

# PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT (PY)

## **PY 503. Principles of Interviewing. 3 Credits.**

This course explores the various methods of conducting a comprehensive and efficient patient interview while focusing on the importance of establishing and building a patient/provider relationship based on trust and empathy. Emphasis is also placed on the importance of obtaining an accurate medical history, while creating an inclusive and compassionate environment during the patient encounter, as well as learning how to compose a comprehensive written medical note and present a concise oral report

**Prerequisites:** None

**Offered:** Every year, Summer

## **PY 504. History, Roles and Responsibilities of the PA. 1 Credit.**

This course explores through lecture and discussion the factors affecting the development of the profession and role socialization with emphasis on standards of quality assurance, credentialing of continued competence, policies and regulations governing clinical responsibilities and dynamics of membership on a health care team.

**Prerequisites:** None

**Offered:** Every year, Spring

## **PY 505. Clinical Pharmacology I. 2 Credits.**

This distance education course covers the classification, mechanism of action, toxicity and clinical use of therapeutics agents. Side effects, indications, dose response and management of therapeutics are emphasized.

**Prerequisites:** None

**Offered:** Every year, Fall

## **PY 506. Principles of Medicine. 6 Credits.**

This course explores the fundamentals of disease in an organ systems-based approach, with an emphasis placed on the etiology, anatomy, pathophysiology, clinical presentation, differential diagnosis, diagnostic methodology and treatment of major and minor medical conditions.

**Corequisites:** Take PY 520L

**Offered:** Every year, Fall

## **PY 506L. Clinical Correlation Lab. 0 Credits.**

Lab to accompany PY 506. (1 lab hr.)

**Prerequisites:** None

**Offered:** Every year, Fall

## **PY 507. Principles of Electrocardiography. 1 Credit.**

This course offers a directed approach to understanding the principles of electrocardiography and its applications to clinical practice. Throughout this course, general principles of the etiologies of abnormal EKG patterns, the differential diagnosis and clinical management are discussed to correlate the EKG with clinical situations.

**Prerequisites:** None

**Offered:** Every year, Summer

## **PY 507L. EKG Lab. 0 Credits.**

Lab to accompany PY 507. (1 lab hr.)

**Prerequisites:** None

**Offered:** Every year, Summer

## **PY 508. Diagnostic Methods I. 2 Credits.**

Clinical laboratory medicine is examined with emphasis on indications for tests, normal values, interpretation of results and correlation with clinical conditions. Laboratory sessions provide students with practical experience performing basic laboratory tests.

**Corequisites:** Take PY 508L.

**Offered:** Every year, Summer

## **PY 508L. Diagnostic Methods Lab. 0 Credits.**

Lab to accompany PY 508. (2 lab hrs.)

**Corequisites:** Take PY 508.

**Offered:** Every year, Summer

## **PY 509. Principles of Obstetrics and Gynecology. 3 Credits.**

This course gives the student an overview of commonly encountered obstetric and gynecologic disorders. Anatomy and physiology of the human reproductive system are examined, including the changes in pregnancy, prenatal care, medical and surgical complications of pregnancy, pre- and postpartum care. Common gynecologic conditions, methods and effectiveness of contraception, cancer detection methods and the diagnosis and treatment of sexually transmitted infections in the female are explored.

**Prerequisites:** None

**Offered:** Every year, Spring

## **PY 510. Principles of Pediatrics. 3 Credits.**

This course introduces and emphasizes aspects of general pediatrics, addressing issues unique to childhood and adolescence by focusing on human developmental biology, and by emphasizing the impact of family, community, and society on child health and well-being. Additionally, it focuses on the impact of disease and its treatment on the developing human, and emphasizes growth and development, principles of health supervision, and recognition of common health problems.

**Prerequisites:** None

**Offered:** Every year, Spring

## **PY 511. Principles of Surgery and Emergency Medicine. 4 Credits.**

The fundamentals of surgical disease are explored with discussions on the etiology, pathophysiology, clinical manifestations and appropriate management of major and minor surgical conditions and care of the acutely injured and critically ill patient. Topics are discussed with emphasis on clinical presentation and pre- and post-operative management. The course introduces the principles of life support technique and the initial management of acute medical and traumatic conditions. Laboratory sessions are used to familiarize the student with aseptic technique and basic surgical procedures such as airway control, various catheter placements, surgical bleeding control and wound management.

**Corequisites:** Take PY 511L.

**Offered:** Every year, Spring

## **PY 511L. Clinical Skill Lab. 0 Credits.**

This course explores the fundamentals of surgery and emergency medicine with a focus on several surgical subspecialties, peri-operative patient management, and acute patient care from an organ systems-based approach. Laboratory sessions align with lecture topics to reinforce surgical and emergency medicine clinical skills including aseptic technique, airway management, injections, catheter placements, orthopedic examination, immobilization techniques, and wound management.

**Corequisites:** Take PY 511.

**Offered:** Every year, Spring

**PY 512. Psychosocial Issues in Healthcare.****2 Credits.**

This course explores how social determinants of health, cultural belief systems, and social values influence health, illness, and the delivery of healthcare. Students examine societal and individual preconceptions and biases that enter clinical interaction and the provision of culturally competent care. Human sexuality and factors contributing to sexual expression and societal values that shape perception and expression are explored. Lab sessions help students develop confidence in approaching patients through preclinical clerkships. Students practice skills in history taking, physical exam, oral presentations, and medical documentation.

**Prerequisites:** None**Offered:** Every year, Spring**PY 512L. Psychosocial Issues Lab.****0 Credits.**

Lab to accompany PY 512. (2 lab hrs.)

**Prerequisites:** None**Offered:** Every year, Spring**PY 513. Behavioral Medicine.****3 Credits.**

This course gives students an overview of basic psychiatry and behavioral medicine that will be encountered by PAs. Topics include diagnosis and treatment of anxiety disorders, mood disorders, common child and adolescent disorders, somatoform and factitious disorders, psychotic disorders, sleep disorders, adjustment and personality disorders, and drug and alcohol abuse and addresses legal issues in behavioral health. Students will learn to understand the relationship between physical health issues, psychological issues, and well-being.

**Prerequisites:** None**PY 514. Diagnostic Methods II.****1 Credit.**

In this lecture/workshop course, radiographic images are presented for interpretation and discussion. The rationale for ordering various types of imaging studies are discussed and basic strategies for radiographic interpretation are discussed. Basic principles of x-ray production and radiation safety procedures are presented as well.

**Prerequisites:** None**PY 516. Clinical Pharmacology II.****2 Credits.**

This continuation of Clinical Pharmacology I emphasizes commonly prescribed therapeutic agents.

**Prerequisites:** None**Offered:** Every year, Spring**PY 518. Physical Diagnosis.****3 Credits.**

This 3-credit lecture course discusses the appropriate tools and techniques utilized when performing a complete physical examination. Students will develop an understanding of the pathophysiology behind the patient presentation and will synthesize the patient's history and physical exam findings for an accurate evaluation of the patient and will work to organize and report the objective findings in both written and oral formats.

**Prerequisites:** Take PY 503**Corequisites:** Take PY 518L**Offered:** Every year, Fall**PY 518L. Physical Diagnosis Lab.****1 Credit.**

This laboratory/pre-clinical clerkship course presents and explores the techniques for performing a complete and competent physical examination and organizing and reporting the findings in both written and oral format. The pre-clinical clerkships allow the student to gain experience and develop confidence in approaching patients prior to entering the clinical year. Instructional techniques include small group discussion, practical experience with other students and patients, and the observation and critique of physical examination, write-ups and oral presentations.

**Prerequisites:** Take PY 503.**Corequisites:** Take PY 518.**Offered:** Every year, Fall**PY 520L. Clinical Decision Making.****1 Credit.**

The purpose of this course is to reinforce materials taught in Principles of Internal Medicine and to provide clinical correlations by working through a case scenario, in either a simulation or seminar setting. Students develop critical thinking skills by working through a history, physical exam, laboratory tests and diagnostic studies, and developing a differential diagnosis for each case, which leads to a diagnosis so that the student can formulate a treatment plan.

**Prerequisites:** Take PY 550 and PY 521 and PY 521L.**Offered:** Every year, Fall**PY 521. Human Anatomy.****3 Credits.**

This lecture experience is meant to provide an environment for learning gross morphology of the human body including structural relationships, anatomical variations and clinical application. Approach to the material is both regional and systemic. Content includes the basic concepts of embryology, the comparison of normal and abnormal structural relationships and demonstration of how these things relate to health and disease. To meet the instructional goals and objectives, students attend lectures and review online reusable learning modules while making connections to concepts encountered in PY 521L.

**Corequisites:** Take PY 521L.**Offered:** Every year, Summer**PY 521L. Human Anatomy Lab.****2 Credits.**

This laboratory experience is meant provide an environment for learning gross morphology of the human body including structural relationships, anatomical variations and clinical application. Approach to the material will be both regional and systemic. To meet the instructional goals and objectives, students will complete cadaveric dissection as well as on-line learning modules.

**Corequisites:** Matriculation into the physician assistant radiology assistant program**Offered:** Every year, Summer**PY 522. PA Success Skills.****1 Credit.**

This course is intended to provide the newly matriculated graduate PA student with resources and tools to successfully navigate PA school with exposure to different teaching and learning styles. The synchronous component includes discussions and group work, and the asynchronous component includes an on-demand digital library created in collaboration with the Learning Commons which features professional videos supporting academic and life skill strategies pertaining to PA training, in a format that encourages proactive, self-guided study.

**Prerequisites:** None**Offered:** Every year, Summer

**PY 526. Principles of Epidemiology.****3 Credits.**

This graduate-level course in epidemiology directs itself toward application of epidemiological principles. The course involves analysis of prospective and retrospective studies, cross-sectional studies and experimental epidemiology. Both communicable and chronic disease case studies are used, as well as case studies of occupationally induced diseases.

**Prerequisites:** None**Offered:** Every year, Summer**PY 548. Ethics in Healthcare Delivery 1.****2 Credits.**

This course provides an overview of medical ethics, including ethical theories which lay the foundation for learning how to reason clearly, objectively, and effectively when addressing specific ethical issues in medicine and healthcare. This course aims to prepare students to identify ethical issues they may encounter during the clinical year and in clinical practice and provides a methodology for ethical decision making when faced with these issues, through the use of clinical case studies.

**Prerequisites:** None**Offered:** Every year, Summer**PY 550. Physiology and Pathophysiology for PA.****5 Credits.**

This five-credit lecture course will provide the physician assistant graduate student with an overview of human physiology with emphasis on the body's functional systems and will introduce basic pathophysiological explanations of human diseases.

**Prerequisites:** None**Offered:** Every year, Summer**PY 553. Transition to the Clinical Year.****1 Credit.**

This one-credit course will provide the physician assistant graduate student with expansion of applied technical skills, didactic review, and clinical correlation of challenging concepts in clinical medicine.

**Corequisites:** Matriculation into the graduate physician assistant program**Offered:** Every year, Summer**PY 572. Medical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases.****3 Credits.**

This course provides a detailed study of microorganisms and the diseases they cause in humans. It includes consideration of infectious disease microorganisms including their biochemical, serological and virulence characteristics, and clinical manifestations. An organ system approach is used to examine the fundamentals of pathogenicity, host response, epidemiological aspects of infectious disease, as well as patient presentation, diagnosis, and treatment of infections.

**Prerequisites:** None**Offered:** Every year, Fall**PY 608. Graduate Seminar.****3 Credits.**

This seminar prepares students for the specific requirements of entering professional practice. Faculty active in the profession cover such issues as malpractice coverage, licensure regulation, risk management and legal issues, and aspects of the financing of health care. Lab sessions are designed as small group seminars. Through guided discussion in these small seminar settings, students explore the current literature and thinking on the competencies for the physician assistant profession.

**Corequisites:** Take PY 608L.**Offered:** Every year, Summer**PY 608L. Graduate Seminar Lab.****0 Credits.**

This seminar prepares students for the specific requirements of entering professional practice. The course covers topics such as malpractice coverage, licensure regulation, certification, risk management and legal issues, and aspects of financing of health care. Lab sessions are designed as small group seminars. Through guided discussion in these small seminar settings, students explore the current literature and thinking on the professionalism competencies for the physician assistant profession. Lab to accompany PY 608. (1.5 lab hrs.)

**Corequisites:** Take PY 608.**Offered:** Every year, Summer**PY 611. Clinical Residency I.****3 Credits.**

Upon successful completion of the didactic phase, students undertake an intensive course of study requiring the application of skills and concepts acquired during previous course work. Students rotate through seven six-week core clinical disciplines and two four-week electives at varying sites and settings. Core rotations include primary care (3-weeks family medicine and 3-weeks outpatient internal medicine), inpatient internal medicine, general surgery, emergency medicine, women's health, pediatrics, and psychiatry. Electives include a variety of medical, surgical, and pediatric subspecialties.

**Prerequisites:** None**Offered:** Every year, Summer**PY 612. Clinical Residency II.****3 Credits.**

Upon successful completion of the didactic phase, students undertake an intensive course of study requiring the application of skills and concepts acquired during previous course work. Students rotate through seven six-week core clinical disciplines and two four-week electives at varying sites and settings. Core rotations include primary care (3-weeks family medicine and 3-weeks outpatient internal medicine), inpatient internal medicine, general surgery, emergency medicine, women's health, pediatrics, and psychiatry. Electives include a variety of medical, surgical, and pediatric subspecialties.

**Prerequisites:** None**Offered:** Every year, Summer**PY 613. Clinical Residency III.****3 Credits.**

Upon successful completion of the didactic phase, students undertake an intensive course of study requiring the application of skills and concepts acquired during previous course work. Students rotate through seven six-week core clinical disciplines and two four-week electives at varying sites and settings. Core rotations include primary care (3-weeks family medicine and 3-weeks outpatient internal medicine), inpatient internal medicine, general surgery, emergency medicine, women's health, pediatrics, and psychiatry. Electives include a variety of medical, surgical, and pediatric subspecialties.

**Prerequisites:** None**Offered:** Every year, Summer**PY 614. Clinical Residency IV.****3 Credits.**

Upon successful completion of the didactic phase, students undertake an intensive course of study requiring the application of skills and concepts acquired during previous course work. Students rotate through seven six-week core clinical disciplines and two four-week electives at varying sites and settings. Core rotations include primary care (3-weeks family medicine and 3-weeks outpatient internal medicine), inpatient internal medicine, general surgery, emergency medicine, women's health, pediatrics, and psychiatry. Electives include a variety of medical, surgical, and pediatric subspecialties.

**Prerequisites:** None**Offered:** Every year, Fall

**PY 615. Clinical Residency V.****3 Credits.**

Upon successful completion of the didactic phase, students undertake an intensive course of study requiring the application of skills and concepts acquired during previous course work. Students rotate through seven six-week core clinical disciplines and two four-week electives at varying sites and settings. Core rotations include primary care (3-weeks family medicine and 3-weeks outpatient internal medicine), inpatient internal medicine, general surgery, emergency medicine, women's health, pediatrics, and psychiatry. Electives include a variety of medical, surgical, and pediatric subspecialties.

**Prerequisites:** None**Offered:** Every year, Fall**PY 616. Clinical Residency VI.****3 Credits.**

Upon successful completion of the didactic phase, students undertake an intensive course of study requiring the application of skills and concepts acquired during previous course work. Students rotate through seven six-week core clinical disciplines and two four-week electives at varying sites and settings. Core rotations include primary care (3-weeks family medicine and 3-weeks outpatient internal medicine), inpatient internal medicine, general surgery, emergency medicine, women's health, pediatrics, and psychiatry. Electives include a variety of medical, surgical, and pediatric subspecialties.

**Prerequisites:** None**Offered:** Every year, Fall**PY 617. Clinical Residency VII.****3 Credits.**

Upon successful completion of the didactic phase, students undertake an intensive course of study requiring the application of skills and concepts acquired during previous course work. Students rotate through seven six-week core clinical disciplines and two four-week electives at varying sites and settings. Core rotations include primary care (3-weeks family medicine and 3-weeks outpatient internal medicine), inpatient internal medicine, general surgery, emergency medicine, women's health, pediatrics, and psychiatry. Electives include a variety of medical, surgical, and pediatric subspecialties.

**Prerequisites:** None**Offered:** Every year, Spring**PY 618. Clinical Residency VIII.****3 Credits.**

Upon successful completion of the didactic phase, students undertake an intensive course of study requiring the application of skills and concepts acquired during previous course work. Students rotate through seven six-week core clinical disciplines and two four-week electives at varying sites and settings. Core rotations include primary care (3-weeks family medicine and 3-weeks outpatient internal medicine), inpatient internal medicine, general surgery, emergency medicine, women's health, pediatrics, and psychiatry. Electives include a variety of medical, surgical, and pediatric subspecialties.

**Prerequisites:** None**Offered:** Every year, Spring**PY 619. Clinical Residency IX.****3 Credits.**

Upon successful completion of the didactic phase, students undertake an intensive course of study requiring the application of skills and concepts acquired during previous course work. Students rotate through seven six-week core clinical disciplines and two four-week electives at varying sites and settings. Core rotations include primary care (3-weeks family medicine and 3-weeks outpatient internal medicine), inpatient internal medicine, general surgery, emergency medicine, women's health, pediatrics, and psychiatry. Electives include a variety of medical, surgical, and pediatric subspecialties.

**Prerequisites:** None**Offered:** Every year, Spring**PY 648. Ethics in Health Care Delivery II.****1 Credit.**

This 1-credit course occurs in the third summer after the student completes their clinical rotations. The course is a continuation of the PY 548 Ethics in Health Care I. The purpose of the course is to reinforce a framework of ethical decision-making which enables the student to reason clearly and effectively about the ethics involved in medical science and technology and reflect on ethical issues encountered during the clinical year. Student experiences encountered during their clinical year are used to exemplify the theoretical course material.

**Prerequisites:** None**Offered:** Every year, Summer**PY 652. Medical Writing & Biostatistics for PA.****3 Credits.**

This course introduces biostatistics, evidence-based medicine, as well as critical review and application of evidence to clinical decision-making. Students learn to construct clinical questions and perform literature searches. Methods for critically appraising the literature and strategies for maintaining currency of medical knowledge through journal clubs are practiced. Review of basic techniques of medical writing and presentation allow students to develop presentations, posters, and journal articles while incorporating peer review feedback.

**Prerequisites:** None**Offered:** Every year, Summer**PY 676. Comprehensive Examination.****2 Credits.**

This comprehensive examination is a capstone of the physician assistant program. Its purpose is to ascertain if the student has both the broad and specific knowledge expected of someone holding a master's degree and is able to integrate knowledge obtained from individual courses into unified concepts for patient care. Evaluations include a professionalism evaluation, a written examination and an Objective Score of Clinical Evaluation (OSCE).

**Prerequisites:** None**Offered:** Every year, Summer