

SNU PA Program Course Descriptions

PAS 5013 Physician Assistant Practice I (4cr)

While the core training for clinicians is founded in the biological and medical sciences, the practice of medicine is a regulated profession that is founded on interpersonal relationships. This course is designed to prepare the PA for entry into the “practice” of medicine. This course sets a foundation in the business of medicine, explores areas of medical ethics, patient safety, professionalism, provider wellness, the healthcare team, regulation of health care practice, health policy, and public and social health. Emphases will be placed on patient autonomy and ethics from a Christlike perspective, the role of the PA on the healthcare team, and navigating social and cultural determinants of health in a Christlike manner.

Prerequisite(s): PAS 5013

PAS 5104 Patient Encounters I (4cr)

Learning to glean accurate, valuable, and pertinent information from patients is key to the practice of medicine and is the primary focus of this course. The art of communication, relationship building and confidence restoration to successfully obtain valuable information from patients from all types of backgrounds, settings and circumstances will be presented. Additionally, the skills requisite for physical assessments and the discernment between normal and abnormal findings are taught.

Prerequisite(s): Admission to the PA program

PAS 5114 Patient Encounters II (4cr)

Building on 5105, the skills to overcome communication barriers such as stressful environments, emotional lability, and cultural variations while building resilience and personal emotional stability, particularly when delivering news about death, dying or severe illness are presented. Further preparation is made to accurately document and communicate patient interactions and findings to other members of the healthcare team.

Prerequisite(s): PAS 5104

PAS 5205 Medical Anatomy (5cr)

The form, function and relationships of all gross anatomical structures of the human body are presented. Gaining an in-depth working knowledge of normal gross anatomy will allow the clinician to recognize developmentally abnormal, mechanically abnormal, or functionally abnormal anatomy. This course will be delivered didactically and supported by cadaveric, model and virtual anatomy laboratory resources. Anatomic imaging, including plain film radiology, CT/MRI and Ultrasound is included.

Prerequisite(s): Admission to the PA program

PAS 5214 Physiology and Pathophysiology I (4)

Normal physiology and pathologic physiology are vital to the understanding of disease processes and their treatment options. Advance understanding of physiologic concepts to recognize when alterations in normal physiology cause symptoms or disease processes is the key focus of this course. This course takes a systematic approach to physiology in preparation for the medical systems courses.

adult medical and psychological conditions. The focus of the approach to disorders is that of a primary care perspective, and includes prevention and wellness associated with the studied disorders.

Prerequisite(s): PAS 5406, 5303

PAS 5426 Medical Systems III (6cr)

Continuing an organ systems approach and current, accepted medical resources, this course presents the epidemiology, presentation, evaluation, diagnosis and treatment of specific adult medical and psychological conditions. The focus of the approach to disorders is that of a primary care perspective, and includes prevention and wellness associated with the studied disorders.

Prerequisite(s): PAS 5416, 5313

PAS 5431 Pediatric Clinical Medicine (2cr)

This course is taught separately from the adult medicine systems approach and focuses on the Development and wellness of children and young adults and highlights illnesses, disorders and disease states specific to this patient population. Special attention will be paid to pediatric nutrition and recognizing and preventing child abuse.

Prerequisite(s): PAS 5416, 5313, 5322

PAS 5443 Surgery and Emergency Medicine (2cr)

Primary care providers must recognize when patients present with surgical or emergent conditions. The early evaluation and management of emergent and surgical presentations are covered. Additionally, advanced management of specific surgical and emergent conditions is presented. BLS, ACLS and PALS are part of this course.

Prerequisite(s): PAS 5416

PAS 5502 Clinical Procedures and Skills I (2cr)

This first of two lab courses teaches skills and procedures necessary for successful primary care practice. Ample lab time with instruction and supervision will allow the mastery of each skill and procedure required for the course.

Prerequisite(s): PAS 5023, 5205, 5114

PAS 5512 Clinical Procedures and Skills II (2cr)

The second lab course will focus on more specialized procedures and the implementation of point of care ultrasound into primary care practice.

Prerequisite(s): PAS 5502

PAS 5524 Clinical Laboratory Science and Medical Imaging (4cr)

Building on the anatomy, physiology and medical systems already presented, the appropriate and cost-effective ordering and interpreting of laboratory testing and medical imaging is presented. This course is presented from the context of primary care practice.

Prerequisite(s): PAS 5416, 5205, 5224, 5322

PAS 5601 Clinical Correlations I (1cr)

Using case studies and/or simulations, critical thinking and medical decision-making skills are taught and developed. This is the first of three courses. The complexity and depth of each case/simulation will increase with each subsequent course and as more of the curriculum is mastered.

Prerequisite(s): PAS 5013, 5032, 5104, 5205

PAS 5611 Clinical Correlations II (1cr)

Using case studies and/or simulations, critical thinking and medical decision-making skills are taught and developed. This is the second of three courses. The complexity and depth of each case/simulation will increase with each subsequent course and as more of the curriculum is mastered.

Prerequisite(s): PAS 5601, 5406

PAS 5621 Clinical Correlations III (1cr)

Using case studies and/or simulations, critical thinking and medical decision-making skills are taught and developed. This is the third of three courses. The complexity and depth of each case/simulation will increase with each subsequent course and as more of the curriculum is mastered.

Prerequisite(s): PAS 5611, 5416

PAS 5631 Medical Research and Capstone I (1cr)

The first of four courses, this course introduces scholarly writing ideas and methods. Under the guidance of the course instructor and student mentor, subjects for a primary literature review will be identified and the process of collecting scholarly literature will commence. In addition, lifelong learning and self-improvement concepts will be introduced.

Prerequisite(s): Admission to the PA program

PAS 5641 Medical Research and Capstone II (1cr)

The second of four courses, this course progresses into the active writing of a literature review, beginning with a solid introduction and background. Lifelong learning and self-improvement assignments for capstone will be presented.

Prerequisite(s): PAS 5631

PAS 5651 Medical Research and Capstone III (1cr)

The third of four courses, this course progresses through the data collection and analysis of the literature review. Capstone requirements are continued.

Prerequisite(s): PAS 5641

PAS 5661 Medical Research and Capstone IV (1cr)

The last of four courses, this course results in a completed literature review paper and a completed capstone project.

Prerequisite(s): PAS 5651

PAS 6004 Family Medicine Clinical Practice Experience (8cr)

A four-week supervised clinical experience in a family medicine setting. The focus of this experience will be outpatient primary care across the lifespan.

Prerequisite(s): All PAS 500 courses

PAS 6014 Internal Medicine Clinical Practice Experience (8cr)

A four-week supervised clinical experience in an Internal Medicine setting. The focus of this experience will be on adult medicine with an emphasis on inpatient care.

Prerequisite(s): All PA 500 courses

PAS 6024 Women's Health Supervised Clinical Practice Experience (4cr)

A four-week supervised clinical experience in a women's health setting with a focus on prenatal and gynecologic health.

Prerequisite(s): All PA 500 courses

PAS 6034 Pediatrics Supervised Clinical Practice Experience (8cr)

A four-week supervised clinical experience in a pediatrics setting with a focus on pediatric development, and primary care illness.

Prerequisite(s): All PAS 5000 courses

PAS 6044 Emergency Medicine Supervised Clinical Practice Experience (4cr)

A four-week supervised clinical experience in an Emergency Department setting with a focus on low to moderate level acuity of medical and traumatic emergencies.

Prerequisite(s): All PAS 500 courses

PAS 6054 Surgery Supervised Clinical Practice Experience (4cr)

A four-week supervised clinical experience in a surgical setting with a focus on in hospital/in patient or surgery center experiences.

Prerequisite(s): All PAS 5000 courses

PAS 6064 Behavioral and Mental Health Supervised Clinical Practice Experience (4cr)

A four-week supervised clinical experience in a behavioral and mental healthcare setting with a focus on the management of behavioral and mental health in the primary care setting.

Prerequisite(s): All PAS 500 courses

PAS 6074 Orthopedics Clinical Practice Experience (4cr)

A four-week supervised clinical experience in an orthopedic setting. The focus of this rotation will be primary care orthopedics.

Prerequisite(s): All PAS 500 courses

PAS 6084 Elective I Supervised Clinical Practice Experience (4cr)

A four-week supervised clinical experience in a clinical setting of the student's choice as assigned by the program. The focus of this rotation will be on clinical experiences that will

broaden the student's clinical exposure(s) thereby enhancing the primary care skills of the PA. All international clinical experiences are electives only.

Prerequisite(s): All PAS 500 courses

PAS 6094 Elective II Supervised Clinical Practice Experience (4cr)

A four-week supervised clinical experience in a clinical setting of the student's choice as assigned by the program. The focus of this rotation will be on gaining clinical experience desired by the student, thereby enhancing the overall skills of the PA. All international clinical experiences are electives only.

Prerequisite(s): All PAS 500 courses

PAS 6102 Preparation for Clinical Practice I (2cr)

Acclimating PAs from full time academics to full-time employment is essential. This course prepares the PA for a smoother transition. Such preparation includes, PANCE, national certification and maintenance, licensure, contract negotiations, malpractice insurance and more.

Prerequisite(s): All PAS 500 courses

PAS 6112 Preparation for Clinical Practice II (2cr)

A continuation of the previous course includes ongoing preparation for PANCE, loan repayment and financial counseling, insurance and practice credentialing, burnout and moral injury prevention and more.

Prerequisite(s): PAS 6102