS02, MK01, MK02, MK03, PC01, PR01, PR03, ICS02)
6. Expand knowledge base for the differential diagnosis and evaluation of common head and neck symptoms/complaints seen in primary care (MK02, MK03, PC01, PC02), PBL02
7. Recognize normal laryngeal, otologic and nasal anatomic landmarks (MK02, MK03, PC02) 7.1 Differentiate normal vs abnormal tympanic membranes
8. Recall the indications for common ENT procedures (MK02, MK03, MK04, PC02, PC03) 8.1 Myringotomy and tube placement 8.2 Tonsillectomy and adenoidectomy
9. Compare and contrast complete and incomplete acute facial nerve paralysis and summarize common causes and medical/surgical treatment options (MK02, MK03, MK04, PC02, PC03)
10. Recognize risk factors and common presenting symptoms of head and neck cancer (MK02, MK03)
11. Explain the common causes of neck/thyroid masses in pediatric and adult patients, and recognize the importance of excluding the presence of a malignant process (MK01, MK02, MK03, MK04, PC03)
12. Develop proficiency in writing inpatient notes particularly focused on post-surgical patient cares and considerations (ICS01, ICS02, IS03, PC01, SBP01)
13. Recognize and address quality of life issues that affect patients with head and neck disorder (SBP01) 13.1 Speech, hearing, swallowing, balance, pain, sleep disturbances-PC03, MK03
14. Outline the diagnostic uses and how to perform the following common procedures: (ICS01, MK02) 14.1 Flexible laryngoscopy 14.2 Audiogram evaluation 14.3 Ear microscopy examination, PC03, MK03
15. Demonstrate respect when communication with patients and families regardless of characteristics, cultural background, and beliefs; PR01

STRUCTURE OF THE ROTATION

Four-six students generally rotate at the University Hospital and one student rotates through the VA Hospital each week. Students at the VA work with the Otolaryngology team there, which is comprised of one junior and one senior resident. At the University, each student will be assigned to both a junior resident and faculty preceptor each week. Students will round with the assigned resident and inpatient team each morning before meeting with the assigned preceptor. Students will primarily follow the assigned faculty preceptor in OR and clinic. On days when faculty are not in the clinic/OR, the student may follow the assigned resident, or work with a different faculty in clinic/OR based on their interests.

Students are expected to attend didactics and team specific conferences during the week. Video lectures may be viewed during unassigned time. Students are also expected to give a three-minute oral presentation at the end of the first week during rounds on a journal publication of their choice. They are also expected to view the PowerPoint data on disparities in newborn hearing screening/follow up in the state of Iowa, and to make comments on the data in the discussion module for this.

Additional Course Information

CLINIC/ROUNDS

Each student should meet with their assigned resident and inpatient team each morning for rounds. The time is determined by the resident. When in clinic, students should review the most recent Otolaryngology notes on these patients, obtain a history from them and complete a head and neck examination. The first day, they will see patients together with the assigned resident and/or faculty preceptor, then may evaluate patients independently. Students should see one new patient in each clinic. It is important to identify yourself in the notes to prevent inadvertent, fraudulent, billing of the patient.

Please utilize time efficiently. If appropriate, when a patient who has been examined by a resident is waiting to be evaluated by a faculty member, students can ask the patient if they may also proceed with a head and neck examination. This will provide additional practice with using a head mirror and completing an exam.

PATH:8302 Pathology - 2 weeks

Faculty: Meredith Parsons, MD
Katie Eschbacher, MD

Administrative Nicole Astell
Contact: C684 GH
319-353*8138
Nicole-astell@uiowa.edu

New for 2025-26, full description pending.

Learning objectives (and corresponding CCOM learning objectives)

- Understand the department structure, as well as specimen flow in the pathology department
 - SBP02
 - Understand the role of the pathologist in both direct and indirect patient care, as well as in peer interactions, and cultivate improved interpersonal communication skills to share relevant medical information
 - ICS01, ICS02, ICS03, ICS04, PBL02, PC03, PR01, PR03, SBP02
 - Understand the principles and quality control utilized with instrument testing, staining, and procedures
 - Explain how reference ranges and cutoffs are established for laboratory tests and how the method used to establish the reference range or cutoff can affect interpretation of results for patient care
 - Identify common pre-analytical errors and how they may be minimized through proper specimen collection and processing
 - PBL01, PBL02, PC02, PC03, PR02, SBP01
 - Learn how to practice cost-effective laboratory and diagnostics utilization, in such a way as to not compromise quality care
 - Select appropriate laboratory tests and correctly interpret the results, justifying reasoning based on concepts of sensitivity, specificity, predictive values, likelihood ratios, cost-effectiveness, limit of detection, precision, and/or accuracy as they apply to a case
 - PBL01, PBL02, PC02, PC03, SBP01, SBP02
 - Advocate for quality laboratory utilization and assist clinicians with system complexities
 - Describe the difference between screening and confirmatory tests and identify clinical situations that require confirmatory testing
 - Better-understand testing requirements such as sample type, and challenges inherent in send-out testing, etc.
 - ICS01, ICS02, ICS03, ICS04, MK02, MK03, PBL01, PBL02, PC02, PC03, SBP01, SBP02
 - Understand the proper way to complete a death certificate, and potentially also an autopsy, and the value postmortem assessment adds to the study of epidemiology and clinician feedback
 - ICS03, MK01, MK02, PBL01, PC01, PC02, PR02, SBP01, SBP02
 - Become familiar with AP diagnostics and issues relevant to the various areas of AP (Intra-operative diagnostics/frozen section/grossing, autopsy/forensics, surgical pathology and the subspecialties of surgical pathology, neuropathology, cytology)
-

- ICS01, ICS02, ICS03, ICS04, MK01, MK02, MK03, PBL01, PBL02, PC01, PC02, PR01, PR02, PR03, SBP01, SBP02
 - Become familiar with clinical laboratory diagnostics and techniques relevant to the various areas of clinical pathology (CP) and laboratory medicine (clinical chemistry, coagulation, transfusion medicine, medical microbiology, hematology/immunology, and molecular diagnostics).
 - ICS01, ICS02, ICS03, ICS04, MK01, MK02, MK03, PBL01, PBL02, PC01, PC02, PC03, PR01, PR02, PR03, SBP01, SBP02
-

RAD:8301 Clinical Radiology - 2 weeks

Faculty: Course Director:
Antonio Zafred Marcelino, MD, PhD,
MBA
3866 JPP, Ph: 319-356-4413
antonio-zafredmarcelino@uiowa.edu

Administrative Amber Thoma
Contact: 3960 JPP
319-384-9850
amber-thoma-1@uiowa.edu

Course Structure

The course mission is to teach future clinicians the basics of radiology so that they may better care for their patients. The course presents the basics of diagnostic radiology and nuclear medicine with the emphasis on integrating these into a non-radiologic clinical practice. A specific detailed list of course objectives is presented at the orientation. There is a 7:30 am case review session with a faculty member as well as a morning lecture with a senior resident each day. The remainder of the student's day is spent in rotations through radiology clinical areas, including body, breast, chest, interventional radiology, musculoskeletal, neuroradiology, peds, and nuclear medicine.

Additional Course Information

Evaluation

The course is graded on an honors/near honors/pass/fail basis. Students are evaluated based on resident evaluation (25%), case-based presentation (25%), all other assignments (5%), and a final examination (45%) that is based on the course objectives.

Requirements

The main requirement for the course is the student's willingness to take initiative and to ask questions. This is an interactive course in which the student is expected to take responsibility for their own education and to work with the department faculty and staff to ensure a productive learning experience. All other requirements are per the College of Medicine Handbook and will be discussed during orientation.

URO:8301 Clinical Urology - 2 weeks

Faculty: Course Director:
Annah Vollstedt, MD
3246 RCP
annah-vollstedt@uiowa.edu

Administrative Kelly Norton
Contact: 319-356-8707
kelly-norton@uiowa.edu

Course Structure:

The urology clerkship is a two-week clinical rotation composed of the following elements:

1. Responsibilities in urologic outpatient clinics and inpatient unit. Students are assigned to faculty members each day and attend clinics at the University, VA Hospital, and Iowa River Landing. Surgical cases are performed at the University in the main operating room, the ambulatory surgical center, SFCH, the Urology Clinic, and at the VA hospital. Students should have current VA privileges. Students are given the option to round in the morning during the rotation.
2. Patients notes and seminars. Each student will present a 10-minute talk on a urology topic of their choice to a faculty proctor. Students are also expected to write patient notes that become a permanent part of the patient record.
3. Computer exam on course material given on the last day of the clerkship. A score of at least 60% is required to pass the final exam. Students must pass the final exam in order to receive a passing grade for the clerkship. Students who do not pass the final exam at the first sitting will not be eligible for an Honors or Near Honors grade for the clerkship and retest at the earliest opportunity. The exam may be retaken only once. The Urology Department does not utilize the NBME examination.

Additional Course Information

Special Requirements:

Attendance at student orientation on the first morning of the clerkship is mandatory.

Evaluation Process:

Evaluations are based on performance in clinical and surgical settings, perceived analytical skills, preparedness, professionalism and interpersonal skills. The final grade is based on faculty evaluations (40%), seminar presentation (10%), patient notes (10%) and final exam (40%).

Recommendations for Advanced Clerkships:

An advanced clerkship in urology is recommended for those wishing to pursue urology as a career. Available two-week or four-week-long advanced clerkships include general urology, pediatric urology, urologic oncology, and independent research. Those interested in urology are advised to schedule the clerkship as early as possible in the clinical years to allow maximum flexibility for scheduling an advanced clerkship.