PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT (PHAS)

PHAS 620 PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT PROFESSIONAL ISSUES 1 Credit Hour
This course is designed to introduce students to the physician assistant profession through the use of lectures, selected readings, examinations and written assignments. Students will gain an understanding of the role of the PA on the health care team and the responsibilities of being a health care professional. Attention will be focused on professionalism. Information will be presented about the history of the profession, professional organizations, competency-based PA education, practicing patterns, credentialing certification. Additional topics will include health care economics and future directions of the PA profession.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program.
Typically Offered: FALL

PHAS 630 CLINICAL SKILLS I 3 Credit Hours
This course is designed to provide instruction and practice in the fundamental clinical skills necessary for patient care, with a primary focus on performance of a complete physical examination of patients throughout the lifespan. There will be weekly lectures as well as instruction and practice in a small group setting, focusing on physical examination skills. Summative evaluation will include the student demonstrating mastery of a complete physical examination.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program.
Typically Offered: SPRING

PHAS 632 COMMUNICATION IN MEDICINE I 2 Credit Hours
This course is designed to provide students the skills necessary to become proficient in communication including verbal communication, non-verbal communication, and medical writing skills. Communication is recognized as a core component in the practice of medicine. Communication bridges the gap between evidence-based medicine and the patient.
Research has shown that good communication between provider and patient results in improved patient outcomes by more accurate diagnosis, increased patient adherence, increased provider job satisfaction, and decreased malpractice claims. To effectively build communication skills, the course will address the basic fundamentals and integrate these skills into the clinical curriculum. This method will allow the student to reiterate the learned skills and take them to higher complexity levels throughout the educational program.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program.
Typically Offered: SPRING

PHAS 635 CLINICAL SKILLS II 3 Credit Hours
Clinical Skills II is a continuation of Clinical Skills I. Technical skills and procedures necessary for patient care are taught, including: Suturing and surgical knot-tying; advanced musculoskeletal examination techniques; simple dermatologic procedures; cast application and removal; splinting; intravenous access; injection techniques; phlebotomy; gowning, gloving, sterile technique and a general orientation to the operating room.
Students are provided with an introduction to many common office-based and hospital-based procedures through lecture and video and assigned readings. Students must also successfully complete Basic Life Support (BLS), Advanced Cardiopulmonary Life Support (ACLS) and Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) as a part of this course.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program.
Typically Offered: SUM/FALL

PHAS 637 COMMUNICATION MEDICINE II 1 Credit Hour
This course is designed to allow students to build on the medical communication skills that were presented in Communication in Medicine I. Students will continue to improve their competency in the areas of verbal communication, non-verbal communication, and medical writing skills. Patient education and counseling skills will be presented. Communication is a core component in the practice of medicine and it is critical that medical providers become proficient at this task. This course will challenge the student to integrate the skills learned in CIM I and take them to higher complexity levels. There will be significant emphasis placed on communication necessary for interdisciplinary care. The skills learned in this course will be integrated into the clinical curriculum, thereby allowing the student to become more familiar with medical communication. Students are given opportunities to carry out case presentations in small groups in preparation for the clinical phase of their education.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program.
Typically Offered: SUM/FALL

PHAS 645 BEHAVIORAL MEDICINE 3 Credit Hours
The Behavioral Medicine course will present an introduction to the neurobiological, psychobiological, social, and emotional influences on health and illness in the practice of primary care medicine. The material is presented in a lecture-based format with some small group work. Learning is assessed through a variety of methods including, but not limited to, exams, papers, journals, research, and community activities.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program.
Typically Offered: SUM/FALL

PHAS 650 ADULT AND PEDIATRIC MEDICINE I 8 Credit Hours
The Med/Peds I course is design ed to expose students to the most common medical and surgical conditions that are seen in primary care practice and to prepare pre-clinical students for a more in-depth study of medicine in the second part of the course and for their clinical clerkships in Phase II of the PA Program and lay the foundation for the life-long process of self-directed education in medicine. The course will consist of lectures, discussions, assigned readings, problem-based learning cases, quizzes and examinations during the Spring Semester. Selected topics from the following organ systems will be covered in this course: pediatrics, dermatologic system, head and neck, immunology, otolaryngology, ophthalmology, pulmonary system, cardiovascular system, musculoskeletal system, neurologic system, reproductive system, genitourinary system, endocrine system, hematologic system, surgery and emergency medicine. Many important topics will be covered by lecture. Most of these will be presented by the Physician Assistant program core faculty, although some topics will be presented by guest lecturers who are clinicians with expertise in a particular area of study.
It is impossible, however, to cover all essential topics adequately in a lecture format. Assigned readings are important adjuncts to supplement the lecture material, and will also cover other topics not presented in lecture. This process of self-directed learning will be vitally important during your clinical rotations, in preparation for the National Board Examination, and in developing good reading and study habits for life-long learning.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program.
Typically Offered: SPRING
PHAS 655 ADULT AND PEDIATRIC MEDICINE II 9 Credit Hours
The Adult and Pediatric Medicine II course is designed to be a continuation of Adult and Pediatric Medicine I serving to introduce and reinforce the process of clinical decision making and the procedures involved in the diagnosis, treatment and follow-up of common diseases and disorders in adults and children in the practice of clinical medicine. Emphasis will also be given to the strategies and methods of disease prevention and the promotion of healthy lifestyles through the lifespan. The course also serves to lay the foundation for the life-long process of self-directed education in medicine.
Typically Offered: SUMMER

PHAS 660 MEDICAL ETHICS 1 Credit Hour
This course is designed to introduce PA students to the main concepts and practices in medical ethics. Three areas of medical ethics are examined: professional ethics, clinical ethics and ethics in relation to selected aspects of medical law. In the area of professional ethics, emphasis will be placed on the ethical obligations of a professional practitioner to patients in clinical practice. In clinical ethics, current ethical issues in clinical practice will be reviewed. Additionally, students will be introduced to a structured approach for identifying, analyzing and resolving ethical issues in clinical medicine. The interaction of medical law and medical ethics will be examined particularly in relation to patient rights and protections in clinical practice, medical practice acts, professional liability and medical malpractice.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program.
Typically Offered: FALL

PHAS 661 CANADIAN HEALTH CARE POLICY 3 Credit Hours
The purpose of the course of study in this area is to give the student an opportunity to focus his/her attention on how the health care system works. Completion of the assignment is intended to review with the student the basic principles of health policy so that the student will have a clearer, more systematic way of thinking about health care in the United States, its problems, and the alternatives for managing these problems. Most of the principles also apply to the understanding of health care systems in other nations.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program.
Typically Offered: SUMMER

PHAS 664 SPECIAL TOPICS IN PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT STUDIES 1-6 Credit Hours
This is a directed study course. It is designed to address a specific, focused and limited area of content in depth. The area of study may be selected by the student or prescribed by the instructor.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program.
Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

PHAS 665 SYSTEMS IN HEALTH CARE AND MANAGEMENT 1 Credit Hour
The course Systems in Health Care and Management is designed to provide PA students with an overview of the history and structure of the major types of health care systems currently operating in the United States along with socioeconomic issues associated with these systems. Instruction will also be provided in clinical management practices and procedures including coding systems for diagnosis and reimbursement, quality assurance and risk management, and legal issues that impact medical practice.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program.
Typically Offered: SUM/FALL

PHAS 666 SYSTEMS IN HEALTH CARE AND MANAGEMENT 1 Credit Hour
This course is designed to provide clerkship experiences to students in the Physician Assistant Program.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program.
Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

PHAS 670 RESEARCH APPLICATIONS IN MEDICINE 1 Credit Hour
This course is designed to introduce PA students to clinical research in medicine and its application to clinical decision making through the concepts and principles of evidence-based medicine. Additionally, the course will provide the student with the skills to complete a written research project through the investigation of a clinical topic utilizing the medical literature. Searching, interpreting and critically evaluating the medical literature and its application to patient care in order to promote evidence-based clinical practice will be emphasized.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program.
Typically Offered: SUM/FALL

PHAS 680 HEALTH CARE POLICY 3 Credit Hours
The purpose of the course of study in this area is to give the student an opportunity to focus his/her attention on how the health care system works. Completion of the assignment is intended to review with the student the basic principles of health policy so that the student will have a clearer, more systematic way of thinking about health care in Canada, its problems, and the alternatives for managing these problems. Most of the principles also apply to the understanding of health care systems in other nations.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program.
Typically Offered: SUMMER

PHAS 681 CLINICAL INQUIRY AND WRITING 3 Credit Hours
This course focuses on common concepts and methodology involved in clinical research. Students learn to critique published clinical research for application to clinical practice. Topics include evidence-based medicine, elements of credible research, applied statistical concepts, research article critiques, integrative literature and applications of clinical research. The skills required to develop an independent research review project are developed, preparing the student for the writing project required for the Masters of PA Studies degree. This course is offered in alternating terms. MPAS DAO advisors will work with students to schedule the course within their plan of study.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program.

PHAS 682 CLINICAL INQUIRY AND WRITING 3 Credit Hours
This course is designed to provide clerkship experiences to students in the Physician Assistant Program.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program.
Typically Offered: SUMMER

PHAS 700 CLINICAL EDUCATION 4 Credit Hours
This course is designed to provide clerkship experiences to students in the Physician Assistant Program.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program.
Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU
PHAS 702 PSYCHIATRY CLERKSHIP 4 Credit Hours
A four-week clinical experience in outpatient and/or inpatient psychiatry, geared to the anticipated role of a physician assistant. Students have the opportunity to initiate patient evaluation, learn to do psychiatric interviews, assess mental status, develop a working diagnosis and tentative medical management plan, make referral to a physician or community agency, and learn follow-up management with the treating physician or agency.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program, successful completion of Phase I.
Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

PHAS 703 INTERNAL MEDICINE CLERKSHIP 4 Credit Hours
This is a four-week clinical rotation in which the student will learn many of the common disease states seen in an Internal Medicine practice. In addition the indications, limitations, and methods of performing the necessary diagnostic procedures and therapeutic measures used in the treatment of general medicine disorders are reviewed. Patient problems and conditions as experienced in the outpatient clinic and/or the hospital ward are covered in this course. Through the collection and acquisition of historical, physical and laboratory data, the student develops and understanding of patient evaluation and treatment under preceptor supervision.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program, successful completion of Phase I.
Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

PHAS 704 PEDIATRIC CLERKSHIP 4 Credit Hours
This is a four-week clinical experience in which the student will have many learning opportunities in the outpatient clinic and/or inpatient ward under the supervision of a community-based pediatrician and/or pediatric Physician Assistant. The student will learn to manage various acute and chronic childhood illnesses and learn to evaluate normal variations of growth and development by participating in the outpatient clinic.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program, successful completion of Phase I.
Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

PHAS 705 WOMAN'S HEALTH CLERKSHIP 4 Credit Hours
This course is a four-week clinical experience studying the broad spectrum of common obstetric and gynecological problems. This clerkship includes the management of pregnancy, labor, and delivery including prenatal, natal, and postnatal complications. The student is responsible for taking obstetrical histories, performing obstetrical physical examinations, and following patients through labor, delivery, and the early postpartum period. The student is exposed to methods and programs relating to cancer detection, sexually transmitted diseases, and contraception. Taking patient histories, performing complete and accurate gynecological examinations, interpreting gathered information to develop differential diagnoses and patient-specific management plans are the primary learning foci of the course.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program, successful completion of Phase I.
Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

PHAS 706 SURGERY CLERKSHIP 4 Credit Hours
This is a four-week rotation during which students learn about surgical patients and the surgical service. Students participate in the care of the patients on the wards, during the preoperative phase, in the operating room, and during their postoperative follow-up. At the end of the four weeks students are expected to understand the course of surgical illness, be able to conduct themselves appropriately in the operating room and to have gained the skills commensurate with care of the surgical patient including intravenous access, suturing, and other appropriate procedures as required by the clerkship preceptor.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program, successful completion of Phase I.
Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

PHAS 707 FAMILY MEDICINE CLERKSHIP 4 Credit Hours
This is a twelve-week clinical experience (three 4-week clerkship) under the supervision of a community-based primary care physician and/or Physician Assistant designed to acquaint the student with those aspects of the practice of medicine unique to the community setting. The student works with the preceptor in the hospital, the office, long-term care facilities, and all other areas where the preceptor works. In the hospital the student makes rounds with the preceptor and assists him in fulfilling his inpatient responsibilities. In the office the student learns about management procedures in a private practice and helps the preceptor by providing services consonant with his individual background and clinical training. Students will observe the team practice concept of health care. Some home health care clinical training is available.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program, successful completion of Phase I.
Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

PHAS 707A FAMILY MEDICINE A CLERKSHIP 4 Credit Hours
This is a twelve-week clinical experience (three 4-week clerkship) under the supervision of a community-based primary care physician and/or Physician Assistant designed to acquaint the student with those aspects of the practice of medicine unique to the community setting. The student works with the preceptor in the hospital, the office, long-term care facilities, and all other areas where the preceptor works. In the hospital the student makes rounds with the preceptor and assists him in fulfilling his inpatient responsibilities. In the office the student learns about management procedures in a private practice and helps the preceptor by providing services consonant with his individual background and clinical training. Students will observe the team practice concept of health care. Some home health care clinical training is available.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program, successful completion of Phase I.
Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU
PHAS 707B FAMILY MEDICINE B CLERKSHIP 4 Credit Hours
This is a twelve-week clinical experience (three 4-week clerkship) under the supervision of a community-based primary care physician and/or Physician Assistant designed to acquaint the student with those aspects of the practice of medicine unique to the community setting. The student works with the preceptor in the hospital, the office, long-term care facilities, and all other areas where the preceptor works. In the hospital the student makes rounds with the preceptor and assists him in fulfilling his inpatient responsibilities. In the office the student learns about management procedures in a private practice and helps the preceptor by providing services consonant with his individual background and clinical training. Students will observe the team practice concept of health care. Some home health care clinical training is available.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program, successful completion of Phase I.
Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

PHAS 707C FAMILY MEDICINE C CLERKSHIP 4 Credit Hours
This is a twelve-week clinical experience (three 4-week clerkship) under the supervision of a community-based primary care physician and/or Physician Assistant designed to acquaint the student with those aspects of the practice of medicine unique to the community setting. The student works with the preceptor in the hospital, the office, long-term care facilities, and all other areas where the preceptor works. In the hospital the student makes rounds with the preceptor and assists him in fulfilling his inpatient responsibilities. In the office the student learns about management procedures in a private practice and helps the preceptor by providing services consonant with his individual background and clinical training. Students will observe the team practice concept of health care. Some home health care clinical training is available.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program, successful completion of Phase I.
Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

PHAS 707D FAMILY MEDICINE D CLERKSHIP 4 Credit Hours
This is a twelve-week clinical experience (three 4-week clerkship) under the supervision of a community-based primary care physician and/or Physician Assistant designed to acquaint the student with those aspects of the practice of medicine unique to the community setting. The student works with the preceptor in the hospital, the office, long-term care facilities, and all other areas where the preceptor works. In the hospital the student makes rounds with the preceptor and assists him in fulfilling his inpatient responsibilities. In the office the student learns about management procedures in a private practice and helps the preceptor by providing services consonant with his individual background and clinical training. Students will observe the team practice concept of health care. Some home health care clinical training is available.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program, successful completion of Phase I.
Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

PHAS 708 EMERGENCY MEDICINE CLERKSHIP 4 Credit Hours
This is a four-week clerkship that presents the student with opportunities to deal with a variety of medical emergencies under the supervision of Emergency Department physicians and staff. The student learns to collect and integrate information regarding the emergency patient. Management of trauma, drug overdose, cardiac life support, and common illnesses and injuries seen in an emergency care setting are emphasized.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program, successful completion of Phase I.
Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

PHAS 709 GERIATRIC CLERKSHIP 4 Credit Hours
This clerkship is designed to provide students with a geriatric-specific clinical experience. The fundamental principles of geriatric medicine will be explored by providing opportunities for exposure to the various aspects of restorative and rehabilitative care, interdisciplinary approaches to the delivery of geriatric health services, and an examination of the primary care PA role and responsibility in the long-term care system. There is a specific focus on interactions with older adults, decision making as it affects the well being of patients, and the strengths and weaknesses of the referral system.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program, successful completion of Phase I.
Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

PHAS 711 CARDIOLOGY ELECTIVE 4 Credit Hours
This is a four-week rotation during which the indications, limitations, and methods of performing the necessary diagnostic procedures and therapeutic regimen for the evaluation of disorders of the cardiovascular systems is studied. Students conduct initial patient evaluations including the history and physical examination, and perform relevant diagnostic and therapeutic studies including the interpretation of electrocardiographic, chest xray, and laboratory studies. They will also have exposure to echocardiogram and cardiac catheterization studies. Students follow patients from admission to discharge, attend all daily rounds and conferences, assist in the provision of patient care, record progress notes, perform discharge physical examinations, and write narrative summaries under the guidance of the preceptor.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program, successful completion of Phase I.
Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

PHAS 712 INTERVENTIONAL RADIOLOGY ELECTIVE 4 Credit Hours
This is a four-week elective clerkship in which the student will care for patients with diabetes and other endocrine and metabolic disorders. Particular emphasis is placed on the diagnosis and treatment of endocrine disorders that are encountered frequently in the practice of medicine, specifically diabetes mellitus and thyroid diseases. There will also be adequate opportunity for the student to acquire a working understanding of diagnostic approaches for the less common endocrine disorders (adrenal, pituitary and others).
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program, successful completion of Phase I.
Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

PHAS 721 CARDIOLOGY ELECTIVE 4 Credit Hours
This is a four-week rotation during which the indications, limitations, and methods of performing the necessary diagnostic procedures and therapeutic regimen for the evaluation of disorders of the cardiovascular systems is studied. Students conduct initial patient evaluations including the history and physical examination, and perform relevant diagnostic and therapeutic studies including the interpretation of electrocardiographic, chest xray, and laboratory studies. They will also have exposure to echocardiogram and cardiac catheterization studies. Students follow patients from admission to discharge, attend all daily rounds and conferences, assist in the provision of patient care, record progress notes, perform discharge physical examinations, and write narrative summaries under the guidance of the preceptor.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program, successful completion of Phase I.
Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

PHAS 722 ENDOCRINOLOGY ELECTIVE 4 Credit Hours
This is a four-week elective clerkship in which the student will care for patients with diabetes and other endocrine and metabolic disorders. Particular emphasis is placed on the diagnosis and treatment of endocrine disorders that are encountered frequently in the practice of medicine, specifically diabetes mellitus and thyroid diseases. There will also be adequate opportunity for the student to acquire a working understanding of diagnostic approaches for the less common endocrine disorders (adrenal, pituitary and others).
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program, successful completion of Phase I.
Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

PHAS 723 GASTROENTEROLOGY ELECTIVE 4 Credit Hours
This is a four-week elective rotation during which the student will learn about the full spectrum of GI disease, evaluation, diagnosis, and management. Students conduct initial patient evaluations including the history and physical examination, and perform relevant diagnostic and therapeutic studies including the interpretation of GI specific studies. Students follow patients from admission to discharge, attend all daily rounds and conferences, assist in the provision of patient care, record progress notes, perform discharge physical examinations, and write narrative summaries under the guidance of the preceptor.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program, successful completion of Phase I.
Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

PHAS 724 INFECTIOUS DISEASE ELECTIVE 4 Credit Hours
This is a four-week clinical experience dealing with communicable disease in an inpatient and/or outpatient setting. Students will learn to assess and treat common and uncommon diseases due to microorganisms. Students are expected to recognize the manifestations of HIV/AIDS and the current treatment of associated opportunistic infections. Evaluation, integration of data and management of ID patients is the focus of this rotation. The student will have the opportunities to obtain patient histories, perform exams and procedures, develop treatment plans, and provide patient education.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program, successful completion of Phase I.
Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU
PHAS 725 NEPHROLOGY ELECTIVE 4 Credit Hours
This is a four-week course designed to introduce the student to the fluid and electrolyte abnormalities common in patients with renal disease. Acute renal failure and chronic kidney disease will be stressed in this rotation, with exposure to drug therapy, hemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis. Inpatient and out-patient care will be included. Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program, successful completion of Phase I. Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

PHAS 726 ONCOLOGY / HEMATOLOGY ELECTIVE 4 Credit Hours
This is a four-week elective rotation during which the student will learn about common disease states associated with oncology and hematology. Patient problems and conditions as experienced in the outpatient clinic, the inpatient setting, and the emergency room are covered in this course. Through the collection and acquisition of historical, physical, and laboratory data, the student is expected to attain an adequate level of knowledge to provide appropriate treatment or referral of conditions encountered in a general oncology/hematology practice. Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program, successful completion of Phase I. Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

PHAS 727 PULMONARY MEDICINE ELECTIVE 4 Credit Hours
This is a four-week elective in Pulmonary Medicine providing the student with an opportunity to receive advanced training in managing a wide variety of pulmonary disorders. Students will conduct initial patient evaluations including the history and physical examination, and perform relevant diagnostic and therapeutic studies including spirometry, pulmonary function testing, interpretation of chest x-rays, and blood gas analysis. Students will follow patients from admission to discharge, attend all daily rounds and conferences, assist in the provision of patient care, record progress notes, perform discharge physical examinations, and write narrative summaries under the guidance of the preceptor. Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program, successful completion of Phase I. Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

PHAS 728 RHEUMATOLOGY ELECTIVE 4 Credit Hours
This is a four-week elective clerkship, which provides the students with an opportunity to work with both inpatients and outpatients with various rheumatic diseases such as rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis, gout, and systemic lupus erythematosus. Students will be actively involved in evaluation of patients with rheumatic diseases and will be exposed to common used medications for rheumatic conditions as well as common procedures utilized in rheumatology practice. Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program, successful completion of Phase I. Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

PHAS 729 CARDIOVASCULAR SURGERY ELECTIVE 4 Credit Hours
This is a four-week elective inpatient clinical clerkship which provides the opportunity to practice cardiovascular surgical skills. The student will perform intake history and physical exams, assist in surgery, follow patient progress, and counsel patients at discharge. Observation and assistance with diagnostic and therapeutic procedures (i.e., echocardiogram, angiogram) are included. The student will have the opportunity to work with clinical perfusionists, respiratory therapists, and/or radiologists. Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program, successful completion of Phase I. Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

PHAS 730 NEUROSURGERY ELECTIVE 4 Credit Hours
This four-week clerkship offers the student experience with respect to the evaluation, diagnosis, and management of neurological surgical diseases. Students will be involved with surgical patients admitted to their service. They will participate in the care of patients on the wards, in the operating room, and during their postoperative follow-up care. Students are expected to participate in daily rounds, clinic, conferences, and other activities as designated by the preceptor. Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program, successful completion of Phase I. Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

PHAS 731 NEUROSURGERY ELECTIVE 4 Credit Hours
This four-week clerkship offers the student experience with respect to the evaluation, diagnosis, and management of neurological surgical diseases. Students will be involved with surgical patients admitted to their service. They will participate in the care of patients on the wards, in the operating room, and during their postoperative follow-up care. Students are expected to participate in daily rounds, clinic, conferences, and other activities as designated by the preceptor. Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program, successful completion of Phase I. Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

PHAS 732 ORTHOPEDIC SURGERY ELECTIVE 4 Credit Hours
This four-week elective clerkship will survey the knowledge necessary for understanding the common problems in orthopedic oncology. This experience includes learning specialized orthopedic historical review and physical examination techniques, delivering emergency care to patients suffering from acute oncologic complications, caring for the pre- and post-surgical orthopedic patient, and maintaining sterile operating room techniques. An understanding of the pathophysiology and the complications of bone and joint injury as well as the ability to fabricate and apply a variety of splints, tractions, and casts is taught. Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program, successful completion of Phase I. Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

PHAS 733 ORTHOPEDIC SPORTS MEDICINE ELECTIVE 4 Credit Hours
This is a four-week elective clerkship which provides students with experience in the evaluation, management, treatment, and rehabilitation of patients with musculoskeletal sports injuries or related medical problems. Students will participate in the care of patients in the outpatient clinic, emergency department, on the wards, in the operating room, and during their post-operative follow-up care. Students may also have the opportunity to participate in covering athletic events with medical staff. Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program, successful completion of Phase I. Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

PHAS 734 SURGERY SUBSPECIALTY CLERKSHIP 4 Credit Hours
This is a four-week elective clerkship which provides students with experience in surgery sub specialties. Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program, successful completion of Phase I. Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

PHAS 735 ORTHOPEDIC SPINE SURGERY ELECTIVE 4 Credit Hours
This is a four-week elective clerkship which provides students with experience in the evaluation, management, treatment, and rehabilitation of patients with musculoskeletal spine disease and injuries. Students will participate in the care of patients in the outpatient clinic, the pre-operative evaluation, the operating room, the post-operative area and during their inpatient stay. Students will work closely with the team to provide appropriate and safe care. Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program, successful completion of Phase I. Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU
PHAS 736 PLASTIC SURGERY ELECTIVE 4 Credit Hours
This is a four-week elective clerkship which provides students with experience in the evaluation, management, treatment, and rehabilitation of patients with conditions treated with plastic and reconstructive surgery procedures. Students will learn the principles of plastic surgery and participate in the care of patients in the outpatient clinic, on the wards, in the operating room, and during their post-operative follow-up care.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program, successful completion of Phase I.
Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

PHAS 737 UROLOGY ELECTIVE 4 Credit Hours
This is a four-week elective clerkship during which students learn about urology patients and the urological service. Students participate in the care of the patients (adult and pediatric) in the clinic, on the wards, in the operating room, and during their postoperative follow-up. At the end of the four weeks they are expected to understand the course of urological illness, be able to conduct themselves appropriately in the operating room and to have gained the skills commensurate with care of the urology patient including intravenous access, placement of catheters, and other appropriate procedures as required by the clerkship preceptor.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program, successful completion of Phase I.
Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

PHAS 739 ALLERGY/IMMUNOLOGY ELECTIVE 4 Credit Hours
This is a four-week elective clerkship which provides students with experience in the evaluation and management of patients with asthma, allergies, and immunological conditions. Students will actively participate in patient evaluation and management of patients in the outpatient setting as well as inpatient care when appropriate. The student will be exposed to common diagnostic and therapeutic procedures such allergy testing.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program, successful completion of Phase I.
Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

PHAS 740 PAIN MANAGEMENT ELECTIVE CLERKSHIP 4 Credit Hours
This is a four-week clinical elective experience under the supervision of a community-based Pain Management provider designed to acquaint the student with those aspects of the practice of medicine unique to the Pain Management setting. The student works with the preceptor in the office and other areas appropriate to their practice. The student will develop an appreciation and understanding of Pain Management Medicine. Pre-reqs: Completion of Phase 1 of Physician Assistant Program.
Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

PHAS 741 COMPLEMENTARY & ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE ELECTIVE 4 Credit Hours
This four-week clinical elective experience under the supervision of a community-based Complementary and Alternative setting. The student works with the preceptor in the office and other areas appropriate to their practice. The student will develop an appreciation and understanding of Complementary and Alternative Medicine. Pre-requisites: Completion of Phase 1 of Physician Assistant Program
Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

PHAS 742 DERMATOLOGY ELECTIVE 4 Credit Hours
A four-week elective clerkship during which the student will review the spectrum of dermatologic diseases encountered primarily in the outpatient setting. Taking histories and performing physical examinations with special emphasis on problems concerning dermatologic diseases as well as carrying out potassium hydroxide preparations, skin biopsies, and tissue scrapings and other procedures on prescribed patients are included in this rotation. The student will become familiar with the diagnostic procedures and therapeutic regimen, their indications, availability, reliability, and limitations in the treatment of dermatologic diseases.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program, successful completion of Phase I.
Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

PHAS 743 INFERTILITY ELECTIVE 4 Credit Hours
This is a four-week clinical elective experience during which the student will be exposed to a broad spectrum of Infertility problems and procedures. During this clerkship, the evaluation, diagnosis, and management of Infertility will be examined. The student is responsible for taking infertility histories, performing gynecologic physical examinations, and following patients through the Infertility evaluation and management.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program, successful completion of Phase I.
Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

PHAS 744 INTERNATIONAL STUDIES ELECTIVE 4 Credit Hours
This four-week elective offers students the opportunity to participate in a clinical health care setting in a foreign country. Students may participate in a variety of experiences at international sites. These may include clinical experiences, teaching sessions of international and third world health care systems and public health topics. Most courses are coordinated through the UNMC Office of International Studies. The main focus of this elective will be hands-on primary care clinical experiences in a foreign country under the supervision of a local preceptor.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program, successful completion of Phase I.
Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

PHAS 745 NEONATAL ELECTIVE 4 Credit Hours
This is a four-week didactic and clinical experience in which the student will have many learning opportunities in the well-baby nursery and neonatal intensive care unit under the supervision of attending physicians, House officers, and neonatal nurse practitioners. The student will learn to manage various acute and chronic newborn illnesses and learn to evaluate normal variations of growth and development by participating in this elective.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program, successful completion of Phase I.
Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

PHAS 746 NEUROLOGY ELECTIVE 4 Credit Hours
This is a four-week elective clerkship that offers students a clinical experience where evaluation, diagnosis and managerial approaches of patients with neurological conditions are studied. Students will have exposure to neuropathology and to special studies such as electromyography and electroencephalography. Student experiences will include the outpatient clinic, the inpatient setting, and the emergency room.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program, successful completion of Phase I.
Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU
PHAS 749 OTOLARYNGOLOGY ELECTIVE 4 Credit Hours
This is a four-week elective clinical experience studying ear, nose, and throat diseases. The student will develop an understanding of ENT problems and how to initiate the first step in the management of such problems. A wide spectrum of patients with ear, nose and throat problems will be seen in a variety of settings. Learning and performing tracheotomy care, assisting with the management of the pre- and post-operative patient, assisting in the operating room, and learning to perform specialized audiometric tests are also included.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program, successful completion of Phase I. Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

PHAS 751 REHABILITATION ELECTIVE 4 Credit Hours
This is a four-week rotation surveying the knowledge necessary for understanding the many problems facing rehabilitative patients. This experience includes learning to take a meticulous and germane history concerning the patient's medical issues and performing physical examination techniques, evaluating the patient's functional capacity, and caring for the rehabilitation patient. An understanding and appreciation of the multidisciplinary nature of the rehabilitation process will be expected. As an elective course, students are expected to gain an appreciation of the specialty, obtain experience in evaluating and managing patients, and work within the multidisciplinary care team in this area.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program, successful completion of Phase I. Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

PHAS 754 RADIOLOGY ELECTIVE 4 Credit Hours
A four-week elective consisting of daily observation of x-ray interpretation, fluoroscopic examination and special radiographic procedures including CT, MRI, ultrasound, mammography, angiography, and nuclear imaging. Students will also be exposed to specialized areas such as pediatric radiology, cardiovascular radiology, ultrasound, neuroradiology and interventional radiology.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program, successful completion of Phase I. Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

PHAS 765 INSTRUCTIONAL DESIGN IN HIGHER LEARNING 4 Credit Hours
This course focuses on key instructional methods and teaching strategies appropriate to graduate level learners. The examples typically apply to education in professional clinical areas, but the principles apply to graduate level professional education. Students develop an instructional syllabus for a theoretical course including samples of teaching activities and outcome measures. Topics include adult learning theory, framing objectives, metacognition, learning behaviors and professionalism, teaching methods, formative and summative evaluations.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the MPAS DAO Program or instructor permission. Typically Offered: FALL

PHAS 766 EDUCATION THEORY IN MEDICINE 4 Credit Hours
This course is a study of human learning and cognitive organization and process. The content provides an overview of the development of learning theory and cognitive models since the beginning of the philosophical study of human learning. It is designed to expand on the clinicians prior experiential and learned knowledge of the learning process as negotiated in various settings such as in patient care, in social contexts, and in the classroom. Participants will identify those theories and approaches which support a personal philosophy to apply to their own opportunities for teaching and learning.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the MPAS DAO Program or instructor permission. Typically Offered: SUMMER

PHAS 767 LEADERSHIP IN CLINICAL EDUCATION 4 Credit Hours
This course focuses on concepts and skills in leadership in the context of clinical education. Topics include calling, nature or nurture, visioning, team-building, power and influence, leader-follower dyads, and stewardship. Styles of leadership that are effective in clinical education are explored, such as transactional, situational, servant, transformational, and charismatic styles. Research evidence about models, theories and measures of leadership in education are highlighted throughout the course.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the MPAS DAO Program or instructor permission. Typically Offered: SPRING

PHAS 768 SUPERVISED TEACHING PRACTICE I 4 Credit Hours
This is the first semester of a two semester teaching experience under the supervision of an educator/mentor in a clinical or academic environment designed to integrate the student into an educational experience including the preparation, implementation, and evaluation of instruction associated with patient education, community health education, or formal academic instruction. The student's experience should include curriculum design, course preparation, instructional delivery (e.g., one-on-one, practicums, experiential training, or lecture/demonstration) and evaluation analysis.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the MPAS DAO, PHAS 765, PHAS 766 or instructor permission. Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

PHAS 769 SUPERVISED TEACHING PRACTICE II 4 Credit Hours
This is the second semester of a two semester teaching experience under the supervision of an educator/mentor in a clinical or academic environment designed to integrate the student into an educational experience including the preparation, implementation, and evaluation of instruction associated with patient education, community health education, or formal academic instruction. The student's experience should include curriculum design, course preparation, instructional delivery (e.g., one-on-one, practicums, experiential training, or lecture/demonstration) and evaluation analysis.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the MPAS DAO, PHAS 765, PHAS 766 or instructor permission. Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU
PHAS 771 PRIMARY CARE ELECTIVE 4 Credit Hours
This is a four-week elective clinical rotation for the student desiring a more comprehensive experience in primary care. Areas available include pediatrics, internal medicine, family practice, correctional medicine, and urgent care. The student works under the supervision of a community or institutionally based physician or PA and acquires hands-on clinical experience in the principles and clinical application of diagnostic, therapeutic, and management techniques pertinent to their area of expertise and interest.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program, successful completion of Phase I.
Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

PHAS 772 PSYCHIATRY ELECTIVE 4 Credit Hours
A four-week clinical experience in outpatient and/or inpatient psychiatry, geared to the anticipated role of a physician assistant. Students have the opportunity to initiate patient evaluation, learn to do psychiatric interviews, assess mental status, develop a working diagnosis and tentative medical management plan, make referral to a physician or community agency, and learn follow-up management with the treating physician or agency.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program, successful completion of Phase I.
Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

PHAS 773 INTERNAL MEDICINE ELECTIVE 4 Credit Hours
A four-week rotation during which the indications, limitations, and methods of performing the necessary diagnostic procedures and therapeutic measures used in the treatment of general medicine disorders is reviewed. Patient problems and conditions as experienced in the outpatient clinic and/or the hospital ward are covered in this course. Through the collection and acquisition of historical, physical, and laboratory data, the student develops an understanding of patient evaluation and treatment under preceptor supervision.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program, successful completion of Phase I.
Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

PHAS 774 PEDIATRICS ELECTIVE 4 Credit Hours
This is a four-week clinical experience in which the student will have many learning opportunities in the outpatient clinic and/or inpatient ward under the supervision of a community-based pediatrician and/or pediatric Physician Assistant. The student will learn to manage various acute and chronic childhood illnesses and learn to evaluate normal variations of growth and development by participating in the outpatient clinic.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program, successful completion Phase I.
Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

PHAS 775 OB/GYN ELECTIVE 4 Credit Hours
This four-week clinical experience will focus on the broad spectrum of common obstetric and gynecological problems. During this clerkship, the management of pregnancy, labor, and delivery including prenatal, natal, and postnatal complications is taught. The student is responsible for taking obstetrical histories, performing obstetrical physical examinations, and following patients through labor, delivery, and the early postpartum period. The student is exposed to methods and programs relating to cancer detection, sexually transmitted diseases, and contraception. Learning to take gynecologically oriented patient histories and perform complete and accurate gynecological examinations are required.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program, successful completion of Phase I.
Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

PHAS 776 SURGERY ELECTIVE 4 Credit Hours
This is a four-week rotation during which students learn about surgical patients and the surgical service. Students participate in the care of the patients on the wards, during the preoperative phase, in the operating room, and during their postoperative follow-up. At the end of the four weeks students are expected to understand the course of surgical illness, be able to conduct themselves appropriately in the operating room and to have gained the skills commensurate with care of the surgical patient including intravenous access, suturing, and other appropriate procedures as required by the clerkship preceptor.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program, successful completion of Phase I.
Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

PHAS 777 FAMILY MEDICINE ELECTIVE 4 Credit Hours
This is a four-week clinical experience under the supervision of a community-based primary care physician and/or Physician Assistant designed to acquaint the student with those aspects of the practice of medicine unique to the community setting. The student works with the preceptor in the outpatient and/or inpatient areas, long-term care facility, and other areas as needed. In the office the student learns about management procedures in a private practice and helps the preceptor by providing services consonant with their individual background and clinical training.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program, successful completion of Phase I.
Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

PHAS 778 EMERGENCY MEDICINE ELECTIVE 4 Credit Hours
This is a four-week clerkship that presents the student with opportunities to deal with a variety of common medical emergencies under the supervision of Emergency Department physicians and staff. The student learns to collect and integrate information regarding the emergency patient, Management of trauma, drug overdose, cardiac life support, and common illnesses and injuries seen in an emergency care setting are emphasized.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program, successful completion of Phase I.
Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

PHAS 779 GERIATRICS ELECTIVE 4 Credit Hours
This clerkship is designed to provide students with a geriatric-specific clinical experience. The fundamental principles of geriatric medicine will be explored by providing opportunities for exposure to the various aspects of restorative and rehabilitative care, interdisciplinary approaches to the delivery of geriatric health services, and an examination of the primary care PA role and responsibility in the long-term care system. There is a specific focus on interactions with older adults, decision making as it effects the well-being of patients, and the strengths and weaknesses of the referral system.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Physician Assistant Program, successful completion of Phase I.
Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

PHAS 785 ADVANCED CLINICAL PRACTICE I 4 Credit Hours
This is the first semester of a five semester clinical experience under the supervision of a supervising physician designed to acquaint the student with all aspects of the practice of medicine unique to their specific practice setting. The focus of this semester is Medical Knowledge.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the MPAS DAO Program.
Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU
PHAS 786 ADVANCED CLINICAL PRACTICE II 4 Credit Hours
This is the second semester of a five semester clinical experience under the supervision of a supervising physician designed to acquaint the student with all aspects of the practice of medicine unique to their specific practice setting. The focus of this semester is Interpersonal and Communication Skills.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the MPAS DAO Program.
Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

PHAS 787 ADVANCED CLINICAL PRACTICE III 4 Credit Hours
This is the third semester of a five semester clinical experience under the supervision of a supervising physician designed to acquaint the student with all aspects of the practice of medicine unique to their specific practice setting. The focus of this semester is Patient Care.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the MPAS DAO Program.
Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

PHAS 788 ADVANCED CLINICAL PRACTICE IV 4 Credit Hours
This is the fourth semester of a five semester clinical experience under the supervision of a supervising physician designed to acquaint the student with all aspects of the practice of medicine unique to their specific practice setting. The focus of this semester is Professionalism.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the MPAS DAO Program.
Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

PHAS 789 ADVANCED CLINICAL PRACTICE V 4 Credit Hours
This is the final semester of a five semester clinical experience under the supervision of a supervising physician designed to acquaint the student with all aspects of the practice of medicine unique to their specific practice setting. The focus of this semester is Practice-Based Learning and Improvement, and Systems-Based Practice.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the MPAS DAO Program.
Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

PHAS 790 MASTERS CAPSTONE 4 Credit Hours
This course provides the student with a research review and writing experience that demonstrates excellent research interpretation, organization and communication skills in exploring a relevant, focused, clinical or professional topic related to high quality health care delivery. The submission of the Capstone Project in the form of a research paper is a requirement for obtaining the Master’s degree through the Degree Advancement Option (DAO) Program.
Prerequisite: Enrollment in the MPAS DAO Program PHAS 682.
Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

PHAS 799 DIRECTED STUDY 4 Credit Hours
Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU