
PAS

Physician Assistant Studies

PAS 500 INTEGRATIVE CARE FOR HEALTH SCIENCES. (1-3)

Integrative care involves using the best possible treatments from both complementary/alternative and allopathic medicine, based on the patient's individual needs and condition. The selection of health care providers should be based on good science and this course will introduce students to complementary and alternative health care providers and the practices and beliefs of these practices as well as the scientific evidence in support of these practices. The course integrates successes from both worlds and describe the safest, least invasive, most cost-effective approach while incorporating a holistic understanding of the individual. May be repeated to a maximum of 3 credits (1 credit didactic and up to two credits experiential/research). (Same as AT 500, HS 500, CLS 500, CNU 500, CD 500.)

PAS 610 RESEARCH METHODS AND EPIDEMIOLOGY IN PA STUDIES. (3)

An introductory course designed to introduce students to research applicable to the health care sciences and the field of epidemiology. The course will include a description of the scientific method, research design, measurement techniques, and statistical analysis. Emphasis will be placed on both clinical research and population-based studies. Students will learn how to critically review literature and how to design a research protocol. Prereq: Completion of STA 570, admission to the Physician Assistant Program, or consent of instructor.

PAS 640 SURVEY OF GERIATRIC MEDICINE. (3)

Overview of physician assistant practice with geriatric patients. Emphasis is placed on the practice of geriatric medicine including the anatomy and physiology of normal aging; pathology of aging; health care aspects of geriatric management; the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of geriatric problems; and research aspects of geriatric practice. Prereq: Admission to the Physician Assistant graduate program or consent of the instructor.

PAS 645 MASTER'S PROJECT. (1)

A 4-week course designed to introduce students to methods of identifying and analyzing a health care delivery issue that can be studied through a scientific literature search. The analysis of the topic and writing of a research paper will occur during the student's clinical clerkships. Prereq: STA 570, PAS 610, completion of the first year of the Physician Assistant graduate program.

PAS 646 MASTER'S PROJECT 2. (2-6)

This variable credit hour course is designed to allow PA students to complete a Master's Project while under the guidance of a faculty advisor. Students will identify a health care issue topic, conduct appropriate library research on the topic, develop a research paper on the topic, and make an oral presentation of their project at the conclusion of the Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies Program. Students will be responsible for developing appropriate audiovisuals, handouts, etc. for the oral presentation. Prereq: Admission to the Physician Assistant Program.

PAS 650 CLINICAL METHODS. (3)

This course is designed to provide the general principles of obtaining medical histories and performing physical examinations. Lecture, two hours; laboratory, three hours. Prereq: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program.

PAS 651 INTRODUCTION TO THE PA PROFESSION. (2)

This course provides an overview of selected health care delivery issues affecting primary care physician assistants. The first half of the semester is devoted to examination of the history and evolution of the PA profession, current PA practice demographics and regulations, principles of quality assurance, risk management, and medical literature evaluation. The second half of the semester is devoted to the study of the ethical dimensions of PA practice. Topics include moral principles and ethical theories, as well as a series of seminar discussions on contemporary ethical issues confronting primary care providers in the 20th and 21st centuries. Prereq: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program.

PAS 653 INTRODUCTION TO HEALTH AND DISEASE. (3)

An overview of the etiology, distribution, and prevention of basic disease processes. Prereq: Enrollment in Physician Assistant Program.

PAS 654 CLINICAL LECTURE SERIES I. (4)

A study of diseases and disorders seen in primary care physician assistant practice. Emphasis is placed on identifying the etiology, clinical presentation, laboratory and x-ray abnormalities, management, and prevention of diseases/disorders of the cardiovascular, pulmonary, renal, gastrointestinal, hematological, endocrine, and neurological systems. Research aspects of selected diseases is also presented. Prereq: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Studies Program.

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PAS 655 PSYCHOSOCIAL FACTORS IN PRIMARY HEALTH CARE. (3)

This course provides a broad overview of the role of psychosocial factors (behavioral, cultural, and environmental) in the nature, cause, course distribution, prevention, and treatment of illness. It develops the student's communication skills for clinical practice and presents psychosocial theories and research, and is organized into four areas: general behavioral concepts, communications skills, developmental issues, and psychopathology. Prereq: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program.

PAS 656 PATIENT EVALUATION AND MANAGEMENT. (3)

A combination of formal presentations, laboratory practice sessions, and supervised patient care experiences involving patient evaluation and management skills. Lecture, two hours; laboratory, three hours per week. Prereq: Enrollment in Physician Assistant Program or consent of instructor.

PAS 657 CLINICAL LABORATORY PROCEDURES. (3)

This is a survey laboratory course covering common laboratory procedures performed in the primary care clinical setting. Emphasis will be placed on performing and interpreting basic clinical tests. Lecture, two hours; laboratory, two hours per week. Prereq: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Studies Program.

PAS 658 CLINICAL LECTURE SERIES II. (4)

A seminar in diseases and disorders seen by primary care physician assistants. Emphasis is placed on student research and presentation of selected diseases/disorders associated with orthopedics, dermatology, emergency medicine, pediatrics, and obstetrics and gynecology. Prereq: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program.

PAS 660 FAMILY MEDICINE CLERKSHIP. (6)

This is an eight-week clinical course designed to provide physician assistant students with experience in evaluation and treating common problems encountered in Family medicine. Experience is provided at the level of a primary care physician assistant, and emphasis is placed on performing a history and physical exam, selecting and interpreting laboratory exams, establishing a logical differential diagnosis, conducting research on clinical problems, performing selected studies, and establishing a tentative treatment plan. Prereq: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant program and successful completion of the didactic portion of the curriculum.

PAS 661 PEDIATRIC CLERKSHIP. (3)

This is a four-week clinical course designed to provide physician assistant students with experience in evaluation and treating common problems encountered in pediatrics. Experience is provided at the level of a primary care physician assistant, and emphasis is placed on performing a pediatric history and physical exam, selecting and interpreting laboratory exams, establishing a logical differential diagnosis, conducting research on pediatric problems, performing selected procedures, and establishing a tentative treatment plan. Prereq: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant program and successful completion of the didactic portion of the PA curriculum.

PAS 662 OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY CLERKSHIP. (3)

This is a four-week course designed to provide physician assistant students with experience in evaluating and treating common problems encountered in obstetrics and gynecology. Experience is provided at the level of a primary care physician assistant, and emphasis is placed on performing a prenatal history and physical exam, assisting in surgery, selecting and interpreting laboratory exams, establishing a logical differential diagnosis, conducting research on clinical problems, performing selected studies, and establishing a tentative treatment plan. Prereq: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant program and successful completion of the didactic portion of the PA curriculum.

PAS 663 SURGERY CLERKSHIP. (3)

This is a four-week clinical course designed to provide physician assistant students with experience in evaluating and treating surgical problems. Experience is provided at the level of a primary care physician assistant, and emphasis is placed on performing a surgical history and physical exam, assisting in surgery, selecting and interpreting laboratory exams, establishing a logical differential diagnosis, conducting research on surgical problems, and performing selected surgical procedures. Prereq: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant program and successful completion of the didactic portion of the PA curriculum.

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PAS 664 GERIATRIC CLERKSHIP. (3)

A 4-week physician assistant clinical clerkship in geriatric medicine. Objectives involve the development of knowledge and skills in the evaluation, management, and prevention of common geriatric disorders and diseases. Principles of business management, evidence-based medicine, research, and use of ancillary medical services are also covered. Prereq: Admission to the Physician Assistant graduate program, or consent of instructor.

PAS 665 CLINICAL PRACTICUM IN PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT STUDIES. (1-6)

This field assignment offers supervised clinical experience appropriate to the PA student's chosen area of practice. May be repeated to a maximum of 12 credits; 40 hours per week. Prereq: Enrollment in Physician Assistant Program.

PAS 669 INTERNAL MEDICINE CLERKSHIP. (6)

This is an eight-week clinical course designed to provide physician assistant students with experience in evaluating and treating common problems encountered in Internal Medicine. Experience is provided at the level of a primary care physician assistant, and emphasis is placed on performing a history and physical exam, selecting and interpreting laboratory exams, establishing a logical differential diagnosis, conducting research on clinical programs, performing selected studies, and establishing a tentative treatment plan. Prereq: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant program and successful completion of the didactic portion of the PA curriculum.

PAS 670 EMERGENCY MEDICINE CLERKSHIP. (3)

This is a four-week clinical course designed to provide physician assistant students with experience in evaluating and treating problems encountered in emergency medicine. Experience is provided at the level of a primary care physician assistant, and emphasis is placed on performing a history and physical exam, selecting and interpreting laboratory exams, establishing a logical differential diagnosis, performing selected studies, and establishing a tentative treatment plan. Prereq: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant program and successful completion of the didactic portion of the curriculum.

PAS 671 PSYCHIATRIC CLERKSHIP. (3)

This is a four-week clinical course designed to provide physician assistant students with experience evaluating and treating common problems encountered in psychiatry. Experience is provided at the level of a primary care physician assistant, and emphasis is placed on performing a history and physical exam, mental status exam, selecting and interpreting laboratory exams, establishing a logical differential diagnosis, and establishing a tentative treatment plan. Prereq: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant program and successful completion of the didactic portion of the PA curriculum.

PAS 672 PHARMACOLOGY I. (3)

This course is designed to prepare students for the pharmacological requirements of practice as a primary care physician assistant. Emphasis is placed on a description of drug categories, prescription writing, drug abbreviations and equivalents, principles of drug research, and the laws on ethics of drug use in primary care medicine. Prereq: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program.

PAS 673 PHARMACOLOGY II. (3)

This course is designed to prepare students for the pharmacological requirements of practice as a primary care physician assistant. Emphasis is placed on utilizing specific drugs and drug combinations for specific diseases, and performing literature reviews on current pharmacological problems. A research paper and presentation is required addressing a specific pharmacological problem that occurs in primary care physician assistant practice. Prereq: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program.

PAS 678 HEALTH PROMOTION AND DISEASE PREVENTION. (2)

This course is designed to focus on health promotion and disease prevention in primary care medical practice. The course reflects concerns expressed in Healthy People 2010 which call for an increased emphasis on preventive medicine and reflects the need for additional disease education for physician assistant students. The course will address topics such as immunizations, genetic counseling, complementary and alternative medicine, and health and wellness. Prereq: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program.

PAS 680 SEMINAR IN PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT STUDIES. (2)

A study of selected topics and contemporary issues regarding physician assistant practice. Emphasis will be placed on review of selected clinical medicine topics, research in primary care, principles of managed care, job searches and interviewing skill. Prereq: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant program and successful completion of the didactic portion of the PA curriculum.

PAS

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PAS 690 PA CLERKSHIP.

(3-6)

This variable credit, 1 to 2 month course is intended to allow MPAS students with a prior baccalaureate degree in PA studies to engage in clinical work relevant to their chosen area of concentration. Course objectives will be developed to include acquiring knowledge in clinical knowledge and library research. It is expected that students will use this course to develop and implement their final Master's Project. Students will be responsible for developing appropriate audiovisuals, handouts, and other presentation materials. Prereq: Completion of PAS 645, admission to the Physician Assistant Program, or consent of instructor.

PAS 867 PRECEPTORSHIP I.

(4)

Provides the PA student with the opportunity to integrate his previous year of didactic education and seven months of clinical course work into a functioning system. An assigned textbook and specified reading assignments will be required. In addition, students will be required to successfully pass practical as well as written examinations on course content. Prereq: Successful completion of the junior year and enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program.

PAS 868 PRECEPTORSHIP II.

(4)

This course provides the student with the opportunity to integrate his previous year of didactic education and seven months of clinical course work into a functioning system. This course is a continuation of Preceptorship I. An assigned textbook and specified reading assignments will be required. In addition, students will be required to successfully pass practical as well as written examinations on course content. Prereq: Successful completion of the junior year and enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program.