

PRE-CLINICAL ELECTIVES

BIOC 0900 Frontiers in Medical Biochemistry. This elective provides an opportunity for students to have direct access to the forefront of medical research in biochemistry. Whether students will pursue the research track in their future careers or not, they will learn how basic research is carried out. The study of how scientists approach research problems, solve them, and further develop new frontiers is crucial for future physicians to comprehend human diseases and evolving approaches to treating them. This course will also provide opportunities for MD students to consider the MD/PhD track.

ECM 0902 Health Care Organization and Administration. The goals of this elective are to increase participant's knowledge of: (1) the current issues of health care administration and policy making; (2) relevant community health issues specifically affecting the greater New Brunswick area; and (3) the roles and expertise of various Robert Wood Johnson Medical School faculty as they relate to health care organization and administration.

FMED 0902 Emergency Room Elective. This elective experience is primarily observational. Students are assigned to a local emergency room on selected evenings and participate in noontime presentations on pertinent topics in emergency medicine. Successful completion requires a minimum of ten evening sessions, attendance of at least seven of the monthly lectures, and submission of a final evaluation form.

FMED 0904 HIPHOP: St. John's Clinic. This elective combines additional clinical experience, teaching practice, and a chance to research some common public health problems. You will be expected to attend three HIPHOP clinics per week. At the clinics, you will be giving presentations to the first-year students who are participating in HIPHOP to fulfill their Introduction to the Patient class. You will also act as team leader, perform a history and physical on two or three patients and present the case to the physician preceptor.

FMED 0907 HIPHOP: AIDS Education. Through this elective, medical students will present single-session workshops at such local sites as schools, community centers, and church groups. The focus of these workshops will be on HIV education and prevention, including modes of HIV transmission, abstinence and other methods of protection, and social issues related to the AIDS epidemic.

FMED 0908 Alternative and Complementary Medicine. Students will attend a series of presentations given at lunchtime which will survey various complementary medicine principles and practices. Talks will be given by both faculty members and non-faculty practitioners. Presentations will be interactive, experiential, and will focus on the historical and theoretical basis of each practice, available research on safety and efficacy, application and integration of the modalities, and on cost issues. Participants will also have the option of completing a focused field project related to complementary medicine.

FMED 0909 HIPHOP: Maternity Program. This elective will help you gain clinical experience and also give back to the community. On the clinic day you will be paired-up with an expectant “Mom” and attend routine pre-natal care visits, specialized visits like ultrasounds and genetic counseling and the delivery. You are required to attend a minimum of nine clinic appointments with your assigned patient.

FMED 0910 Issues in Women’s Health. The goals of this elective are to increase student awareness about abortion, reproductive health and other women’s health issues and to expand student access to medical educational resources that address these topics. The objectives will be to make informed decisions about contraception and pregnancy, gain practical knowledge about counseling, surgical and medical abortion and contraception, and to explore students’ personal feelings about how women’s reproductive health will fit into their clinical training and future practice.

FMED 0911 HIPHOP: Cancer Outreach (CARE). This elective seeks to provide support for specific patients undergoing long term cancer treatment and to introduce the student to clinical, social and personal aspects of long term cancer therapy. In addition to attending a minimum of nine group discussions, students will be required to attend a minimum of nine clinic visits with his or her assigned patient.

MDC 0901 Geriatric Issues. Senior RWJ Medical School Faculty specialized in either geriatric medicine or geriatric psychiatry will offer students a series of nine lunchtime lectures. Students will have the opportunity to “shadow” any of the faculty in a variety of clinical and community settings. Attendance at six lectures or five lectures and one clinical site experience will meet the minimum requirements of the elective.

MDC 0905 Preventive Health Elective: Issues in Personal Prevention. The elective consists of weekly lunchtime sessions, which include faculty moderated student discussions, role-playing, skills workshops, and information dissemination. The purpose of this elective is to introduce medical students to preventive ideology, while facilitating personal preventive behaviors. While knowledge is essential to the practice of prevention, a healthy physician is most likely to advocate prevention. This elective focuses on student wellness. Regularly scheduled wellness topics include: stress management, relaxation, relationships and social support, substance abuse and nutrition.

MDC 0910 Preventive Health Elective: Issues in Clinical Prevention. The elective consists of weekly lunchtime sessions, which include faculty moderated student discussions, role-playing, skills workshops, and information dissemination. This elective focuses primarily on preventive concepts and practical application. Regularly scheduled topics include: domestic violence, public health aspects of substance abuse, cultural diversity, and health risk factors.

MDC 0915 Medical Spanish. Students learn conversational Spanish for use in medical interviewing and patient communication. There are 12 sessions offered over the academic year. Students must attend at least nine sessions.

MDC 0917 Laurie Neurodevelopment. An elective which provides an opportunity for students to interact with, and learn about developmental disabilities. The elective requires participation in a minimum number of visits with a family that has a child with a developmental disability. Students are required to assist at an annual event and must attend a minimum number of lectures on development disabilities sponsored by the elective each year.

MDC 0919 International Health. The goal of this elective is to raise awareness and appreciation for issues in international health. The objective is for students to understand some issues in international health by attending a series of lectures. These lectures will include topics such as: vaccinations, anthropology, maternal and child health, opportunities for students and physicians in international health, and public health issues. By attending lectures, the students will gain a greater appreciation for their diverse patients and their respective countries of origin.

MDC 0920 Clinical Neuroscience. This elective provides a forum for the exploration of interests in the fields of neurology, psychiatry, neuropsychiatry, as well as sub-specialties within these fields and to promote an awareness of developmental disabilities and their pertinent issues through the Laurie Neurodevelopmental Program. The objective is to offer exposure to academic medicine and research in the clinical neurosciences.

MDC 0921 Health Education and Living Positively (H.E.L.P.). H.E.L.P. is an interactive learning model designed to provide an additional way for medical students to serve the community by educating middle and high school students about current health issues. In addition to this the medical student will be a mentor for these students. Medical students will meet the curriculum requirements by developing and supervising projects based upon their clinical teaching and interpersonal skills. In turn, middle and high school students from the North and South Brunswick school systems will participate by doing “hands-on” research and presenting their findings in projects using resources that medical students help to provide; the middle and high school students will then demonstrate what they learn to their group and ultimately educate their peers.

MDC 0922 Adolescent Substance Abuse Prevention (ASAP) Program. This program (an AMSA program) is a comprehensive, community service project aimed at adolescent students that teaches about the body systems and how they can be damaged by substance abuse. It incorporates visual aids (including real health and diseased organs), factual information, and ideas on how to deal with peer pressure in an effort to present the students with the tools to make an informed decision. All information is presented in a non-threatening way and small group discussions are utilized as much as possible (eliminating “lecturing”).

MDC 0926 Deafness, Doctors, and American Sign Language 1. The purpose of this elective is to learn the basics of American Sign Language in a conversational format. This elective will include: (1) an introduction to the concepts and use of ASL with

people who are deaf or hard of hearing in the community, (2) meeting and socializing with individuals with hearing losses, (3) instruction in the use of ASL in the medical setting, and (4) will give students a basic understanding of the cultural differences between people who are deaf or hard of hearing and people without hearing loss.

MDC 0927 Culturally Competent Physician. This elective focuses on preparing physicians for America's "melting pot" of cultures, ideas and beliefs. The goal of this elective is to help physicians develop a greater rapport with patients by understanding their needs, thoughts, and beliefs. Recognizing that a patient's attitude stems from his/her cultural influences is a large component to reaching a healthy doctor-patient relationship. Through a variety of lectures, this elective is designed to pique interests and start the dialogue so that medical students can learn more about the populations whom they will serve.

MDC 0928 Peer Education: Physical Diagnosis and Anatomy. This elective will serve to educate second year medical students to be teachers of physical diagnosis skills to their peers. In this elective, not only will second year students refresh their anatomy knowledge and gain valuable teaching skills, but first year students will gain a clinical basis for the knowledge gained in their anatomy course.

MDC 0929 History of Medicine. This course was designed and written by a NJ clinician-historian. At weekly sessions, approximately 10-12 themes in the history of medicine will be discussed by instructor and students. A brief presentation by the instructor will set the scene. The instructor has prepared a series of primary and secondary documents illustrating each theme. Students will select a document or article to examine, bringing his or her own perspective to the reading and illustrations. In the final segment of each class, each student will present to the group his or her selected document, perhaps reading a passage or offering a brief summary. Students will come away from the course with a broad view of American medical history as well as a knowledge of their own particular heritage as New Jersey doctors.

MDC 0930 Medical Humanities. The goal of this elective is to relate the humanities to medicine with the purpose of increasing medical students' sensitivity to the complexities of total patient care. It is hoped that the conversations begun in the elective can serve as the foundation of further dialogue that may help broaden the scope of medical education. The elective has thus been designed to serve as an encounter with issues that often do not have another forum for discussion.

MDC 0931 Issues in Community Medicine

MDC 0932 Physician's Business Elective

MDC 0933 Research Studies. This lecture series is for students interested in research. Students will learn more about research being done by the faculty in preparation for summer research projects. Students will attend 6 to 10 lunchtime sessions where professors give 15-minute presentations about their research. There

will be three faculty presentations per session, with time at the end for questions. For a practical experience, see MDC 0934, Research Studies Practicum.

MDC 0934 Research Studies Practicum. Students who successfully complete the fall Research Studies elective can choose to work in someone's laboratory or with a research group for one afternoon per week, at a minimum of two times a month. Students may attend the laboratory session of more than one research mentor.

MED 0900 Internal Medicine. This elective will: (1) provide the students with an appreciation for Internal Medicine including its general approach to patient care; (2) introduce students to the numerous subspecialties of Internal Medicine; (3) facilitate doctor shadowing experiences so that students can learn first hand about the work done by internists; (4) inform students about the training required to become an internist; (5) avail students with a forum to ask attending physicians and physicians-in-training about various aspects of practicing Internal Medicine; and, (6) open up opportunities for students to pursue research related to Internal Medicine.

MCMB 0001 Current Problems in Microbiology and Immunology. This elective is designed for students with some background in molecular genetics or microbiology and offers an opportunity to survey and discuss some recent developments in the field. Each topic is discussed at two meetings of the course, first by one of the departmental faculty who describes some of their own current research and its relation to medicine, and, subsequently, in a general discussion session. No formal presentations by students are required.

OBG 0900 Obstetrics and Gynecology. Participation in this elective will allow students a chance to get to know residents, nurses, attending physicians and basic researchers in Obstetrics and Gynecology Departments of Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital and St. Peter's University Hospital. It will provide an opportunity for students to come together and explore their common interest in the specialty through interactions with the representatives of the field, and various workshops pertaining to the field. Students will need to participate in six out of eight lectures.

PEDS 0900 Community Child Health. This course is an introduction to clinical pediatrics. Students attend, once weekly, pediatric clinics at the Chandler Health Center in New Brunswick or St. Peter's University Hospital and are also assigned to selected private practitioner's offices in the vicinity of the medical school. They have the opportunity to observe and participate in well child and disease oriented pediatric practices. In addition, weekly lunch time seminars review the pediatric history and physical examination, preventive pediatrics, the nature and management of common pediatric diseases, approaches to the doctor-patient relationship with children and their families, and social aspects of health in growing humans.

PEDS 0901 Pediatric Interest Group. This elective is designed to increase student exposure to issues surrounding pediatric health care and expand the availability of resources and contacts in this field. Students will (1) gain a better understanding of the

unique clinical/social/political responsibilities facing the pediatrician; (2) gain practical knowledge about pediatric health care; and (3) develop a forum to explore ways to address the medical needs of children in their own future practices. In addition to attending a series of lectures available throughout the year, students will have the opportunity to shadow a physician in their specific area of interest.

PSYC 0900 Addictive Diseases. This elective supplements the material presented during the second year Behavioral Science class. Addictive disease is an area that virtually every student will encounter, regardless of the specialty that they choose to pursue. By providing education and personal accounts of individuals in recovery, the student will gain insight into the disease process, the treatment available, and the most effective approaches in order to help their patients to the best of their abilities.

SURG 0901 Non-Credit Elective in Surgery. The primary goal of the Surgery Elective is to introduce 2nd year students to the basics of common surgical diseases and provide exposure to the clinical skills that will be obtained over the course of the 3rd year. The elective will also provide students in their 4th year an opportunity to present common surgical diseases and their proper management and lead clinical skill sessions under appropriate supervision.