

**PAS courses are open to students who have been fully admitted to and are in good standing in the PAS program.**

## **Semester 1**

**PAS 510. Christ and Calling in Healthcare :** An examination of how contemporary Western cultures shape how Christians understand their faith, and an exploration of how Christians in healthcare are affected by this and respond to these challenges as a healthcare employee on a daily basis and by taking part in medical missions and service to others. Issues addressed include exploration of Christ as a healer, exploration of self and one's calling, scientific study of the impact of religion on health care, appropriate avenues of ministry in health care, and how to surmount obstacles to compassion in American health care culture. **Offered spring term each year beginning 2018; 1 semester hour**

**PAS 511. Anatomy with Lab:** This course is designed to develop an understanding of normal human anatomy with an in-depth examination of anatomical structure and function. Each student is expected to learn anatomical terminology as well as three-dimensional and radiological anatomy. Emphasis is placed on the relationship of normal structure and normal variants with clinical correlation to pathology and disease processes. Lectures are complemented by laboratory study of real dissection, prosected cadavers, and anatomic models. A regional approach will be used to study the extremities, trunk, and head and neck. **Offered spring term each year beginning 2018; 6 semester hours**

**PAS 512. Interpersonal Communication in Health Care:** This course will give students instruction in communication skills that will allow for effective exchange of information with patients. Topics include patient interviewing skills and the medical history, the patient/provider relationship, the role of the physician assistant as a health care team member, and communication techniques for patients across cultural and generational groups. **Offered spring term each year beginning 2018; 2 semester hours**

**PAS 513. Health Care Systems and Ethics:** This course is designed to provide basic knowledge of health care delivery systems, socioeconomic issues affecting healthcare, federal and state laws that impact PA practice, and medical ethics. Topics that will be discussed include reimbursement, coding, billing, documentation, risk management in medical practice, prescriptive authority, cultural diversity issues, and an introduction to the physician assistant profession and the roles of different members of the health care professional team. **Offered spring term each year beginning 2018; 3 semester hours**

**PAS 514. Academic and Professional Ethics:** This course is designed to address ethical and professional issues in physician assistant practice. Topics that will be discussed include ethical decision-making, professional responsibility, and commitment to patients and their overall welfare. **Offered spring term each year beginning 2018; 1 semester hour**

**PAS 515. Physiology/Pathophysiology I:** This course is the first of two courses that presents normal physiology of major body systems as a bridge to the concepts of pathophysiology that are the cause of dysfunction and disease and gives a foundation for clinical evaluation and intervention. Specifically, core concepts of this course include the physiology of major cellular functions and cell communication, functional units of the central and peripheral nervous system, neurophysiology, neuropathology, muscle function at the cellular level for genetic and traumatic pathologies, the physiology of normal cardiovascular function in relation to common cardiovascular disorders, and the physiology of normal

respiratory function in relation to common respiratory disorders. **Offered spring term each year beginning 2018; 3 semester hours**

## **Semester 2**

**PAS 520. Public Health/Preventative Medicine:** This course is designed to address public health issues and provide students with an overview of basic concepts of preventative medicine. Issues that will be discussed include promotion of health across the lifespan and populations groups, lifestyle changes that can improve one's health, and prevention of disease. **Offered summer term each year beginning 2018; 2 semester hours**

**PAS 521. Clinical Medicine and Diagnostics I:** This course is the first of three courses designed to provide the student with a body-system, problem oriented approach to human diseases and disorders, using a lifespan approach from pediatrics to geriatrics. It will include discussion of etiology, epidemiology, historical data, genetic influence, pathophysiology, clinical manifestations, physical exam findings, differential diagnosis, diagnostic studies, laboratory medicine, therapeutic management, prevention, and prognosis of common disease processes found in the primary care setting. Topics include neurology, musculoskeletal, rheumatology, hematology/oncology, and infectious diseases. **Offered summer term each year beginning 2018; 4 semester hours**

**PAS 522. Patient Assessment, Counseling, and Education I with Lab:** This course is the first of three courses designed to develop the knowledge to obtain and record a complete medical history and perform a complete physical exam. The course will provide an overview of the medical record along with interviewing and patient communication skills. The student will use appropriate equipment, proper techniques, and accurate medical terminology to document and identify normal from abnormal findings and communicate those findings by oral presentation and by writing as for medical record keeping. This course will also provide patient education and counseling techniques and the appropriate way to communicate with patients and their families to help them adhere to treatment plans and cope with stress, illness, or injury. Skills will be developed through structured laboratory experiences where students perform a thorough history and physical examination on assigned lab partners and simulated patients. This course will include instruction of how to perform a focused and detailed neurological exam, musculoskeletal exam, along with learning a complete physical exam. **Offered summer term each year beginning 2018; 4 semester hours**

**PAS 523. Pharmacology/Pharmacotherapy I:** This course is the first of three courses designed to provide students with a strong foundation of principles of pharmacology, pharmacodynamics, and pharmacokinetics. Discussion will include mechanism of action of major classes of therapeutic agents with attention given to individual drugs and their uses, desired effects, potential side effects, and toxicities. Emphasis is placed on agents that are most frequently prescribed for treatment of common diseases found in the primary care setting in the areas of neurology, musculoskeletal, rheumatology, hematology/oncology, and infectious disease. **Offered summer term each year beginning 2018; 3 semester hours**

**PAS 524. Clinical Decision Making I:** This course is the first of three courses designed to develop a logical way for students to assess disease processes and disorders. Students will develop the ability to form a differential diagnosis based on a patient's presenting complaints, signs, and symptoms. Students will also develop an understanding of appropriate uses for diagnostic testing including clinical laboratory,

radiographic, EKG testing, and other diagnostic testing or imaging studies that may be appropriate in the diagnosis and management of a patient. **Offered summer term each year beginning 2018; 2 semester hours**

**PAS 525. Physiology/Pathophysiology II:** This course is the second of two courses that presents normal physiology of major body systems as a bridge to the concepts of pathophysiology that are the cause of dysfunction and disease and gives a foundation for clinical evaluation and intervention. Specifically, core concepts of this course include the physiology of primary mechanisms of infection and the immune response, normal renal function and common renal disorders including renal failure, and the physiology of normal gastrointestinal function in relation to common gastrointestinal disorders, the physiology of normal reproductive function in relation to common reproductive disorders, the physiology of normal obstetric and gynecologic function in relation to common obstetric and gynecologic disorders, and the physiology and pathophysiology of common genetic disorders. **Offered summer term each year beginning 2018; 3 semester hours**

### **Semester 3**

**PAS 530. Behavioral Medicine:** This course is designed to provide the student with tools to evaluate, diagnose, and manage major psychiatric and mental disorders that are common in primary care. Topics will include normal psychological development in the pediatric, adult, and geriatric patient, substance abuse, anxiety, depression, eating disorders, phobias, response to illness, injury, and stress, principles of violence identification and prevention, human sexuality, death and end of life issues including palliative care, psychoses, and personality disorders. **Offered fall term each year beginning 2018; 3 semester hours**

**PAS 531. Clinical Medicine and Diagnostics II:** This course is the second of three courses designed to provide the student with a body-system, problem oriented approach to human diseases and disorders, using a lifespan approach from pediatrics to geriatrics. It will include discussion of etiology, epidemiology, historical data, genetic influence, pathophysiology, clinical manifestations, physical exam findings, differential diagnosis, diagnostic studies, laboratory medicine, therapeutic management, prevention, and prognosis of common disease processes found in the primary care setting. Topics include cardiology, pulmonology, nephrology, gastrointestinal diseases, and obstetrics and gynecology. **Offered fall term each year beginning 2018; 4 semester hours**

**PAS 532. Patient Assessment, Counseling, and Education II with Lab:** This course is the second of three courses designed to develop the knowledge to obtain and record a complete medical history and perform a complete physical exam. The course will provide an overview of the medical record along with interviewing and patient communication skills. The student will use appropriate equipment, proper techniques, and accurate medical terminology to document and identify normal from abnormal findings and communicate those findings by oral presentation and by writing as for medical record keeping. This course will also provide patient education and counseling techniques and the appropriate way to communicate with patients and their families to help them adhere to treatment plans and cope with stress, illness, or injury. Skills will be developed through structured laboratory experiences where students perform a thorough history and physical examination on assigned lab partners and simulated patients. This course will include instruction of how to perform a focused and detailed cardiovascular, thorax, and lung exam, abdominal exam (including anus, rectum, and prostate), and the behavior and

mental status exam, along with learning a complete physical exam. **Offered fall term each year beginning 2018; 4 semester hours**

**PAS 533. Pharmacology/Pharmacotherapy II:** This course is the second of three courses designed to provide students with a strong foundation of principles of pharmacology, pharmacodynamics, and pharmacokinetics. Discussion will include mechanism of action of major classes of therapeutic agents with attention given to individual drugs and their uses, desired effects, potential side effects, and toxicities. Emphasis is placed on agents that are most frequently prescribed for treatment of common diseases found in the primary care setting in the areas of cardiology, pulmonology, nephrology, psychiatry, and gastrointestinal diseases along with common therapeutic agents used in the emergency room setting. **Offered fall term each year beginning 2018; 3 semester hours**

**PAS 534. Clinical Decision Making II:** This course is the second of three courses designed to develop a logical way for students to assess disease processes and disorders. Students will develop the ability to form a differential diagnosis based on a patient's presenting complaints, signs, and symptoms. Students will also develop an understanding of appropriate uses for diagnostic testing including clinical laboratory, radiographic, EKG testing, and other diagnostic testing or imaging studies that may be appropriate in the diagnosis and management of a patient. **Offered fall term each year beginning 2018; 2 semester hours**

**PAS 535. Evidence-Based Medicine/Research Methods:** This course will give students an introduction to research methodology and evidence-based medical practice. The course content includes an overview of epidemiologic and research concepts, quantitative and qualitative research methods and designs, library resources, the limitations of medical research, conducting a search for medical literature, and evaluation of medical literature. The skill of using clinical information to practice evidence-based medicine will be introduced through having students evaluate and interpret published clinical research from current literature and medical journals. **Offered fall term each year beginning 2018; 3 semester hours**

## **Semester 4**

**PAS 540. Pediatrics:** This course is designed to emphasize normal physiological and psychosocial development in the newborn, infant, child, and adolescent. This course focuses on the major common pediatric illness with topics including cardiology, pulmonary, genetic diseases, musculoskeletal, gastrointestinal, genitourinary, endocrinology, and ENT. Preventative medicine, pediatric medication dosing, sexuality, and child abuse will also be discussed. **Offered spring term each year beginning 2019; 3 semester hours**

**PAS 541. Clinical Medicine and Diagnostics III:** This course is the third of three courses designed to provide the student with a body-system, problem oriented approach to human diseases and disorders, using a lifespan approach from pediatrics to geriatrics. It will include discussion of etiology, epidemiology, historical data, genetic influence, pathophysiology, clinical manifestations, physical exam findings, differential diagnosis, diagnostic studies, laboratory medicine, therapeutic management, prevention, and prognosis of common disease processes found in the primary care setting. Topics include endocrinology, dermatology, genitourinary, common disease processes found in emergency

room medicine, ophthalmology, ENT diseases, and complementary medicine. A focus on hospitalist medicine, as well as geriatric topics not previously covered in the clinical medicine courses will be discussed. **Offered spring term each year beginning 2019; 4 semester hours**

**PAS 542. Patient Assessment, Counseling, and Education III with Lab:** This course is the third of three courses designed to develop the knowledge to obtain and record a complete medical history and perform a complete physical exam. The course will provide an overview of the medical record along with interviewing and patient communication skills. The student will use appropriate equipment, proper techniques, and accurate medical terminology to document and identify normal from abnormal findings and communicate those findings by oral presentation and by writing as for medical record keeping. This course will also provide patient education and counseling techniques and the appropriate way to communicate with patients and their families to help them adhere to treatment plans and cope with stress, illness, or injury. Skills will be developed through structured laboratory experiences where students perform a thorough history and physical examination on assigned lab partners and simulated patients. This course will include instruction of how to perform a focused and detailed exam of the male and female genitourinary, pregnant female exam techniques, breast exam, skin exam, and head and neck exam, along with learning a complete physical exam. This course will also include special instruction on pediatric and geriatric physical exam techniques. **Offered spring term each year beginning 2019; 4 semester hours**

**PAS 543. Pharmacology/Pharmacotherapy III:** This course is the third of three courses designed to provide students with a strong foundation of principles of pharmacology, pharmacodynamics, and pharmacokinetics. Discussion will include mechanism of action of major classes of therapeutic agents with attention given to individual drugs and their uses, desired effects, potential side effects, and toxicities. Emphasis is placed on agents that are most frequently prescribed for treatment of common diseases found in the primary care setting in the areas of endocrinology, dermatology, genitourinary, and ENT diseases. **Offered spring term each year beginning 2019; 3 semester hours**

**PAS 544. Clinical Decision Making III:** This course is the third of three courses designed to develop a logical way for students to assess disease processes and disorders. Students will master the ability to develop a differential diagnosis based on a patient's presenting complaints, signs, and symptoms. Students will also develop an understanding of appropriate uses for diagnostic testing including clinical laboratory, radiographic, EKG testing, and other diagnostic testing or imaging studies that may be appropriate in the diagnosis and management of a patient. **Offered spring term each year beginning 2019; 2 semester hours**

**PAS 545. Surgical Medicine:** This course is designed to provide an overview of the fundamentals of surgical disease and care of the acute and chronic surgical patient. Pre- and post-op care of surgical patients will be discussed as well as common and elective surgical procedures. The student will learn the etiology, pathophysiology, signs and symptoms, diagnosis, and management of selected surgical conditions. **Offered spring term each year beginning 2019; 3 semester hours**

## **Clinical Year**

This 13 month clinical portion of the curriculum consists of eight, 6-week supervised clinical practice experiences (SCPE), on-campus student evaluation, and PANCE preparation, preparing the student for entry into PA practice. Students will provide medical care to patients and families across the life span in

a variety of clinical settings. SCPE sites and preceptors are selected, evaluated and scheduled by the PA faculty to maximize the potential for students to meet SCPE course and program outcomes. Students may suggest a SCPE site and/or preceptor at least three months prior to the start of a SCPE. Approval of a student requested SCPE site and/or preceptor lies with the PA faculty and all rotation schedules will be subject to change. Students are responsible for their own travel, meals, and lodging during the clinical year.

**PAS 610. Family Medicine SCPE:** This rotation provides the student with patient care experience in an outpatient and/or inpatient setting under the supervision of a clinical site preceptor. The student will gain experience in family medicine and will apply knowledge and skills gained during the didactic phase to interact with patients and their families, perform appropriate physical exams, order and interpret laboratory, radiographic, and other diagnostic tests, formulate differential diagnoses, suggest proper treatment courses, and manage patients effectively. The student should be able to recognize the signs and symptoms, diagnosis and proper treatment of those illnesses most commonly seen in a family practice setting which includes patients across the lifespan. Students will be evaluated and tested for this rotation based on the knowledge and skills related to family medicine. **Offered every term beginning summer 2019; 4 semester hours**

**PAS 620. Internal Medicine SCPE:** This rotation provides the student with patient care experience in an outpatient and/or inpatient setting under the supervision of a clinical site preceptor. The student will gain experience in internal medicine and will apply knowledge and skills gained during the didactic phase to interact with patients and their families, perform appropriate physical exams, order and interpret laboratory, radiographic, and other diagnostic tests, formulate differential diagnoses, suggest proper treatment courses, and manage patients effectively. The student should be able to recognize the signs and symptoms, diagnosis and proper treatment of those illnesses most commonly seen in an internal medicine outpatient or inpatient setting which includes adult and geriatric populations. Students will be evaluated and tested for this rotation based on the knowledge and skills related to internal medicine. **Offered every term beginning summer 2019; 4 semester hours**

**PAS 630. Pediatrics SCPE:** This rotation provides the student with patient care experience in an outpatient and/or inpatient setting under the supervision of a clinical site preceptor. The student will gain experience in pediatrics and will apply knowledge and skills gained during the didactic phase to interact with patients and their families, perform appropriate physical exams, order and interpret laboratory, radiographic, and other diagnostic tests, formulate differential diagnoses, suggest proper treatment courses, and manage patients effectively. The student should be able to recognize the signs and symptoms, diagnosis and proper treatment of those illnesses most commonly seen in a pediatric outpatient or inpatient setting which includes neonates to late adolescents. The student will be able to evaluate and recognize normal child development, developmental milestones, and perform well-child care, and they will be able to discuss and recommend appropriate safety precautions for the pediatric population and the current immunization schedule. Students will be evaluated and tested for this rotation based on the knowledge and skills related to pediatrics. **Offered every term beginning summer 2019; 4 semester hours**

**PAS 640. Obstetrics/Gynecology SCPE:** This rotation provides the student with patient care experience in an outpatient and/or inpatient setting under the supervision of a clinical site preceptor. The student will gain experience in obstetrics/gynecology and will apply knowledge and skills gained during the didactic phase to learn about common gynecological problems, pregnancy, infertility, and prenatal care.

The student should be able to recognize the signs and symptoms, diagnosis and proper treatment of those illnesses most commonly seen in an obstetrics/gynecology outpatient or inpatient setting. Students will be evaluated and tested for this rotation based on the knowledge and skills related to obstetrics and gynecology. **Offered every term beginning summer 2019; 4 semester hours**

**PAS 650. General Surgery SCPE:** This rotation provides the student with patient care experience in an inpatient and outpatient setting under the supervision of a clinical site preceptor. The student will gain experience in general surgery and will apply knowledge and skills gained during the didactic phase to learn about common surgical problems, surgical pathology, and common laboratory and imaging studies used in the surgical setting. Students will recognize the signs and symptoms of common surgical conditions and become familiar with indications, limitations, and treatment plans used in general surgery. Students will spend most of their time in the inpatient setting, but may also spend time in the outpatient setting as well. Students will become more familiar with the importance of the team approach in healthcare and will appreciate and respect the contributions of all team members. Students will be evaluated and tested for this rotation based on the knowledge and skills related to general surgery. **Offered every term beginning summer 2019; 4 semester hours**

**PAS 660. Emergency Room Medicine SCPE:** This rotation provides the student with patient care experience in an emergency room setting under the supervision of a clinical site preceptor. The student will gain experience in the evaluation of potential life-threatening conditions and common emergencies to include medical, surgical, and psychiatric illnesses and injuries. The student will be exposed to patients across the lifespan and will learn to triage patients, take rapid and accurate histories, perform appropriate problem-specific physical exams, order diagnostic tests, and formulate treatment plans. Students will be evaluated and tested for this rotation based on the knowledge and skills related to emergency room medicine. **Offered every term beginning summer 2019; 4 semester hours**

**PAS 670. Behavioral Medicine SCPE:** This rotation provides the student with patient care experience in an outpatient and/or inpatient setting under the supervision of a clinical site preceptor. The student will gain experience in behavioral medicine and will apply knowledge and skills gained during the didactic phase to evaluate and manage patients with psychiatric disorders. Students will develop skills to make a mental health assessment and will observe, evaluate, and treat those psychiatric disorders that are most commonly seen in the primary care setting. Students will increase their knowledge of pharmacologic and counseling treatment options for patients with psychiatric disorders. Students will be evaluated and tested for this rotation based on the knowledge and skills related to behavioral medicine. **Offered every term beginning summer 2019; 4 semester hours**

**PAS 680. Elective SCPE:** This rotation provides the student with patient care experience in an outpatient and/or inpatient setting under the supervision of a clinical site preceptor. The student may choose to do this rotation in any specialty and at any site that is approved by the Clinical Coordinator. This rotation will occur toward the end of the student's clinical phase of education. This can be a specialty in which the student has a particular interest, or a repeat of one of the core rotations. The student will gain experience in the chosen specialty and will apply knowledge and skills gained during the didactic phase to perform appropriate physical exams, order and interpret laboratory, radiographic, and other diagnostic tests, formulate differential diagnoses, suggest proper treatment courses, and manage patients effectively. Students will be evaluated and treated based on the knowledge and skills related to the chosen specialty. **Offered every term beginning summer 2019; 4 semester hours**

**PAS 760. Summative Evaluation:** This course will evaluate individual student achievement of program outcomes. Emphasis will be on the student's successful demonstration of the knowledge, interpersonal and clinical skills, use of evidence-based medicine, and professionalism needed for entry into clinical practice. Included as part of this course will be the successful completion and presentation of the student's Capstone Project. **Offered spring term beginning 2020; 4 semester hours**