PSYCHIATRY

Chair: Howard Liu, M.D.
M4 Director: Jenna Benton, M.D.
Clerkship Director: Sharon Hammer, M.D.
Undergraduate Program Coordinator: Sarah Kepple, Poynter Hall, 4th floor, room 4006

It is strongly recommended that students select electives in areas other than that in which they have had previous clerkship experience. Students needing assistance in selecting electives and/or career planning should contact the Program Coordinator at 402-552-6235 to schedule an appointment with Dr. Benton.

All electives must be pre-arranged with the Program Coordinator through psychmeded@unmc.edu and requested through OASIS.

PSYC 718 STRESS REDUCTION TECHNIQUES FOR THE PRACTICING CLINICIAN 4 Credit Hours

ELECTIVE

This elective is intended to expose the student to stress reduction techniques that are currently used in mental health and can be used in a variety of medical settings. Some of the practices include meditation, guided imagery, biofeedback, and breathing and movement. These are among the best known and most widely used of the complementary, alternative or integrative approaches to healthcare. These modalities will prepare students to understand the power of self-awareness and self-care and determine its applicability to the clinical setting. Medical school is recognized as a stressful life event. A recently study has shown that 50% of medical student's experience burnout and 10% have experienced suicidal ideation (Drybe et al. Burnout and suicidal ideation among U.S. medical students. Ann Intern Med 2008; 149:334-41.) This course is intended to provide the student an opportunity to understand the potential of stress reduction techniques as an integral part of whole-person care. It is not enough to hear about stress reduction and to read and comprehend the scientific basis for its efficacy. Rather, for students to appreciate their own capacities for self-awareness and self-care, students should experience and realize their own abilities.

Instructor: Drs. Brent Khan, Byers Shaw, Jonathan Sikorski, Steven Wengel, and Heather Cook-Mikkelsen APRN, FNP.

Contact: Liz Sorenson; psychmededu@unmc.edu; 402-559-8280; PYH Rm 4013 (Zip 5575).

Typically Offered: July-October and January-March.
Capacity: 8

Visiting Student Information: This course is NOT available to visiting students.

PSYC 723 ADULT INPATIENT PSYCHIATRY SUB-INTERNSHIP 4 Credit Hours

ELECTIVE

This inpatient elective allows the student to build upon the foundation of clinical skills established during the third year psychiatry clerkship. The student will be involved in the assessment and treatment of adult patients with mental illness requiring inpatient stabilization in the UNMC Adult Crisis Unit or Lasting Hope Recovery Center. Students will be expected to work at a level similar to that of an intern / resident under the supervision of staff. Students may attend case conferences and Grand Rounds and participate in self-directed learning. Students selecting LHRC will be required to complete a urine drug screen (at no cost to the student) and additional paperwork.

Contact: Liz Sorenson; psychmededu@unmc.edu; 402-559-8280; PYH Rm 4013 (Zip 5575).

Typically Offered: Each four weeks
Capacity: 2 (1 per service)

Visiting Student Information: This course is NOT available to visiting students.

PSYC 725 CHILD AND ADOLESCENT PSYCHIATRY 4 Credit Hours

ELECTIVE

This elective provides the student greater exposure to the subspecialty of child and adolescent psychiatry. Students will participate with faculty and therapists in outpatient care of this young patient population. Students will participate in the assessment of children and adolescents with a variety of psychiatric diagnoses by interviewing both patients and their caregivers, as well as forming differential diagnoses and bio-psychosocial treatment plans. This elective is intended for those considering a career field involving the treatment of children and adolescents and for those who would like to explore child and adolescent psychiatry as a career.

Instructor: Dr. Daniel Gih.

Contact: Liz Sorenson; psychmededu@unmc.edu; 402-559-8280; PYH Rm 4013 (Zip 5575).

Typically Offered: Each four weeks except November
Capacity: 1

Visiting Student Information: Visiting Students are not to contact faculty or clinical departments prior to acceptance through VSAS. Doing so is considered a professional breach and may disqualify the student from being offered a rotation.

PSYC 727 PSYCHIATRY THROUGH THE LIFESPAN 4 Credit Hours

ELECTIVE

This outpatient psychiatry elective provides an interactive exposure to a diversity of patient populations with mental illness. The student will rotate through week-long experiences in children and adolescent psychiatry, women's health / perinatal care, adult psychiatry and geriatric psychiatry. Patient care will primarily occur in the outpatient setting. Treatment therapies may include psychotherapeutic and psychopharmacological modalities. Students will have the opportunity to work with faculty and therapists in evaluating and treating patients. This elective allows the student an opportunity to expanding their psychiatric knowledge and skills.

Instructor: Dr. Daniel Gih, Dr. Sharon Hammer, and Dr. Steven Wengel

Contact: Liz Sorenson; psychmededu@unmc.edu; 402-559-8280; PYH Rm 4013 (Zip 5575).

Typically Offered: Each four weeks except November, December, and January
Capacity: 1

Visiting Student Information: Visiting Students are not to contact faculty or clinical departments prior to acceptance through VSAS. Doing so is considered a professional breach and may disqualify the student from being offered a rotation.
PSYC 740 CONSULTATION LIAISON PSYCHIATRY SUB-INTERNSHIP 4
Credit Hours
ELECTIVE
This elective provides exposure to medically ill patients with emotional / psychiatric problems with teaching emphasis on psychiatric diagnostic issues, acute treatment plans, short-term intervention techniques and supportive therapies. Readings, self-directed learning, daily rounds, case conferences and liaison with other medical staff in the emergency room and general hospital setting are all part of this elective. Students will be expected to participate in patient care at a level similar to an intern under the supervision of staff. Activity-Hours/Week Rounds-30 Didactic conferences-5 Independent learning-0 Research project-0 Independent patient care-10 Multidisciplinary Meeting-1 Grand Rounds-1
Instructor: Dr. Sharma
Contact: Liz Sorenson; psychmededu@unmc.edu; 402-559-8280; PYH Rm 4013 (Zip 5575)
Typically Offered: Each four weeks
Capacity: 2
Visiting Student Information: This course is NOT available to visiting students.

PSYC 760 OFF CAMPUS ELECTIVE 4 Credit Hours
ELECTIVE
Off-Campus electives may be taken to broaden ones' knowledge of psychiatry generally or to acquire types of experience not available here. Transcultural electives are encouraged. For suggestions concerning possible off-campus electives, contact Dr. Hammer. An Off-Campus Elective Application Form must be submitted for this experience. (See Off-Campus Elective Application procedures.)
Prerequisite: Off-Campus Approval form completed
Contact: Liz Sorenson; psychmededu@unmc.edu; 402-559-8280; PYH Rm 4013 (Zip 5575)
Typically Offered: Each four weeks
Capacity: Variable Location: Variable.
Visiting Student Information: This course is NOT available to visiting students.