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### Physician Assistant Studies

The Physician Assistant (PA) graduate programs are offered through the Department of Family and Community Medicine in the School of Medicine.

### Master of Science Physician Assistant (M.S.P.A.) in Physician Assistant Studies

The physician assistant is often the first health care provider to see a patient and perform a variety of tasks, including collecting historical and physical examination data from the patient and ordering appropriate laboratory and diagnostic tests. The physician assistant synthesizes patient information and participates in formulating and executing a treatment plan to meet the patient's needs. A physician assistant can evaluate psychological aspects of a patient's health, counsel when appropriate, and teach patients about primary health problems. The physician assistant makes referrals when indicated and can perform procedures, such as EKGs, venipuncture, casting, suturing, and injections. The physician assistant prescribes medications. Graduates of the PA Program are trained as primary care providers and awarded the Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies (M.S.P.A.) degree.

The program utilizes a problem-based learning curriculum and clinical rotations to prepare primary care physician assistants to practice medicine with physician supervision.

#### Admission

To be considered for enrollment in the Physician Assistant M.S.P.A. program, prospective students must have at least overall, prerequisite, and science GPAs of 3.2 on a 4.0 scale, be admitted to the Graduate School, complete the program prerequisites and other requirements. This program requires a nonrefundable \$65 application fee (subject to change without notice by the SIU Board of Trustees) that must be submitted with the application for admissions to graduate study in the Physician Assistant Program. Accepted applicants will be required to submit a nonrefundable enrollment deposit to reserve a position in the class. The deposit is due within 10 days of the program's invitation to the applicant. The deposit will be applied to the student's Bursar account two weeks after matriculation. If an applicant, who has accepted an offer for admission, decides to drop, the enrollment deposit will not be refunded. M.S.P.A. students will not receive the border state decrease adjustment to their tuition and fees. Therefore, all out-of-state students will pay a higher tuition rate. No advanced placement is awarded towards completion of M.S.P.A. courses, even if the applicant is licensed as a medical doctor.

#### Degree Requirements

Prospective students must have completed all of the following prerequisite courses before matriculation:

- Medical Terminology - one semester or proficiency
- Chemistry with labs - two semesters (select from General, Inorganic, Organic, or Biochemistry)
- Psychology - one semester
- Human Physiology - one semester (higher level preferred)
- Human Anatomy – one semester (higher level with cadaver lab preferred)
- Microbiology with lab-one semester
- General Biology for science majors, - one semester (may also select from Genetics or Cell and Molecular Biology)

- Statistics-one semester
- English Composition - one semester -AND-
- CPR for Healthcare Providers

Graduate Record Examination (GRE), or MCAT scores must be submitted with application materials. Applicants must have successfully completed all the required prerequisites by the fall term prior to matriculation, with the exception of medical terminology and CPR for Healthcare Providers. Those must be completed by the end of the Spring term prior to matriculation.

Students who have completed or will soon complete a Bachelor's degree and prerequisite course requirements should contact the program advisor or consult the program website for the most current application information.

Enrollment in the M.S.P.A. program is limited and based on a competitive process. Applicants will be evaluated on the overall submitted application package, including overall, science, and prerequisite GPAs that must each be a 3.2 on a 4.0 scale, academic potential, motivation, familiarity with the PA role, oral and written communication skills, interpersonal skills, and potential for success in the SIU Carbondale M.S.P.A. Program and the PA profession. Students will be selected by the Admissions Committee for an interview with a maximum of 40 being admitted to the professional sequence. The M.S.P.A. Program is extremely rigorous and outside employment while in the program is discouraged.

Students selected for the professional sequence will begin study in the summer session. Those accepted into the M.S.P.A. program will be notified of acceptance by the spring semester prior to the summer of entry. The curriculum is a 26-month sequence with the first 12 months (Phase I) consisting of problem-based learning activities, basic science and clinical medicine courses, and clinical experiences. The next 14 months consist of clinical rotations with seminars (Phase II) and a summer preceptorship (Phase III). All students complete a Master's Project before graduation. During the clinical rotation phase, students may be required to relocate to other locations, called Hubsites, throughout Illinois. More information on deadlines or other requirements can be obtained from the M.S.P.A. program advisor at: [paadvisement-L@listserv.siu.edu](mailto:paadvisement-L@listserv.siu.edu). All courses are restricted to students in the M.S.P.A. program.

### **First Year Sequence (Phase I) - 54 credit hours**

PA 500, PA 501, PA 502, PA 503, PA 504, PA 505, PA 506, PA 507, PA 511, PA 512, PA 513, PA 514, PA 515, PA 521, PA 522, PA 523, PA 524, PA 525, PA 531, PA 532, PA 533, PA 534, PA 535, PA 536, PA 547, PA 550, PA 599

### **Second Year (Phase II & Phase III) - 36 credit hours**

PA 545, PA 551, PA 580, PA 581, PA 582, PA 583, PA 596, PA 599

**Total - 90 credit hours**

## **Curricular Guide**

### **Phase I**

- **Semester 1 – Summer (Unit 1) – 10 Credit Hours**
  - PA 500: Introduction to the Profession (1 CH)
  - PA 501: PBL, Unit 1 (3 CH)
  - PA 511: Pharmacology I (1 CH)
  - PA 521: Clinical Anatomy and Integrated Sciences I (2 CH)
  - PA 531: Patient Evaluation I (2 CH)
  - PA 547: Research Methods (1 CH)
- **Semester 2 – Fall (Units 2 & 3) – 22 Credit Hours**
  - PA 502 -AND- PA 503: PBL, Units 2 and 3 (3 CH each)
  - PA 506: Patient Education/Behavioral Science (1 CH)
  - PA 507: Diversity in Medical Practice (1 CH)
  - PA 512 -AND- PA 513: Pharmacology II, III (1 CH each)
  - PA 522 -AND- PA 523: Clinical Anatomy and Integrated Sciences II, III (2 CH each)
  - PA 532 -AND- PA 533: Patient Evaluation II, III (2 CH each)
  - PA 550: Clinical Mentoring - Phase I (2 CH)

- PA 599: Master's Seminar (2 CH)
- **Semester 3 – Spring (Units 4 & 5) – 22 Credit Hours**
  - PA 504 -AND- PA 505: PBL, Units 4 and 5 (3 CH each)
  - PA 506: Patient Education/Behavioral Science (1 CH)
  - PA 514 -AND- PA 515: Pharmacology IV, V (1 CH each)
  - PA 524 -AND- PA 525: Clinical Anatomy and Integrated Sciences IV, V (2 CH each)
  - PA 534: Clinical/Procedural Skills (2 CH)
  - PA 535: ACLS/EKG (2 CH)
  - PA 536: Introduction to the Surgical Setting (1 CH)
  - PA 550: Clinical Mentoring – Phase I (2 CH)
  - PA 599: Master's Seminar (2 CH)

## Phase II

- **Semester 4 – Summer – 6 Credit Hours**
  - PA 551: Clinical Mentoring – Phase II (1 CH)
  - PA 580: PBL Tutor Group – Phase II (1 CH)
  - PA 581: Clinical Rotations I (3 CH)
  - PA 599: Master's Seminar (1 CH)
- **Semester 5 – Fall – 12 Credit Hours**
  - PA 551: Clinical Mentoring – Phase II (2 CH)
  - PA 580: PBL Tutor Group – Phase II (2 CH)
  - PA 582: Clinical Rotations II (6 CH)
  - PA 599: Master's Seminar (2 CH)
- **Semester 6 – Spring – 12 Credit Hours**
  - PA 551: Clinical Mentoring – Phase II (2 CH)
  - PA 580: PBL Tutor Group – Phase II (2 CH)
  - PA 583: Clinical Rotations III (6 CH)
  - PA 599: Master's Seminar (2 CH)

## Phase III

- **Semester 7 – Summer – 6 Credit Hours**
  - PA 545: Health Care Systems (3 CH)
  - PA 596: Preceptorship (3 CH)

A limited number of electives are also accepted:

### PA Elective Courses:

- PA 508: Holistic Medicine (1-3 CH)
- PA 585: Independent Study (1-6 CH)

### PA Continuing Enrollment:

- PA 601: (1 CH)

Used to complete the M.S.P.A. project if all other program requirements are met.

For more information on the M.S.P.A. degree offered by the Physician Assistant Program, visit our web site at: [siumed.edu/paprogram](http://siumed.edu/paprogram) or email the Program Advisor.

## Doctor of Medical Sciences (D.M.Sc.) in Physician Assistant Studies

The Doctor of Medical Science (D.M.Sc.) in Physician Assistant Studies is offered by the School of Medicine Department of Family and Community Medicine Physician Assistant (PA) Program. The D.M.Sc. degree utilizes online learning activities and offers the choice of an education or clinical practicum.

All of the courses in the D.M.Sc. degree are specific to PAs. Course activities are examined from the perspective of PAs in clinical practice and PA education.

The D.M.Sc. program at Southern Illinois University will prepare medical professionals who are thought leaders working in health care, higher education, research and innovative industries, as well as public and private agencies. These PA leaders will be thoroughly grounded in knowledge base, research paradigms, practical applications, and the ethical/legal implications of their respective career paths. The D.M.Sc. program will provide a balanced mix of theory, research, and practical application in the areas of medical practice, education, and leadership.

## Admission

To be considered for enrollment in the D.M.Sc. degree program, applicants must have a master's degree in PA studies from a PA program accredited by the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant (ARC-PA) and either be in clinical practice or an educator in a PA program in the United States or Canada. Applicants must also have passed the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants (NCCPA) board examination and possess an unrestricted state license to practice as a Physician Assistant where applicable. This program requires a nonrefundable \$75 application fee (subject to change without notice by the SIU Board of Trustees) that must be submitted with the application for admission to graduate study in the D.M.Sc. program. Accepted applicants will be required to submit a nonrefundable enrollment deposit to reserve a position in the class. The deposit is due within 10 days of the program's invitation to the applicant. The deposit will be applied to the student's Bursar account two weeks after matriculation. If an applicant who has accepted an offer for admission decides to drop, the enrollment deposit will not be refunded. No advanced placement is awarded towards completion of D.M.Sc. Program courses.

## Degree Requirements

Students selected for the D.M.Sc. will begin study in the summer session. Those accepted will be notified during or before the spring session prior to the summer session entry. The curriculum consists of online courses and activities, a longitudinal practicum or education series, and a scholarly project course and project submission.

**Clinical Track:** DMSC 510, DMSC 520, DMSC 530, DMSC 540, DMSC 550, DMSC 560, DMSC 561, DMSC 562, DMSC 563, DMSC 571, DMSC 572, DMSC 573, DMSC 574

**Education Track:** DMSC 510, DMSC 520, DMSC 530, DMSC 540, DMSC 550, DMSC 560, DMSC 561, DMSC 562, DMSC 563, DMSC 581, DMSC 582, DMSC 583, DMSC 584

## Curricular Guide

The course sequence will be delivered over 5 units of instruction. The general course sequencing for a summer start is:

### Unit 1 (9 weeks)

DMSC 510: Organizational Behavior and Leadership (3 CH)

DMSC 560: Evidence-Based Research and Performance Improvement in Clinical Practice (3 CH)

### Unit 2 (8 weeks)

DMSC 520: Healthcare Administration for PAs (3 CH)

DMSC 561: Evidence-Based Research and Scholarly Project I (1 CH)

DMSC 571: PA Practicum I (4 CH) -OR-

DMSC 581: PA Education Practicum (4 CH)

### Unit 3 (10 weeks)

DMSC 530: Healthcare Law for PAs (3 CH)

DMSC 562: Evidence-based Research and Scholarly Project II (1 CH)

DMSC 572: Advanced Clinical Practicum II (4 CH) -OR-

DMSC 582: PA Education Practicum II (4 CH)

#### Unit 4 (9 weeks)

DMSC 540: Global Health for PAs (3 CH)  
DMSC 573: Advanced Clinical Practicum III (4 CH) -OR -  
DMSC 583: PA Practicum Program Evaluation (4 CH)

#### Unit 5 (9 weeks)

DMSC 550: Disaster Medicine for PAs (3 CH)  
DMSC 563: Evidence-Based Research and Scholarly Project III (1 CH)  
DMSC 574: Advanced Clinical Practicum IV (4 CH) -OR-  
DMSC 584: PA Education Practicum IV (4 CH)

## Physician Assistant Studies Courses

**DMSC510 - Organizational Behavior and Leadership** This course provides students with foundational studies in organizations and leadership practices. This course concentrates on fostering skills in the development, organization, and maintenance of effective teams. Topics will include organizational change, roles, conflict, leadership styles, and effective implementation strategies with emphasis on healthcare and educational organizations. Credit Hours: 3

**DMSC520 - Healthcare Administration** This course provides students with foundational studies in finance, resource allocation, and administration. The course concentrates on fostering skills in practical approaches to improving healthcare within an ethical framework and management style. Topics will include identifying and reviewing existing literature; critically examining existing programs, policies, and structures; and addressing the needs of patients, staff, board members, policymakers, and other stakeholders. Credit Hours: 3

**DMSC530 - Healthcare Law** This course provides students with an introduction to the study of legal and policy issues in healthcare. This course concentrates on the role of the PA within healthcare in the United States. Topics may include foundational and complex legal issues, leadership roles, and professional relationships in the healthcare system, access issues, quality of healthcare, and patient protections. Credit Hours: 3

**DMSC540 - Global Health** This course provides students with an introduction to global health issues. This course concentrates on key infectious diseases, determinants of health, delivery structures, and the PA role in global health strategies. Topics will include acute and chronic disease, infectious disease, maternal/child health, and the effects of poverty on health, cultural issues, as well as established international models and case studies. Credit Hours: 3

**DMSC550 - Disaster Medicine** This course provides students with an overview of the clinical aspects of disaster medicine. This course concentrates on the role of PAs in disaster medicine and established programs in this discipline. Topics will include health issues, epidemiology, and clinical research within disaster medicine, with emphasis on the leadership roles of PAs. Credit Hours: 3

**DMSC560 - Performance Improvement in Clinical Practice** This course introduces the student to key principles of evidence-based research and performance improvement. This course concentrates on scientific research and performance improvement in medical practice. Topics include research design, methodology, ethics, and critical appraisal of the medical literature, and quality performance to achieve patient-centered clinical outcomes. During this course, students will begin to develop the proposal of their scholarly project. Credit Hours: 3

**DMSC561 - Scholarly Project I** In this course, students are introduced to the framework of the scholarly project. This course concentrates on evidence-based research as it applies to the scholarly project. Topics include project development, the proposal process, revisions, and submission of their scholarly project proposal. Students will work closely with their faculty advisor as they progress through this process. Approval of the project is accomplished prior to completion of this course. Emphasis of the

scholarly project is on clinical practice, the PA profession, or PA education. Prerequisite: DMSC 560 with a grade of C or concurrent enrollment in DMSC 560. Credit Hours: 1

**DMSC562 - Scholarly Project II** In this course, students delve into the process of inquiry and literature review. This course concentrates on the application of concepts and methods from previous courses. Topics include synthesis of research, application of knowledge, and writing for future publication or presentation at professional conferences as the student develops and works on their scholarly project. Prerequisite: DMSC 561 with a grade of C or better or concurrent enrollment in DMSC 561. Credit Hours: 1

**DMSC563 - Scholarly Project III** In this course, students focus on the final preparation and submission of the scholarly project. This course concentrates on finalizing the project for submission to the DMSc program. Topics include the requirements in content, research, format, and relevancy of the scholarly project, as well as preparing the project for submission for publication in a professional journal or presentation at a professional conference. Final project grades are assigned by the student's faculty advisor. Prerequisite: DMSC 562 with a grade of C or better or concurrent enrollment in DMSC 562. Credit Hours: 1

**DMSC571 - Advanced Clinical Practicum I** This course will provide intensive clinical exposure in a chosen clinical specialty to further the student's clinical practice. Students will apply advanced and specialized medical knowledge beyond general practice. The basic mission of the SIU SOM PA Program is to graduate PA's who will be competent primary care providers, able to serve populations in medically underserved areas. Students in the Clinical Practicum course will be asked to define educational milestones related to patient encounters that involve rural or underserved populations. These clinical objectives will encourage students to gain the unique perspective related to healthcare issues of this patient population. This course will be the first in the series, with the aim to provide intensive clinical exposure in a chosen clinical specialty to further the student's clinical practice. Credit Hours: 4

**DMSC572 - Advanced Clinical Practicum II** This course will be the second session of the Advanced Clinical Practicum and will continue to provide intensive clinical exposure in a chosen clinical specialty to further the student's clinical practice. Students will apply advanced and specialized medical knowledge beyond general practice. Prerequisite: DMSC 571 with a grade of C or better or concurrent enrollment in DMSC 571. Credit Hours: 4

**DMSC573 - Advanced Clinical Practicum III** This course will be the third session of the Advanced Clinical Practicum and will continue to provide intensive clinical exposure in a chosen clinical specialty to further the student's clinical practice. Students will apply advanced and specialized medical knowledge beyond general practice. Prerequisite: DMSC 572 with a grade of C or better or concurrent enrollment in DMSC 572. Credit Hours: 4

**DMSC574 - Advanced Clinical Practicum IV** This course will be the fourth session of the Advanced Clinical Practicum and will continue to provide intensive clinical exposure in a chosen clinical specialty to further the student's clinical practice. Students will apply advanced and specialized medical knowledge beyond general practice. Prerequisite: DMSC 573 with a grade of C or better or concurrent enrollment in DMSC 573. Credit Hours: 4

**DMSC581 - PA Education Practicum I** Learning Theories and Methodology: This is first in the longitudinal PA Education Practicum, which provides opportunities for development as a faculty member and/or clinical preceptor. Fellows will explore adult learning theories, such as problem-based learning (PBL), social cognitive theory, reflective practice, and transformative learning to improve their institution's student learning outcomes through the practicum experience. Because SIU is a PBL leader in medical education, emphasis will be placed on PBL methodology, facilitator techniques, learner-centered education, and group dynamics. Fellow will also define professional goals and begin obtaining multi-source evaluations of their Practicum work. Credit Hours: 4

**DMSC582 - PA Education Practicum II** Student Assessment Essentials: This course is the second of the PA Education Practicum and provides exposure in various student assessment techniques to apply in the practicum setting. These include formative and summative evaluations employing multiple modalities, such as standardized patient encounters, multiple choice exams, reflection, lab exams, demonstration, and oral examinations. Fellows will apply concepts from medical and educational literature to improve student assessment at their institution during the practicum experience. Fellows will build on knowledge

from the DMS 981 Practicum course and continue multi-source evaluations of their work. Prerequisite: DMSC 581 with a grade of C or better or concurrent enrollment in DMSC 581. Credit Hours: 4

**DMSC583 - PA Education Practicum III** Program Evaluation: This course is the third of the PA Education Practicum and provides intensive PA educational experience with regard to program evaluation concepts in the medical education setting. Models of program assessment to be studied include the objectives-oriented approach, management and/or participant approaches, and the utilization-focused approach to apply program evaluation concepts to the practicum setting. Fellows will review accreditation standards applicable to their practicum setting, and lead a portion of the institution's continuous self-assessment process. Fellows will build on knowledge from the DMS 982 Practicum course and continue multi-source evaluations of their work. Prerequisite: DMSC 582 with a grade of C or better or concurrent enrollment in DMSC 582. Credit Hours: 4

**DMSC584 - PA Education Practicum IV** Professional Development and Scholarship: This course is the fourth of the PA Education Practicum series and provides experience in professional development in the area of PA medical education. Fellows will develop their teaching philosophy, define and reflect on service activities, identify program and PA profession research needs, as well as their own areas of expertise and scholarly goals. At the completion of this course, Fellows will summarize their progress toward integrated learning theories and methods, student assessment, program evaluation, as well as their own development as academicians throughout the practicum experiences. Prerequisite: DMSC 583 with a grade of C or better or concurrent enrollment in DMSC 583. Credit Hours: 4

**PA500 - Introduction to the PA Profession** This course is designed to provide students with an understanding of professional issues of the Physician Assistant. Students are introduced to physician assistant history, standards of quality assurance, credentialing and licensure, regulations governing practice, business issues, and contract negotiation. Students explore opportunities in professional organizations and ways to strengthen their professional development. Credit Hours: 1

**PA501 - Problem Based Learning Group, Unit 1** This course is designed to focus on medical topics in cardiology and gastroenterology. Problem-based learning is utilized with emphasis on expanding the student's knowledge base, enhancing the student's clinical reasoning skills and self-directed learning, and improving interpersonal communication skills among students and patients. Limited to six to nine students per section. Credit Hours: 3

**PA502 - Problem Based Learning Group, Unit 2** This course is designed to focus on internal medicine topics in respiratory medicine, dermatology, urology, and infectious disease. Problem based learning is used with emphasis on expanding the student's knowledge base, enhancing clinical reasoning skills and self-directed learning, and improving interpersonal communication skills among students and patients. Credit Hours: 3

**PA503 - Problem Based Learning Group, Unit 3** This course is designed to focus on internal medicine topics in neurological and psychiatric diseases. Problem-based learning is utilized with emphasis on expanding the student's knowledge base, enhancing the student's clinical reasoning skills and self-directed learning, and improving interpersonal communication skills among students and patients. Credit Hours: 3

**PA504 - Problem Based Learning Group, Unit 4** This course is designed to focus on health concerns, physiological and psychosocial issues of obstetrics, gynecology, urology, and pediatric gastroenterology. Problem based learning is utilized in expanding the student's knowledge base, clinical reasoning skills, self-directed learning, and improving interpersonal communication skills. Credit Hours: 3

**PA505 - Problem Based Learning Group, Unit 5** This course is designed to focus on medical topics related to endocrinology, renal disease, and metabolism. Problem-based learning is utilized with emphasis on expanding the student's knowledge base, enhancing the student's clinical reasoning skills and self-directed learning, and improving interpersonal communication skills among students and patients. Credit Hours: 3

**PA506 - Behavioral Science/Patient Education** This course explores behavioral science and patient education as it applies to the practice of medicine, as well as maintenance of health and prevention of illness. Credit Hours: 1

**PA507 - Diversity in Medical Practice** Students examine issues that arise when delivering medical services to persons of diverse cultures, ethnicity, race, sexual orientation, gender, and socioeconomic status. Implications for providing medical services to persons who have experienced discrimination and disadvantage will be discussed. Credit Hours: 1

**PA508 - Holistic Medicine** This course is designed to explore the current research, practice and applications of Mind-Body-Spirit Medicine (MBSM). Students will explore the use of various techniques for use in clinical and therapeutic settings as well as for maintaining their own personal health. Credit Hours: 1

**PA511 - Pharmacology I** This course introduces students to the therapeutic agents most commonly used for treatment of disorders of the cardiovascular and gastrointestinal systems. The practical aspects of dosage, schedules, therapeutic effect, adverse reactions, metabolism, mechanism of action and excretion are investigated. Credit Hours: 1

**PA512 - Pharmacology II** This course introduces students to the therapeutic agents most commonly used involving the pulmonary and integumentary systems, as well as those medications used in infectious disease. The practical aspects of dosage, schedules, therapeutic effect, adverse reactions, metabolism, method of action and excretion are investigated. Credit Hours: 1

**PA513 - Pharmacology III** This course introduces students to the therapeutic agents most commonly used in neurology and psychiatry. The practical aspects of dosage, schedules, therapeutic effect, adverse reactions, metabolism, method of action and excretion are investigated. Credit Hours: 1

**PA514 - Pharmacology IV** This course introduces students to the therapeutic agents most commonly used in practice involving pregnancy, neonates, infants, sexually transmitted diseases, menopause, and prostate disorders. The practical aspects of dosage, schedules, therapeutic effect, adverse reactions, metabolism, method of action and excretion are investigated. Credit Hours: 1

**PA515 - Pharmacology V** This course introduces students to the therapeutic agents most commonly used in treating diabetes, thyroid disorders, renal disease, and fluid disorders. The practical aspects of dosage, schedules, therapeutic effect, adverse reactions, metabolism, method of action and excretion are investigated. Credit Hours: 1

**PA521 - Clinical Anatomy and Integrated Sciences I** This course involves the study of anatomical structures with cadaveric materials, clinical applications, physiology and pathophysiology of selected systems. Radiology, microscopy, and embryology issues will be included. Credit Hours: 2

**PA522 - Clinical Anatomy and Integrated Sciences II** This course involves the study of anatomical structures with cadaveric materials, clinical applications, physiology and pathophysiology of selected systems. Radiology, microscopy, and embryology issues will be included. Credit Hours: 2

**PA523 - Clinical Anatomy and Integrated Sciences III** This course involves the study of anatomical structures with cadaveric materials, clinical applications, physiology and pathophysiology of selected systems. Radiology, microscopy, and embryology issues will be included. Credit Hours: 2

**PA524 - Clinical Anatomy and Integrated Sciences IV** This course involves the study of anatomical structures with cadaveric materials, clinical applications, physiology and pathophysiology of selected systems. Radiology, microscopy, and embryology issues will be included. Credit Hours: 2

**PA525 - Clinical Anatomy and Integrated Sciences V** This course involves the study of anatomical structures with cadaveric materials, clinical applications, physiology and pathophysiology of selected systems. Radiology, microscopy, and embryology issues will be included. Credit Hours: 2

**PA531 - Patient Evaluation I** This course is designed to prepare the Physician Assistant student in taking a patient history and performing portions of the physical exam. Interview and communication skills, medical terminology, and recording patient information are also explored. Credit Hours: 2

**PA532 - Patient Evaluation II** This course is designed to build on student's knowledge of pertinent physical exam skills, and increase knowledge regarding the medical history and clinical procedures.



Students continue to improve skills in areas of the patient interview, medical terminology, and recording patient information. Credit Hours: 2

**PA533 - Patient Evaluation III** This course is designed to build on students' knowledge of physical exam skills, introduce new systems, and improve skills in areas of the patient interview, medical terminology, and recording patient information. Credit Hours: 2

**PA534 - Clinical Procedural Skills** Students develop and expand their skills in performance of clinical procedural skills needed for competency in office and hospital-based practice. Topics will include central line placement, IV therapy, EKG, lumbar puncture, venipuncture, casting, suturing, and thoracentesis. Credit Hours: 2

**PA535 - EKG and Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS)** EKG/ACLS is designed to provide the knowledge and skills needed to read EKGs and to evaluate and manage the first ten minutes of an adult ventricular fibrillation/tachycardia arrest. Students learn to manage ten core ACLS cases, a respiratory emergency, four types of cardiac arrest, four types of pre-arrest emergencies, and stroke. Credit Hours: 2

**PA536 - Introduction to the Surgical Setting** During this course, the student will be exposed to the various aspects of the general surgical setting. Fundamentals to be introduced include pre- and post-operative care, sterile technique, gowning and gloving, and the identification of surgical instruments. Credit Hours: 1

**PA545 - Health Care Systems** This course is designed to cover the following topics: delivery of health care, standards of care and guidelines as they affect practice issues, cost and effectiveness, economics of health care, insurance and health care, indigent medical care, the health workforce, access to care, health policy, and technology (electronic medical records, email, telemedicine). Credit Hours: 3

**PA547 - Research Methods and Evidence Based Medicine (EBM)** This course focuses on scientific inquiry within the Physician Assistant practice, covering the application of basic research methodology including problem formation, research designs, sampling, measurement, data analysis technical writing and dissemination of research results, and research ethics. Students will also focus on developing evidence-based medicine (EBM) skills. Credit Hours: 1-4

**PA550 - Clinical Mentoring - Phase I** Students gain clinical experience in the community setting by participating in a one-half day per week continuity clinic in Family Medicine with a designated mentor. Students register for this course during the first fall semester of the program. They register again for this course in the spring semester, until Phase II. Credit Hours: 1-2

**PA551 - Clinical Mentoring - Phase II** Students continue to gain clinical experience in the community setting by participating in a one-half day per week continuity clinic in Family Medicine with a designated mentor. Students register for this course during the second summer semester of the program. They register again for this course in subsequent semesters, until the Preceptorship. Maximum hours per term are 2. Credit Hours: 1-2

**PA580 - Problem Based Learning (PBL) Group Phase II** Phase II students participate in a one-half day per week problem based learning tutor group, in which they engage in the Barrowsian method of problem-based learning at respective Hubsites. This course is designated to foster independence in clinical reasoning and knowledge synthesis by working through patient problems, as well as improving the application of knowledge to clinical practice. Credit Hours: 1-2

**PA581 - Clinical Rotations I** This is the first (summer semester) in a three course sequence of supervised clinical experience in a variety of settings and nine specialty areas. Credit Hours: 3

**PA582 - Clinical Rotations II** This is the second course (fall semester) in a three course sequence of supervised clinical experience in a variety of settings and nine specialty areas. Credit Hours: 6

**PA583 - Clinical Rotations III** This is the third course (spring semester) in a three course sequence of supervised clinical experience in a variety of settings and nine specialty areas. Credit Hours: 6

**PA585 - Independent Study** Directed independent study in selected areas of Physician Assistant studies. Credit Hours: 1-6

**PA596 - Preceptorship** The eight week preceptorship simulates the role of the Master's prepared graduate Physician Assistant, with supervision by the clinical preceptor. This is generally completed in a primary care area of medicine. Credit Hours: 3

**PA599 - Master's Seminar** This is a longitudinal course taken over several semesters in which students work on proposal design, development, construction, research, writing, and project presentation. The Master's Seminar culminates in defense of a Grand Rounds Presentation, Community Project Presentation, or a published Problem-Based Learning Module and Tutor Guide. Restricted to Physician Assistant majors. Credit Hours: 1-8

**PA601 - Continuing Enrollment** For graduate students who have not completed the program and are in the process of their Master's Project. The student must have completed all other program requirements to be eligible to register for this course. Concurrent enrollment in any other courses is not permitted. S/U or DEF grades only. Prerequisite: Completion of all Program coursework except PA 599. Credit Hours: 1

## Physician Assistant Studies Faculty

### Master of Science Physician Assistant (M.S.P.A.) in Physician Assistant Studies Faculty

**Debeljuk, Gloria**, Clinical Assistant Professor, Family and Community Medicine, MD, MSW, LCSW, School of Medicine, University of Buenos Aires, Argentina, Southern Illinois University, 1967; 1994.

**Diemer, Donald**, Clinical Assistant Professor and Program Director, Family and Community Medicine, DHSc, MPAS, PA-C, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, 1996.

**Johnson, Molly T.**, Clinical Assistant Professor, Family and Community Medicine, MS, APN, Pace University, Lienhard School of Nursing, Pleasantville NY, 1982.

**Kelly, Cheri**, Clinical Assistant Professor and Academic Coordinator, Family and Community Medicine, M.S., PA-C, Southern Illinois University, 1990; 1999.

**Miller, Brooke**, Assistant Professor and Clinical Coordinator, Family and Community Medicine, MPAS, PA-C, University of Nebraska Medical Center, 2006; 2009.

**Pierson, William T.**, Clinical Assistant Professor, Family and Community Medicine, Ph.D., Southwest College of Naturopathic Medicine, Tempe, AZ, 2000.

**Pulver, Rhonda**, Assistant Professor and Clinical Coordinator, Family and Community Medicine, MS, PA-C, Wayne State University, 2005; 2010.

**Reichert, Rob**, Instructor of Pharmacology, Family and Community Medicine, PharmD, St. Louis College of Pharmacy, 2011.

**Ryznyk, Laurie**, Associate Professor and Associate Director, Family and Community Medicine, MPAS, PA-C, University of Nebraska Medical Center, 2001; 1995.

**Scott, M. Kate**, Assistant Professor, Family and Community Medicine, MPAS, PA-C, University of Nebraska Medical Center, 2016; 1995.

**Smith, Sidney**, Clinical Assistant Professor, Family and Community Medicine, M.D., F.A.A.P., Northwestern University School of Medicine, 1965.

**Waldyke, Kathryn**, Clinical Assistant Professor, Family and Community Medicine, M.D., Michigan State University, 1990; 2011.

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