

Didactic Curriculum

Fall term

17 credit hours

BAHS 7000 - GROSS ANATOMY

5 CREDIT HOURS

This course provides students with exposure to human anatomy. Students will learn the structure of the human body through active participation in the classroom, interactive software programs, and in the planning, dissection, and presentation of findings in the laboratory setting. Students will apply this foundational, anatomical knowledge to diseases and disorders in humans.

BAHS 7001 - FOUNDATIONS OF MEDICAL SCIENCE

3 CREDIT HOURS

This course provides students with exposure to the basic sciences related to the practice of medicine. Students will learn select topics in physiology, microbiology, pharmacology, laboratory studies, infectious disease and immunology and be introduced to point of care ultrasound. Students will apply this foundational, science knowledge to diseases and disorders in humans.

PAE 7100 - MEDICAL COMMUNICATIONS

2 CREDIT HOURS

This course provides students with the tools to conduct a comprehensive medical interview. Students will learn effective methods for obtaining and documenting historical information, developing communication skills with patients and health care providers, and providing patient counseling through lectures, case discussions, simulations, and clinical experiences.

PAE 7102 - INTRODUCTION TO PATIENT ASSESSMENT

5 CREDIT HOURS

This course provides students with the skills to perform a complete physical examination essential to patient evaluation and management. Students will learn critical thinking skills, physical examination techniques, and interpretation and documentation of medical findings through participation in laboratory sessions, patient simulations, and small group discussions.

PAE 7103 - BIOMEDICAL ETHICS

2 CREDIT HOURS

This course provides students with exposure to ethical principles and practice in health care. Students will learn and apply ethical theories through case presentations and group discussions.

Spring term

21 credit hours

PAE 7107 - LEARNING SOCIETY I

2 CREDIT HOURS

This course provides a weekly small group learning environment to process and apply medical topics through case-based learning. Each Learning Society has PA leaders who advise, support and guide

students on their PA school journey.

PAE 7104 - FOUNDATIONS IN COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL MEDICINE

2 CREDIT HOURS

This course provides students with an understanding of the social, economic, and environmental factors that impact the health of populations and communities. Students will learn about social determinants of health, implicit bias and how to engage patients as upstanders for patient and community health.

PAE 7002 - INTRODUCTION TO EPIDEMIOLOGY & BIostatISTICS

2 CREDIT HOURS

This course provides students with exposure to the basic concepts of descriptive and analytic epidemiology. Students will learn to read and interpret medical literature as it relates to disease frequency, probability, study design, sample size, hypothesis testing, test significance, measures of data quality and bias, multivariate models, survival analysis, and causality for the practice of evidence-based medicine. Students will develop these skills through live lectures, journal article discussions, assignments, readings, and projects.

PAE 7301 - FUNDAMENTALS OF PSYCHIATRY

2 CREDIT HOURS

This module is an introduction to psychiatry. It provides exposure to principles of psychiatric disorders. Students will learn the unique approach to psychiatric patients along with the pathophysiology, epidemiology, presentation, differential diagnosis, diagnostic work up, assessment, and treatment (including pharmacotherapeutic management) of acute and chronic psychiatric and co-morbid disorders. The effect of neurotransmitters and neurology anatomy is presented to create a deeper understanding of psychiatric disorders. The pharmacology of various psychiatric medications is presented to allow the student to practice making medical decisions for treatment of psychiatric illnesses. Students will develop clinical decision-making skills through case presentations.

PAE 7200 - FUNDAMENTALS OF DERMATOLOGY

3 CREDIT HOURS

This course provides students with exposure to the principles and practice of dermatologic disorders. Students will learn pathophysiology, epidemiology, presentation, physical examination findings, differential diagnosis, diagnostic workup, assessment, and treatment (including pharmacotherapeutic management) of dermatologic and co-morbid disorders. Students will develop clinical decision-making skills through case presentations. Students will obtain experience in point of care ultrasound and punch and shave biopsies through laboratory instruction.

PAE 7201 - FUNDAMENTALS OF HEMATOLOGY/ ONCOLOGY

2 CREDIT HOURS

This course provides students with exposure to the principles and practice of hematologic and oncologic disorders. Students will learn pathophysiology, epidemiology, genetics, presentation, physical examination findings, differential diagnosis, diagnostic workup, assessment, and treatment (including pharmacotherapeutic management) of acute and chronic hematologic and oncologic disorders. Students will develop clinical decision-making skills through case presentations.

PAE 7204 - FUNDAMENTALS OF PULMONOLOGY

4 CREDIT HOURS

This course provides students with exposure to the principles and practice of eye, ear, nose, throat, and lung disorders. Students will learn pathophysiology, epidemiology, presentation, physical examination

findings, differential diagnosis, diagnostic workup, assessment, associated nutrition considerations, and treatment (including pharmacotherapeutic management) of an acute and chronic eye, ear, nose, throat, lung, and co-morbid disorders. Students will also learn the basic science of nutrition as it relates to the biochemical and physiologic aspects in patients with eye, ear, nose, throat, and lung diseases and disorders. Students will develop clinical decision-making skills through case presentations simulation, live lectures, online videos, podcasts, and readings. Students will obtain experience in interpreting chest X-rays, pulmonary function tests, arterial blood gasses, laboratory tests, and chest computed tomography. They will obtain hands-on experience with intramuscular, intradermal, and subcutaneous injections as well as pulmonary and ocular point of care ultrasound through laboratory instruction.

PAE 7203 - FUNDAMENTALS OF CARDIOLOGY

4 CREDIT HOURS

This course provides students with exposure to the principles and practice of cardiovascular disorders. Students will learn pathophysiology, epidemiology, genetics, presentation, physical examination findings, differential diagnosis, diagnostic workup, assessment, associated nutrition considerations, and treatment (including pharmacotherapeutic management) of acute and chronic cardiovascular and co-morbid disorders. Students will develop clinical decision-making skills through case presentations. Students will obtain experience in electrocardiography, heart sounds, point of care ultrasound, and IV/venipuncture through laboratory instruction.

Summer term

16 credit hours

PAE 7307 - LEARNING SOCIETY II

2 CREDIT HOURS

This course provides a weekly small group learning environment to process and apply medical topics through case-based learning. Each Learning Society has PA leaders who advise, support and guide students on their PA school journey.

PAE 7105 - PROFESSIONAL ISSUES I

2 CREDIT HOURS

This course exposes students to the social, regulatory, ethical, and professional aspects of becoming a physician assistant. Students will learn the history of the physician assistant profession and address specific topics including professional mobility, governmental funding, health care system structure, employment, credentialing, finance, intra-professional communication, leadership, and resources for lifelong learning. Students will learn principles of medical billing and coding, licensing, credentialing, health care resources, telemedicine, medical care in low resource areas, and roles of other members of the health care team.

PAE 7205 - FUNDAMENTALS OF ENDOCRINOLOGY

3 CREDIT HOURS

This course provides students with exposure to the principles and practice of endocrinology disorders. Students will learn pathophysiology, epidemiology, presentation, physical examination findings, differential diagnosis, diagnostic workup, assessment, associated nutrition considerations, and treatment (including pharmacotherapeutic management) of acute and chronic endocrine and co-morbid

disorders. Students will develop clinical decision-making skills through case presentations. Students will obtain experience in relevant point of care ultrasound through laboratory instruction.

PAE 7206 - FUNDAMENTALS OF GASTROENTEROLOGY

3 CREDIT HOURS

This course provides students with exposure to the principles and practice of gastrointestinal, hepatic, and nutritional disorders. Students will learn pathophysiology, epidemiology, genetics, presentation, physical examination findings, differential diagnosis, diagnostic workup, assessment, associated nutrition considerations, and treatment (including pharmacotherapeutic management) of acute and chronic gastrointestinal and co-morbid disorders. Students will develop clinical decision-making skills through case presentations, live lectures, online videos, and readings. Students will obtain experience in nasogastric tube placement and point of care ultrasound through laboratory instruction.

PAE 7207 - FUNDAMENTALS OF NEPHROLOGY & GENITOURINARY DISEASE

3 CREDIT HOURS

This course provides students with exposure to the principles and practice of renal and genitourinary disorders. Students will learn pathophysiology, epidemiology, genetics, presentation, physical examination findings, differential diagnosis, diagnostic workup, assessment, associated nutrition considerations, and treatment (including pharmacotherapeutic management) of acute and chronic renal, genitourinary, and co-morbid disorders. Students will develop clinical decision-making skills through case presentations. Students will obtain experience in performing the male genitourinary physical exam, rectal exam, urethral catheterization, urinalysis, and point of care ultrasound through laboratory instruction.

PAE 7208 - FUNDAMENTALS OF RHEUMATOLOGY AND ORTHOPEDICS

3 CREDIT HOURS

This course provides students with exposure to the principles and practice of rheumatologic and orthopedic disorders. Students will learn pathophysiology, epidemiology, genetics, presentation, physical examination findings, differential diagnosis, diagnostic workup, assessment, and treatment (including pharmacotherapeutic management) of acute and chronic rheumatologic, orthopedic, and co-morbid disorders. Students will develop clinical decision-making skills through case presentations, live lectures, online videos, and readings. Students will obtain experience in casting and splinting, special orthopedic techniques, arthrocentesis, and point of care ultrasound through laboratory instruction.

Fall 2 term

19 credit hours

PAE 7507 - LEARNING SOCIETY III

2 CREDIT HOURS

This course provides a weekly small group learning environment to process and apply medical topics through case-based learning. Each Learning Society has PA leaders who advise, support and guide students on their PA school journey.

PAE 7106 - PROFESSIONAL ISSUES II

2 CREDIT HOURS

This course provides students with a foundation in professional development topics related to employment and practice, such as achieving certification, seeking employment, developing and fostering effective PA-physician team-based practice, and successful long-term functioning within the larger

healthcare system. Students will learn principles of professional interviewing, contract negotiation, health literacy, medical malpractice, impairment, and cultural diversity impacting the provision of health care.

PAE 7209 - FUNDAMENTALS OF NEUROLOGY

3 CREDIT HOURS

This course provides students with exposure to the principles and practice of neurological disorders. Students will learn pathophysiology, epidemiology, presentation, physical examination findings, differential diagnosis, diagnostic workup, assessment, and treatment (including pharmacotherapeutic management) of acute and chronic neurologic and co-morbid disorders. Students will develop clinical decision-making skills through case presentations. Students will obtain experience in lumbar puncture and point of care ultrasound through laboratory instruction.

PAE 7300 - FUNDAMENTALS OF OBSTETRICS & GYNECOLOGY

3 CREDIT HOURS

This course provides students with exposure to the principles and practice of pregnancy, obstetric, and gynecologic disorders. Students will learn pathophysiology, epidemiology, presentation, physical examination findings, differential diagnosis, diagnostic workup, assessment, associated nutrition and genetic considerations, and treatment (including pharmacotherapeutic management) of acute and chronic obstetric, gynecologic and co-morbid disorders. The students will develop clinical decision-making skills through case presentations, simulation, live lectures, online videos, and readings. Students will obtain experience in performing the breast and pelvic physical examination through laboratory instruction.

PAE 7306 - FUNDAMENTALS OF PEDIATRICS

2 CREDIT HOURS

This course provides students with exposure to the principles and practice of pediatric disorders. Students will learn pathophysiology, epidemiology, presentation, physical examination findings, differential diagnosis, diagnostic workup, assessment, associated nutrition considerations, and treatment (including pharmacotherapeutic management) of acute and chronic pediatric and co-morbid disorders. Students will develop clinical decision-making skills through case presentations. Students will obtain experience in performing the pediatric physical examination through laboratory instruction.

PAE 7305 - FUNDAMENTALS OF SURGERY & EMERGENCY MEDICINE

4 CREDIT HOURS

This course provides students with exposure to the principles and practice of surgical and emergency disorders. Students will learn pathophysiology, epidemiology, presentation, physical examination findings, differential diagnosis, diagnostic workup, assessment, associated nutrition considerations, and treatment (including pharmacotherapeutic management) of surgical and emergent and co-morbid disorders. Students will develop clinical decision-making skills through case presentations, scenario simulation, live lectures, online videos, and readings. Students will obtain experience in suturing, aseptic technique, gowning and gloving, surgical knot tying, point of care ultrasound, basic life support, and advanced cardiac life support through laboratory instruction.

PAE 7304 - FUNDAMENTALS OF GERIATRICS

3 CREDIT HOURS

This course provides students with exposure to the principles and practice of geriatric disorders. Students will learn pathophysiology, epidemiology, presentation, physical examination findings, differential diagnosis, diagnostic workup, assessment, associated nutrition considerations, and treatment (including pharmacotherapeutic management) of acute and chronic geriatric disorders. Students will develop clinical decision-making skills through case presentations.

Clinical Curriculum

Fall term

55 total credit hours

PAE 7400 PSYCHIATRY

5 CREDIT HOURS

This required 5-week clinical clerkship provides the student with exposure to the principles and practice of psychiatry. Students will gain experience caring for patients with mental illness. The students will develop interviewing and counseling techniques specific to behavioral health. They will develop an increased understanding of the social, economic, and psychological factors related to the patient and family members of a patient with a mental illness. They will participate in history-taking, physical examination, assessment and formulation of a plan and problem list, ordering and interpreting diagnostic tests, proper medical documentation, and reporting to the healthcare team as appropriate for the clerkship. During this clerkship, students may additionally participate in inpatient rounds, and provide patient presentations to clinical team members. They will develop an understanding of how to function as part of the medical team, develop effective communication with the patient, the healthcare team, and the patient's family.

PAE 7401 GENERAL SURGERY

5 CREDIT HOURS

This required 5-week clinical clerkship provides the student with exposure to the principles and practices of general surgery. Emphasis is placed on the management of patients who present with surgical issues. The students will participate in the pre-operative evaluation of patients, including history taking, physical examination, assessment and formulation of a plan and problem list, ordering and interpreting diagnostic tests, proper medical documentation, and reporting to the healthcare team as appropriate for the clerkship. They will assist in the operating room, learn to write pre and post-operative notes, care for the post-operative patient, and report to the healthcare team as appropriate for the clerkship. During this clerkship, students may additionally participate in inpatient rounds, provide patient presentations to clinical team members, and perform bedside procedures. They will develop an understanding of how to function as part of the surgical team, develop effective communication with the patient, the healthcare team, and the patient's family.

PAE 7402 EMERGENCY MEDICINE

5 CREDIT HOURS

This required 5-week clinical clerkship provides the student with exposure to the principles and practice of emergency medicine. Emphasis is placed on caring for patients presenting to the emergency department. Students will participate in the assessment of patient acuity, disease state, and appropriate management within the setting of the emergency department. They will participate in history-taking, physical examination, assessment and formulation of a plan and problem list, ordering and interpreting diagnostic tests, proper medical documentation, and reporting to the healthcare team as appropriate for the clerkship. During this clerkship, students may additionally participate in inpatient rounds, provide patient presentations to clinical team members, and bedside procedures. Students will develop an understanding of how to function as part of the medical team, develop effective communication with the patient, the healthcare team, and the patient's family.

PAE 7403 OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY

5 CREDIT HOURS

This required 5-week clinical clerkship provides students with exposure to the principles and practice of obstetrics and gynecology, including health maintenance and screening. Emphasis is placed on caring for female patients across their life span, including menarche, family planning, childbearing years, perimenopause, menopause, and post-menopause. Students will learn how to recognize and treat sexually transmitted diseases, ovarian, breast, and uterine cancer, and evaluate and treat common ambulatory gynecologic problems. Students will learn prenatal counseling and care and may have exposure to labor and delivery. They will participate in history-taking, physical examination, assessment and formulation of a plan and problem list, ordering and interpreting diagnostic tests, proper medical documentation, and reporting to the healthcare team as appropriate for the clerkship. During this clerkship, students may additionally participate in inpatient rounds, provide patient presentations to clinical team members, and perform bedside procedures. They will develop an understanding of how to function as part of the medical team, improve effective communication with the patient, the healthcare team, and the patient's family.

PAE 7405 PEDIATRICS

5 CREDIT HOURS

This required 5-week clinical clerkship provides the student with exposure to the principles and practice of pediatric medicine in the ambulatory setting. Students will gain experience caring for neonates, infants, children, and adolescents, providing parental education and guidance, recognizing the appropriate milestone, preventing illness, injury, and accidents, and providing care unique to the pediatric patient.

Students will participate in history-taking, physical examination, assessment and formulation of a plan and problem list, ordering and interpreting diagnostic tests, proper medical documentation, and reporting to the healthcare team as appropriate for the clerkship. During this clerkship, students may additionally participate in inpatient rounds, provide patient presentations to clinical team members, and perform bedside procedures. They will develop an understanding of how to function as part of the medical team, improve effective communication with the patient, the healthcare team, and the patient's family.

PAE 7406 INTERNAL MEDICINE

5 CREDIT HOURS

This required 5-week clinical clerkship provides students with exposure to the principles and practice of internal medicine. Emphasis is placed on caring for the acutely and chronically ill adult patient who requires hospitalization. Students will participate in admission history taking, physical examination, assessment and formulation of a plan and problem list, ordering and interpreting diagnostic tests, proper medical documentation, and reporting to the healthcare team as appropriate for the clerkship. During this clerkship, students may additionally participate in inpatient rounds; provide patient presentations to clinical team members, and perform bedside procedures. Students will develop an understanding of how to function as part of the medical team, develop effective communication with the patient, the healthcare team, and the patient's family.

PAE 7407 FAMILY MEDICINE

5 CREDIT HOURS

This required 5-week clinical clerkship provides the student with exposure to the principles and practice of family medicine. Emphasis is placed on disease prevention and health maintenance in adults and children. The students will develop an increased understanding of the social, economic, and environmental factors related to caring for the patient and extended family. They will participate in history-taking, physical examination, assessment and formulation of a plan and problem list, ordering and interpreting diagnostic tests, proper medical documentation, and reporting to the healthcare team as appropriate for the clerkship. During this clerkship, students may additionally participate in inpatient rounds, provide patient presentations to clinical team members, and perform bedside procedures. Students will develop an understanding of how to function as part of the medical team, develop effective communication with the patient, the healthcare team, and the patient's family.

PAE 7500, 7501, 7502 - CLINICAL ELECTIVE

5 CREDIT HOURS

These elective 5-week clinical clerkships provide the student with the opportunity to gain additional experience in one of the core clerkship areas or to supplement the foundational core clerkships with specialty disciplines in medicine and surgery. Emphasis is placed on the management of patients within the specialty discipline. Students will utilize these electives to better understand how a primary care provider should manage a patient presenting with a disease/condition prior to specialty referral and upon follow up. They will participate in history-taking, physical examination, assessment and formulation of a plan and problem list, ordering and interpreting diagnostic tests, proper medical documentation, and reporting to the healthcare team as appropriate for the clerkship. During this clerkship, students may additionally participate in inpatient rounds, provide patient presentations to clinical team members, and perform bedside procedures. Students will develop an understanding of how to function as part of the medical team, develop effective communication with the patient, the healthcare team, and the patient's family.

PAE 7801 SENIOR THESIS I

2 CREDIT HOURS

This is the first in a series of three courses designed to expand students' abilities to critically review the medical literature. The first semester provides students with the opportunity to pose a research question that is unsettled in the medical literature. Students read and interpret evidence-based medical literature and provide side-by-side comparisons of published literature that is applicable to their research questions with attention to study design, sample size, results, forms of bias, and applicability of the results.

PAE 7802 SENIOR THESIS II

2 CREDIT HOURS

In the second of this three-part series, the students build from their literature review and learn the skill of succinctly summarizing the evidence-based literature in a one page executive summary of published findings that highlights differences and similarities to draw conclusions about their research question. Additionally, students learn to create a detailed tweetorial about their research question that is well referenced, engaging, and educational in nature.

PAE-7803 SENIOR THESIS III

2 CREDIT HOURS

In the last semester of this three-part thesis series, students use their research to develop a conference poster presentation that summarizes the current understanding of their research question. This poster includes a literature review to support the relevance of their question, a review of pertinent studies and any conclusions that can be drawn from the previously published literature to change clinical practice or medical education. The students present their findings and conclusions at a mock conference.