



**THE GEORGE
WASHINGTON
UNIVERSITY**

WASHINGTON, DC

REQUIRED CLINICAL COURSE DETAILS AND DESCRIPTIONS

Updated course information can be found in the MD Course Catalog and Syllabi

CURRICULAR PHASE II: Fundamentals of Clinical Practice

INTERNAL MEDICINE (MED 305) – 10 credits

The purpose of the medicine clerkship is to facilitate the development of the clinical skills, knowledge, and professional behaviors that students need to evaluate and provide supervised care for adult hospitalized patients. The focus is on inpatient history and physical examinations, clinical reasoning, and comprehensive study during rounds, consultations, conferences, standardized patient exercises, and seminars. This is a required eight-week clerkship and all students spend four weeks at two sites including The George Washington University Hospital, Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Anne Arundel Medical Center, or Sinai Hospital.

PRIMARY CARE (MED 301) – 5 credits

The primary care-focused ambulatory care clerkship is a four-week primary care-focused, immersive learning experience designed to help students acquire the knowledge, clinical skills, and professional behaviors necessary to develop specific competencies needed for the evaluation and care for patients in the ambulatory/primary care setting. On this required clerkship, students are guided by careful and consistent supervision and feedback from GW faculty at outpatient sites at GW and around the region.

LONGITUDINAL PRIMARY CARE CLERKSHIP (LPCC) (MED 302) – 3 credits

The LPCC is a longitudinal experience to enhance learning of the evaluation and management of common primary care symptoms and diagnoses, to increase the understanding of the role and interaction between primary care and specialty care providers, and to increase the understanding of the role of continuity of care and the preceptor's art of longitudinal care of patients. Each student on this required clerkship will be placed with a general internist, family medicine physician, pediatrician, and/or geriatrician for a total of 10-12 clinical half-day sessions occurring every other week over 23 weeks during the clerkship year. There are also asynchronous learning modules.

OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY (OB&G 303) – 8 credits

The purpose of the OB-GYN clerkship is to introduce medical students to the basic principles of women's health care including the diagnosis and management of common medical and surgical obstetric and gynecologic conditions that occur in a woman's lifespan. Students develop basic skills related to the female reproductive system. This is a required six-week clerkship. Third-year medical students participate in both inpatient and outpatient care in obstetrical and gynecological

clinics, labor and delivery, daily departmental conferences, and inpatient rounds. Students are placed at The George Washington University Hospital, INOVA-Alexandria, Holy Cross Hospital, Anne Arundel, and/or Sinai Hospital.

PEDIATRICS (PED 303) – 10 credits

The purpose of the pediatrics clerkship is to facilitate the development of the clinical skills, knowledge, and professional behaviors that students need to evaluate and care for infants, children, and adolescents in supervised inpatient, outpatient, and nursery settings. The scope includes pediatric health maintenance and the care of pediatric inpatients and outpatients with acute and chronic illnesses. This is a required eight-week clerkship. Third-year medical students participate as part of interprofessional inpatient teams, outpatient offices, and in the well-baby nursery, under supervision. The clerkship is comprised of a four-week inpatient experience at Children's National Hospital or Sinai Hospital, and three weeks of an outpatient clinical experience and one week in the newborn nursery at The George Washington University Hospital or Holy Cross Hospital. There is a focus on clinical reasoning, professionalism, reflection, and family-centered care.

PSYCHIATRY (PCHI 302) – 8 credits

The purpose of the psychiatry clerkship is to facilitate the development of the clinical skills, knowledge, and professional behaviors that students need in order to evaluate and care for patients with psychiatric conditions in inpatient and outpatient settings, under supervision. This is a required six-week clerkship for third-year medical students focusing on the supervised examination, diagnosis, and treatment of psychiatric patients at The George Washington University Hospital; St. Elizabeth's Hospital; Children's National Hospital; Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Washington, DC or Martinsburg, West Virginia; Northern Virginia Mental Health Institute; Psychiatric Institute of Washington; Sinai Hospital; or Anne Arundel's McNew Center. There are case conferences, seminars on psychiatric referral, psychiatric drugs, and community resources, standardized patient experiences, and an emphasis on psychiatry in primary care practice.

SURGERY (SURG 303) – 10 credits

The purpose of the surgery clerkship is to facilitate the development of the clinical skills, knowledge, and professional behaviors that students need in order to evaluate and care for patients with surgical conditions in inpatient and outpatient settings, under supervision. This required eight-week clerkship for third-year medical students is comprised of two four-week experiences on general surgical teams at The George Washington University Hospital, Children's National Hospital, Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Sinai Hospital, or Anne Arundel, including general surgery, minimally invasive, bariatric, foregut, hepatobiliary and pancreas, surgical oncology, trauma, acute care surgery, cardiothoracic, transplant, vascular, colon and rectal, breast, and/or pediatric surgical care.

INTERSESSIONS III (IDIS 333) and IV (IDIS 334) – 2 credits each

The purpose of the Intersession III and IV courses is to bring students who have been separated on different rotations and at different locations together to explore further clinical and thematic issues applicable across specialty fields, solidifying existing knowledge and integrating new content. In addition, the Intersession III course provides opportunities for Clinical Public Health

activities as well as reconnecting students with their classmates in a small group setting, including activities related to continued professional development. Finally, the Intersession III and IV weeks include symposia where students revisit basic science principles by examining current critical clinical and public health issues and hot topics with leading experts from GW and the nation. The Intersession IV week also helps prepare students for the fourth year and the next curricular phase (Transition to Advanced Clinical Practice).

CURRICULAR PHASE III: Transition to Advanced Clinical Practice

NEUROSCIENCE CLERKSHIP (NEUR 380) – 5 credits

The purpose of this required four-week course is to facilitate the development of the clinical skills, knowledge, and professional behaviors that students need in order to evaluate and provide supervised care for patients with neurological conditions such as transient alterations of neurological function, changes in mental status, weakness, headache, numbness or paresthesias, and neurologic emergencies. Students will focus on honing neurological examination and localization skills, and learn to diagnose and treat patients with neurological disorders in a supervised setting at their assigned site. The course also provides a lumbar puncture simulation session, required reading, student didactic sessions, and departmental teaching conferences. Students on the neuroscience clerkship may rotate with adult neurology, pediatric neurology, adult neurosurgery, or pediatric neurosurgery. *This course can be taken in Clinical Year 3 or 4.*

INTRODUCTION TO ANESTHESIOLOGY (ANES 302) – 3 credits

The purpose of this required two-week rotation is to introduce the specialty of anesthesiology, including anesthetic preoperative evaluation and the preoperative physiologic effects of anesthetic agents, IV placement and airway management, and various modalities for treating post-operative pain. The anesthesia course requirement can also be met through a four-week experience: Anesthesia Sub Internship (ANES 380) – 5 credits. *This course can be taken in Clinical Year 3 or 4.*

TRANSITION TO RESIDENCY (IDIS 240 and IDIS 241) – 5 credits

The purpose of this four-week capstone course is to provide senior students with the opportunity to enhance the skills necessary to transition to being successful interns and to develop specialty-specific competencies. There is a mix of case-based conferences and simulations including clinical skills such as case-based admission order writing, critical care simulation, and ultrasound-guided IV in a simulated setting. During this intensive transition experience, students refine many technical skills and the clinical competencies are reinforced. Students are grouped by future specialty for much of this course, receiving direct mentorship from faculty physicians in their specialty, as they prepare to transition to residency.

FOURTH-YEAR SELECTIVES:

EMERGENCY MEDICINE (EMED 302) or PEDIATRIC EMERGENCY MEDICINE (PED 405) – 5 credits

The purpose of these Emergency Medicine courses is to facilitate the development of the clinical skills, knowledge, and professional behaviors that students need in order to evaluate and provide supervised care for patients in the emergency department with a focus on rapid assessment, triage, plan for stabilization, treatment, and disposition, communication, and professionalism.

During this required four-week rotation students take a required number of clinical shifts (day, evening, and night shifts) for EMED 302 at The George Washington University Hospital Emergency Department, and the Veterans Affairs Medical Center Emergency Department or the United Medical Center if available, and for PED 405 at Children's National Hospital. These are high-acuity, high-volume departments. Students function at a senior student level with responsibility for patient care under the direct supervision of the faculty and trainees. There is a boot camp including a wound care lab, simulation sessions, interactive didactics, readings, and departmental teaching conferences. There is an exam and an Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE) at the end.

ACTING INTERNSHIP* (AI): All students are required to successfully complete a four-week AI in Medicine, Pediatrics, Surgery, Critical Care Medicine, or Family Medicine, as follows:

MEDICINE ACTING INTERNSHIP:

Acting Internship in Medicine at GWUH (MED 332) or VAMC (MED 334) – 5 credits respectively

The purpose of the Acting Internship in medicine is to provide a structured clinical experience in the expansive field of internal medicine and sub-specialty areas necessary for the care of the hospitalized patient. It is designed to be a well-supervised educational experience that augments the cognitive and technical clinical skills attained during the third-year medicine clerkship. The student will function as an acting intern and will conduct patient evaluations, engage in supervised order entry and prescription writing, retrieve evidence to advance patient care, perform patient handovers, and collaborate as an integral member of an interprofessional team. In addition to self-directed learning, regularly focused student didactics, intern conferences, and bedside teaching during ward rounds are organized to provide a well-rounded educational experience. Students can opt for this four-week selective at The George Washington University Hospital (GWUH) or the Veterans Affairs Medical Center (VAMC).

PEDIATRIC ACTING INTERNSHIP:

Pediatric Acting Internships on inpatient teams (PED 361, 362, 364); PHAST (PED 366); or Pediatric Critical Care Unit (PED 379) – 5 credits respectively

The purpose of the four-week Acting Internship in pediatrics is to improve and build upon those cognitive and clinical skills attained during the third-year pediatric clerkship with a focus on inpatient pediatrics as part of a team. There is an emphasis on clinical reasoning, communication, evidenced-based assessment and plans, self-directed learning, and professionalism. There is an overnight call experience during one week on the resident night float team. Note: PED 379 is within the Pediatric Critical Care Unit.

SURGERY ACTING INTERNSHIP:

Surgery Acting Internship on inpatient teams (SURG 380, 382, 383, 388, 400, or 402) – 5 credits respectively

The purpose of the four-week Acting Internship in general surgery is to improve and build upon those cognitive and technical clinical skills attained during the third-year surgical clerkship with a focus on the comprehensive care of the general surgical patient and/or surgical patient on the oncological, colorectal, thoracic, minimally invasive, breast, vascular, transplant, or trauma teams. Significant time is spent in the operating room, ICU, and wards. Students receive

individual attention from attending and senior residents with a focus on independent learning and management of ward and ICU patients and taking a role in teaching and mentoring supervision of third-year medical students.

CRITICAL CARE MEDICINE ACTING INTERNSHIP:

Intensive Care Unit (ANES 384) – 5 credits

The purpose of the four-week Intensive Care Unit Acting Internship in critical care medicine is to provide a multidisciplinary experience in the critical care of surgical and medical patients, supervised by critical care attendings and fellows. The student as acting intern improves and builds upon those cognitive and technical clinical skills attained during the third-year clerkships and learns how to evaluate and initiate treatment of the critically ill adult, including airway and ventilator management, resuscitation of shock, hemodynamic evaluation and interpretation, cardiovascular support, renal replacement therapy, nutritional support, use of blood component therapy, peri-operative management, and additional procedural skills. Night call is five times per month. Teaching occurs at the bedside, as well as through didactics, daily x-ray rounds, and other collaborative teaching exercises.

FAMILY MEDICINE ACTING INTERNSHIP:

Family Medicine Acting Internship (IDIS 390) – 5 credits

The purpose of the Acting Internship in family medicine is to provide a structured clinical experience on an inpatient family medicine service for the student to gain skills necessary for the care of the hospitalized patient on a family medicine service, building on skills attained in all third-year coursework. The student will function as an acting intern and will conduct patient evaluations, engage in supervised order entry and prescription writing, retrieve evidence to advance patient care, perform patient handovers, and collaborate as an integral member of an interprofessional family medicine team. This is an extramural (away) course that the student identifies and applies for via the AAMC's Visiting Student Learning Opportunities (VSLO) portal, and must be predominantly inpatient on a family medicine service to meet the GW Acting Internship graduation requirement.