

Master of Physician Assistant Studies

Cohort: MPAS 10



**Rocky Mountain
University**

Tyler Sommer, MPAS, PA-C
Program Director
tyler.sommer@rm.edu

1800 S Novell Place
Provo, UT 84606
801.375.5125
www.rm.edu

Program Description.....	1
Program Outline	1
Program Calendar	3
Course Descriptions.....	5

Program Description

This entry-level PA program provides a robust curriculum intentionally and meaningfully designed to develop students into top-notch clinicians. Graduates of the program earn a Master's degree and are then eligible to take the PA National Certification Exam.

Mission:

The mission of Rocky Mountain University of Health Professions PA Program is to educate students to become competent physician assistants who value and provide comprehensive, evidence-based, patient-centered care and are committed to lifelong-learning, professional excellence, and collaborative practice.

Vision:

The vision of the RMUoHP PA Program is to:

- foster a culture of growth mindedness, unity of purpose, collegiality, and a perpetual desire for self-directed learning,
- deliver a richly balanced, application-based curriculum centered on critical principles of health, wellness, and disease,
- graduate self-reflective professionals with adept clinical reasoning skills and keen sensitivity to unique patient needs,
- empower students to become digitally literate clinicians proficient in applying information technologies and collaborative networking skills to improve patient care.

Program Outcomes:

Medical Knowledge (cMK)

Medical knowledge includes the synthesis of pathophysiology, patient presentation, differential diagnosis, patient management, surgical principles, health promotion, and disease prevention. PAs must demonstrate core knowledge about established and evolving biomedical and clinical sciences and the application of this knowledge to patient care in their area of practice. In addition, PAs are expected to demonstrate an investigative and analytic thinking approach to clinical situations. PAs are expected to understand, evaluate, and apply the following to clinical scenarios:

1. Evidence-based medicine
2. Scientific principles related to patient care
3. Etiologies, risk factors, underlying pathologic process, and epidemiology for medical conditions
4. Signs and symptoms of medical and surgical conditions
5. Appropriate diagnostic studies management of general medical and surgical conditions to include pharmacologic and other treatment modalities
6. Interventions for prevention of disease and health promotion/maintenance
7. Screening methods to detect conditions in an asymptomatic individual
8. History and physical findings and diagnostic studies to formulate differential diagnoses

Interpersonal and Communication Skills (cICS)

Interpersonal and communication skills encompass the verbal, nonverbal, written, and electronic exchange of information. PAs must demonstrate interpersonal and communication skills that result in effective information exchange with patients, patients' families, physicians, professional associates, and other individuals within the health care system. Physician assistants are expected to:

1. Create and sustain a therapeutic and ethically sound relationship with patients
2. Use effective communication skills to elicit and provide information
3. Adapt communication style and messages to the context of the interaction
4. Work effectively with physicians and other health care professionals as a member or leader of a health care team or other professional group
5. Demonstrate emotional resilience and stability, adaptability, flexibility, and tolerance of ambiguity and anxiety
6. Accurately and adequately document information regarding care for medical, legal, quality, and financial purposes

Patient Care (cPC)

Patient care includes patient- and setting-specific assessment, evaluation, and management. PAs must demonstrate care that is effective, safe, high quality, and equitable. Physician assistants are expected to:

1. Work effectively with physicians and other health care professionals to provide patient-centered care
2. Demonstrate compassionate and respectful behaviors when interacting with patients and their families
3. Obtain essential and accurate information about their patients
4. Make decisions about diagnostic and therapeutic interventions based on patient information and preferences, current scientific evidence, and informed clinical judgment
5. Develop and implement patient management plans
6. Counsel and educate patients and their families
7. Perform medical and surgical procedures essential to their area of practice
8. Provide health care services and education aimed at disease prevention and health maintenance

9. Use information technology to support patient care decisions and patient education

Professionalism (cPR)

Professionalism is the expression of positive values and ideals as care is delivered. Foremost, it involves prioritizing the interests of those being served above one's own. PAs must acknowledge their professional and personal limitations. Professionalism also requires that PAs practice without impairment from substance abuse, cognitive deficiency or mental illness. PAs must demonstrate a high level of responsibility, ethical practice, sensitivity to a diverse patient population, and adherence to legal and regulatory requirements. Physician assistants are expected to demonstrate:

1. Understanding of legal and regulatory requirements, as well as the appropriate role of the physician assistant
2. Professional relationships with physician supervisors and other health care providers
3. Respect, compassion, and integrity
4. Accountability to patients, society, and the profession
5. Commitment to excellence and on-going professional development
6. Commitment to ethical principles pertaining to provision or withholding of clinical care, confidentiality of patient information, informed consent, and business practices
7. Sensitivity and responsiveness to patients' culture, age, gender, and abilities
8. Self-reflection, critical curiosity, and initiative
9. Healthy behaviors and life balance
10. Commitment to the education of students and other health care professionals

Practice-Based Learning and Improvement (cPBLI)

Practice-based learning and improvement includes the processes through which PAs engage in critical analysis of their own practice experience, the medical literature, and other information resources for the purposes of self- and practice-improvement. Physician assistants must be able to assess, evaluate, and improve their patient care practices. Physician assistants are expected to:

1. Analyze practice experience and perform practice-based improvement activities using a systematic methodology in concert with other members of the health care delivery team
2. Locate, appraise, and integrate evidence from scientific studies related to their patients' health
3. Apply knowledge of study designs and statistical methods to the appraisal of clinical literature and other information on diagnostic and therapeutic effectiveness
4. Utilize information technology to manage information, access medical information, and support their own education
5. Recognize and appropriately address personal biases, gaps in medical knowledge, and physical limitations in themselves and others

System-Based Practice (cSBP)

Systems-based practice encompasses the societal, organizational, and economic environments in which health care is delivered. PAs must demonstrate an awareness of and responsiveness to the larger system of health care to provide patient care that balances quality and cost, while maintaining the primacy of the individual patient. PAs should work to improve the health care system of which their practices are a part.

Physician assistants are expected to:

1. Effectively interact with different types of medical practice and delivery systems
2. Understand the funding sources and payment systems that provide coverage for patient care and use the systems effectively
3. Practice cost-effective health care and resource allocation that does not compromise quality of care
4. Advocate for quality patient care and assist patients in dealing with system complexities
5. Partner with supervising physicians, health care managers, and other health care providers to assess, coordinate, and improve the delivery and effectiveness of health care and patient outcomes
6. Accept responsibility for promoting a safe environment for patient care and recognizing and correcting systems-based factors that negatively impact patient care
7. Apply medical information and clinical data systems to provide effective, efficient patient care
8. Recognize and appropriately address system biases that contribute to health care disparities
9. Apply the concepts of population health to patient

Program Outline

	Course Code & Title	Credits
Core Courses		
	PAS 501 Applied Human Anatomy	4
	PAS 502 Biomedical Sciences	4
	PAS 503 History and Physical Exam	3
	PAS 504 Primary Care Fundamentals	2
	PAS 505 Digital Literacy & Technical Communications	1
	PAS 511 Professional Development I	1
	PAS 512 Professional Development II	1
	PAS 513 Professional Development III	1
	PAS 514 Professional Development IV	1
	PAS 515 Professional Development V	1
	PAS 516 Professional Development VI	1
	PAS 517 Professional Development VII	1
	PAS 690 Evidence-Based Practice 1	1
	PAS 692 Applied Clinical Reasoning 1	3
	PAS 693 Applied Clinical Reasoning 2	2
	PAS 694 Applied Clinical Reasoning 3	2
	PAS 695 Evidence-Based Practice 2	1
	PAS 700 Clinical Rotation Preparatory Seminar	1
	PAS 799 Summative Seminar	0
Clinical Medicine Courses		
	PAS 506 Clinical Pharmacology Core	3
	PAS 601 Clinical Medicine: Behavioral Dynamics	3
	PAS 602 Clinical Medicine: Hematology/Oncology	2
	PAS 603 Clinical Medicine: Endocrinology	2
	PAS 604 Clinical Medicine: Infectious Disease	2
	PAS 605 Clinical Medicine: EENT	2
	PAS 606 Clinical Medicine: Cardiovascular/EKG	4
	PAS 607 Clinical Medicine: Pulmonology	2
	PAS 608 Clinical Medicine: Genitourinary	2
	PAS 609 Clinical Medicine: Gastroenterology	2
	PAS 610 Clinical Medicine: Pediatrics	3
	PAS 613 Clinical Medicine: Surgery	1
	PAS 611 Clinical Medicine: Neurology	2
	PAS 614 Clinical Medicine: Geriatrics	2
	PAS 615 Clinical Medicine: Women's Health	2
	PAS 616 Clinical Medicine: Emergency Medicine	3
	PAS 617 Clinical Medicine: Dermatology	2
	PAS 618 Clinical Medicine: Musculoskeletal	4
Clinical Rotation Courses		
	PAS 701 Clinical Rotation (5 weeks)	5
	PAS 702 Clinical Rotation (5 weeks)	5
	PAS 703 Clinical Rotation (5 weeks)	5

PAS 704 Clinical Rotation (5 weeks)	5
PAS 705 Clinical Rotation (5 weeks)	5
PAS 706 Clinical Rotation (5 weeks)	5
PAS 707 Clinical Rotation (5 weeks)	5
PAS 708 Clinical Rotation (5 weeks)	5
Total Program Required Credits:	114

Program Calendar

Semester	Course	Credits
Semester 1 Summer 2024 <i>May 6-Aug. 23</i>	PAS 511 Professional Development I	1
	PAS 690 Evidence-Based Practice 1	1
	PAS 501 Applied Human Anatomy	4
	PAS 502 Biomedical Sciences	4
	PAS 503 History and Physical Exam	3
	PAS 504 Primary Care Fundamentals	2
	PAS 505 Digital Literacy & Technical Communications	1
	Semester Total:	16
Semester 2 Fall 2024 <i>Sep. 3-Dec. 20</i>	PAS 512 Professional Development II	1
	PAS 692 Applied Clinical Reasoning 1	3
	PAS 506 Clinical Pharmacology Core	3
	PAS 601 Clinical Medicine: Behavioral Dynamics	3
	PAS 602 Clinical Medicine: Hematology/Oncology	2
	PAS 603 Clinical Medicine: Endocrinology	2
	PAS 604 Clinical Medicine: Infectious Disease	2
	PAS 605 Clinical Medicine: EENT	2
	PAS 695 Evidence-Based Practice 2	1
	Semester Total:	19
Semester 3 Winter 2025 <i>Jan. 6-Apr. 25</i>	PAS 513 Professional Development III	1
	PAS 693 Applied Clinical Reasoning 2	2
	PAS 606 Clinical Medicine: Cardiovascular/EKG	4
	PAS 607 Clinical Medicine: Pulmonology	2
	PAS 608 Clinical Medicine: Genitourinary	2
	PAS 609 Clinical Medicine: Gastroenterology	2
	PAS 610 Clinical Medicine: Pediatrics	3
	PAS 613 Clinical Medicine: Surgery	1
	Semester Total:	17
Semester 4 Summer 2025 <i>May 5-Aug. 22</i>	PAS 514 Professional Development IV	1
	PAS 694 Applied Clinical Reasoning	2
	PAS 700 Clinical Rotation Preparatory Seminar	1
	PAS 611 Clinical Medicine: Neurology	2
	PAS 614 Clinical Medicine: Geriatrics	2
	PAS 615 Clinical Medicine: Women's Health	2
	PAS 616 Clinical Medicine: Emergency Medicine	3
	PAS 617 Clinical Medicine: Dermatology	2
	PAS 618 Clinical Medicine: Musculoskeletal	4
	Semester Total:	19
Semester 5 Fall 2025 <i>Sep. 2-Dec. 19</i>	PAS 515 Professional Development V	1
	PAS 701 Clinical Rotation (5 weeks)	5
	PAS 702 Clinical Rotation (5 weeks)	5
	PAS 703 Clinical Rotation (5 weeks)	5
	Semester Total:	16
Semester 6 Winter 2026 <i>Jan. 5-Apr. 24</i>	PAS 516 Professional Development VI	1
	PAS 704 Clinical Rotation (5 weeks)	5
	PAS 705 Clinical Rotation (5 weeks)	5
	PAS 706 Clinical Rotation (5 weeks)	5
	Semester Total:	16

Semester 7 Summer 2026 <i>May 4-Aug. 21</i>	PAS 517 Professional Development VII	1
	PAS 707 Clinical Rotation (5 weeks)	5
	PAS 708 Clinical Rotation (5 weeks)	5
	PAS 799 Summative Seminar	0
	Semester Total:	11
Total Program Required Credits:		114
<i>Five-year deadline for program completion from start of program.</i>		

Course Descriptions

PAS 511 Professional Development I

This course is the first in a series designed to integrate the principles of professionalism, ethics, profession-specific issues, and the business of medicine, with the practice of medicine. Students are instructed in academic and intellectual honesty and professional conduct in relation to academics and clinical practice. Specific focus areas include history of the physician assistant profession, professionalism, medical ethics, and working as part of a healthcare delivery team.

PAS 690 Evidence-Based Practice 1

Serving as a prelude to the Applied Clinical Reasoning courses, this course focuses on concepts of evidence-based practice. Specifically, the course covers the foundational principles of research design, epidemiology, biostatistics, and searching the medical literature.

PAS 501 Applied Human Anatomy

This course emphasizes the clinical application of human anatomy. Students learn to recognize normal anatomic structures and become familiar with common anatomic variations. This course covers topographical, radiological, and gross anatomy content pertinent to everyday primary care clinical practice. The cadaver laboratory offers hands-on-learning, facilitating abstraction of anatomical relationships and spatial orientation. Recognition of abnormal and pathologic findings is consistently stressed throughout the course, providing an applicable foundation for effective diagnostic evaluation and therapeutic intervention.

PAS 502 Biomedical Science

This course is an overview of physiologic and pathophysiologic processes influencing the human body. Part of the course emphasizes genetic, molecular, and cellular level mechanisms while other content focuses on disease manifestation at the organ and systems levels. Basic principles of cell biology, histology, embryology, immunology, and molecular genetics are covered. Included also is an introduction to general pathology, infectious processes, nutrition, and environmental effects on the human organism. Case studies assist students in applying relative principles in clinical situations, and initiate the process of understanding dysfunction and pathology in clinical settings. Recognition of alterations of normal function is highlighted throughout.

PAS 503 History and Physical Exam

This course challenges students to develop the knowledge and skills necessary to competently elicit a comprehensive, as well as problem-specific, medical history. Students are taught principles of physical examination and develop foundational skills including inspection, auscultation, percussion, and palpation. A focus on normal exam findings is emphasized to provide students a solid foundation for recognition of abnormal findings in later courses and eventual practice. Recording and documentation of medical records is introduced and practiced. This course focuses on adult exam and documentation. Specific material for pediatric and geriatric examination is addressed in their respective courses.

PAS 504 Primary Care Fundamentals

This course provides students with a strong foundation for practicing primary care clinical medicine. Providing holistic, relationship-centered patient care is emphasized. Clinical medicine topics covered include pervasive diseases encountered, diagnosed, and managed in the primary care setting, such as diabetes mellitus, hypertension, and lipid disorders. Common diagnostic and health maintenance laboratory studies are also explored, including but not limited to, complete blood count, basic metabolic panel, kidney function tests, liver function tests, lipid panels, and thyroid testing. Tailoring care to individual patients is discussed, particularly principles related to

treating patients with chronic disease states, enabling students to subsequently consider disease processes of organ-systems in the context of patients with common underlying comorbidities.

PAS 505 Digital Literacy & Technical Communications

In this course, students will develop skills to acquire quality, evidence-based information, and utilize this information to produce scholarly materials and communicate effectively with others in the healthcare field. An emphasis is placed on utilizing digital technology resources to acquire, communicate, and create scholarly works effectively in order to facilitate the students' ability to become lifelong learners. Topics covered include citation management systems, cloud-based information management, proper medical writing styles, and online forum discussions.

PAS 512 Professional Development II

This course is the second in a series designed to integrate the principles of professionalism, ethics, profession-specific issues, and the business of medicine, with the practice of medicine. Emphasis of this course is on the role healthcare providers play in the areas of public health, preventive medicine, and health maintenance.

PAS 692 Applied Clinical Reasoning 1

This course is the first in a series designed to challenge students to develop clinical reasoning skills, think critically, enhance interpersonal and communication skills, apply evidence-based resources, and problem-solve as clinicians and as members of an interdisciplinary healthcare team. Students are challenged with simulated cases where they develop clinical skills evaluating standardized patients. Cases encompass acute and/or longitudinal care, and the emphasis is placed on the following: developing differential diagnoses, developing assessments and plans, the medical chart, medical documentation, and informed consent. Students give oral case presentations and integrate aspects of preventive care and public health in the context of acute care.

PAS 506 Clinical Pharmacology Core

This course serves as a primer for future courses geared toward specific disease states, challenging students to learn core pharmacologic concepts foundational for subsequent utilization of pharmacotherapeutics in patient-centered practice. Principles of pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics are presented. Other topics include drug nomenclature, drug classification schemas, drug interactions, adverse drug reactions, autonomic nervous system pharmacology, analgesics and pain management principles, and individualized approaches to pharmacologic management of disease. Content related to prescriptive powers and prescriptive writing requirements is also provided.

PAS 601 Clinical Medicine: Behavioral Dynamics

This foundational course explores the psychosocial aspects of medicine. Students develop interpersonal and communication skills necessary to effectively communicate with patients and other healthcare professionals. Treatments are discussed from a biopsychosocial perspective with reference to psychotherapies, psychopharmacology, and environmental intervention. Recognition and management of common psychiatric and psychosocial problems encountered in primary care are highlighted. Indications for referral and hospitalization are discussed. Topics covered include but not be limited to: anxiety disorders, mood disorders, psychosis, substance use disorders, personality disorders, eating disorders, and psychiatric emergencies and crises. Case-based learning and role-play is employed to provide enhanced understanding of applying evidence-based practices to individual patient needs and circumstances.

PAS 602 Clinical Medicine: Hematology/Oncology

This course is a clinical medicine (CM) modular course using an organ-systems approach to facilitate student learning in the study of hematology and oncology. Focus includes commonly

encountered medical issues affecting hematopoiesis, hemostasis, and the lymphoid organs. Topics emphasized include clinical presentation, epidemiology, pathophysiology, patient assessment, diagnosis, pathology, therapeutic interventions, disease management, and clinical course of common disorders. This course also includes introductory oncology content, with a focus on the global clinical aspects of cancer screening, diagnosis, staging, and therapeutic intervention. Organ-specific cancers are primarily discussed in corresponding CM modular courses.

PAS 603 Clinical Medicine: Endocrinology

This course is a clinical medicine (CM) modular course using an organ-systems approach to facilitate student learning in the study of endocrinology. Commonly encountered medical problems primarily affecting metabolism and organs of the endocrine system are examined. Topics emphasized include clinical presentation, epidemiology, pathophysiology, patient assessment, diagnosis, pathology, therapeutic interventions, management, and clinical course of common diseases.

PAS 604 Clinical Medicine: Infectious Disease

This course is a clinical medicine (CM) modular course emphasizing global considerations related to approaching infectious disease. Content includes mechanisms of transmission and pathogenicity, methods of diagnosis, antimicrobial pharmacotherapy, common and systemic clinical presentations, and methods for infection control and prevention. Common bacterial, viral, fungal, and parasitic pathogens are explored. Organ-specific and demographic predominant infectious diseases are primarily discussed in corresponding CM modular courses.

PAS 605 Clinical Medicine: Eyes, Ears, Nose, Throat (EENT)

This course is a clinical medicine (CM) modular course using an organ-systems approach to facilitate student learning in the study of diseases and disorders of the eyes, ears, nose, and throat (EENT). Topics emphasized include clinical presentation, epidemiology, pathophysiology, patient assessment, diagnosis, pathology, therapeutic interventions, management, and clinical course of common diseases.

PAS 695 Evidence-Based Practice 2

Service as a companion to the Applied Clinical Reasoning courses, this course focuses on concepts of evidence-based practice. Specifically, the course covers principles of biostatistics, critical evaluation of the literature, and synthesis of EBP principles into realistic practice settings.

PAS 513 Professional Development III

This course is the third in a series designed to integrate the principles of professionalism, ethics, profession-specific issues, and the business of medicine, with the practice of medicine. This course examines many of the legal and practice-based issues of healthcare including: electronic data management, coding, billing, reimbursement, rules and regulations, confidentiality, certification and licensure, and safety.

PAS 693 Applied Clinical Reasoning 2

This course is the second in a series designed to challenge students to develop clinical reasoning skills, think critically, enhance interpersonal and communication skills, apply evidence-based resources, and problem-solve as clinicians and as members of an interdisciplinary healthcare team. Building upon patient care skills developed in the first course, this course challenges students to evaluate and manage standardized patients in the context of acute and longitudinal care. Key content areas include: establishing patients in the primary care setting, admission orders, inpatient management, progress notes, discharge summaries, rehabilitative care, and utilization of an electronic healthcare record.

PAS 606 Clinical Medicine: Cardiovascular/EKG

This course is a clinical medicine (CM) modular course using an organ-systems approach to facilitate student learning in the study of cardiovascular medicine. Commonly encountered medical problems primarily affecting the cardiovascular system are examined. The clinical presentation, epidemiology, pathophysiology, patient assessment, diagnosis, pathology, therapeutic interventions, management, and clinical course of these conditions are explored. During this course students learn fundamentals of interpreting electrocardiograms (EKG), including recognition of common abnormal EKG patterns and differentiation from normal and normal variant EKG tracings.

PAS 607 Clinical Medicine: Pulmonology

This course is a clinical medicine (CM) modular course using an organ-systems approach to facilitate student learning in the study of pulmonology. Commonly encountered medical problems primarily affecting the pulmonary system are examined. The clinical presentation, epidemiology, pathophysiology, patient assessment, diagnosis, pathology, therapeutic interventions, management, and clinical course of these conditions are explored.

PAS 608 Clinical Medicine: Genitourinary

This course is a clinical medicine (CM) modular course using an organ-systems approach to facilitate student learning in the study of the genitourinary system. Focus for this course includes examination of commonly encountered genitourinary issues. Topics emphasized include clinical presentation, epidemiology, pathophysiology, patient assessment, diagnosis, pathology, therapeutic interventions, disease management, and clinical course of common diseases.

PAS 609 Clinical Medicine: Gastroenterology

This course is a clinical medicine (CM) modular course using an organ-systems approach to facilitate student learning in the study of gastroenterology. Commonly encountered medical problems primarily affecting the gastrointestinal system are examined. The clinical presentation, epidemiology, pathophysiology, patient assessment, diagnosis, pathology, therapeutic interventions, management, and clinical course of these conditions are explored.

PAS 610 Clinical Medicine: Pediatrics

This course examines important aspects of primary care pediatrics including assessment of the child patient, preventive health, and pediatric diseases and conditions. Specific issues of the newborn and older child are presented in such areas as perinatal care, child development & behavior, congenital & genetic disorders, pediatric infectious disease, pediatric respiratory issues, pediatric emergencies, injuries, and parenting. Pediatric pharmacotherapy are explored with emphasis on indications, contraindications, and medication dosing in relation to disease process type and patient demographics. The student also learns assessment techniques specific to the pediatric population.

PAS 613 Clinical Medicine: Surgery

This course focuses on basic surgical concepts related to primary care as well as surgical specialties. The intent is to familiarize students with surgical concepts, topics and technique. Students learn to recognize signs and symptoms that may require surgical intervention. This course also emphasizes risk management for preoperative patients, pre- and postoperative care, wound assessment, and wound management.

PAS 514 Professional Development IV

This course is the fourth in a series designed to integrate the principles of professionalism, ethics, profession-specific issues, and the business of medicine, with the practice of medicine. This particular course evaluates health care disparities and provider sensitivity to cultural diversity, socioeconomic differences, and their impact on health and wellness. Complementary and

alternative medical practice methods are also examined with particular attention given to integrative and preventive approaches.

PAS 694 Applied Clinical Reasoning 3

This is the final applied clinical reasoning course in the series designed to challenge students to develop clinical reasoning skills, think critically, enhance interpersonal and communication skills, apply evidence-based resources, and problem-solve as clinicians while recognizing the contributions of members of the interprofessional health care team. Simulated patient scenarios are designed to facilitate a team approach to the care of acute and longitudinal cases. Emphasis is also placed on further developing interpersonal and communication skills.

PAS 700 Clinical Rotation Preparatory Seminar

This course provides students with an orientation to help them begin clinical rotations. This course will provide hands-on instruction for some procedures and skills that are important to clinical practice, including basic suturing and injections. A certification course for Pediatric Advanced Life Support is also offered. There will be units designed with the intention of providing students with various clinical pearls that will enhance their clinical rotation experience. Students will practice logging of clinical rotation activities and oral presentation of patient encounters. Students will also be encouraged to start thinking more about their Applied Scholarly Project and making plans accordingly. Additionally, this course evaluates students' readiness to proceed into the final three semesters of supervised clinical practice experiences (SCPEs). Students are expected to have a strong depth and breadth of knowledge and skills in the basic medical and clinical sciences, and must demonstrate essential cognitive and technical abilities learned in previous courses in order to proceed to SCPEs.

PAS 611 Clinical Medicine: Neurology

This course is a clinical medicine (CM) modular course using an organ-systems approach to facilitate student learning in the study of neurology. Focus for this course includes examination of commonly encountered neurologic issues. Topics emphasized in this course include clinical presentation, epidemiology, pathophysiology, patient assessment, diagnosis, pathology, therapeutic interventions, disease management, and clinical course of common diseases.

PAS 614 Clinical Medicine: Geriatrics

This course provides a foundation for addressing medical problems commonly seen in the aging and elderly population. Additional instruction on preventive medicine, health maintenance, mobility limitations and access to healthcare, therapeutic interventions, medication awareness, and quality of life issues are emphasized. Instruction related to death and dying is also provided.

PAS 615 Clinical Medicine: Women's Health

This course addresses important aspects of women's health with an emphasis on obstetrical, gynecologic, and preventive care. Content includes a thorough exploration of physiology, pathophysiology, disease states, management options, and screening guidelines for women's health issues. Obstetrics focuses on the principles of prenatal, perinatal, and post-natal care. Complications arising in pregnancy and management of the more common emergent problems that occur in pregnancy are discussed.

PAS 616 Clinical Medicine: Emergency Medicine

This course provides fundamental instruction on the recognition and management of life-threatening patient presentations. Problem-based case studies and team-based activities are utilized extensively in this course. Team work, collaboration, cooperation, and valuing interdisciplinary contributions to managing patients is emphasized. BLS and ACLS certification is included as part of this course.

PAS 617 Clinical Medicine: Dermatology

This course is a clinical medicine (CM) modular course using an organ-systems approach to facilitate student learning in the study of dermatology. Focus revolves around commonly encountered dermatologic disorders. Topics emphasized in this course include clinical presentation, epidemiology, pathophysiology, patient assessment, diagnosis, pathology, therapeutic interventions, disease management, and clinical course of common diseases.

PAS 618 Clinical Medicine: Musculoskeletal

This course is a clinical medicine modular course using an organ-systems approach to facilitate learning in the study of orthopedic and rheumatologic conditions, injuries, and disease processes. Focus for this course includes examination of commonly encountered musculoskeletal issues. Emphasis on proper examination and special exam tests for common orthopedic and rheumatologic issues are discussed. Topics emphasized include epidemiology, etiology/pathogenesis, clinical presentation, diagnosis, disease management, complications, referral considerations, and clinical course of common diseases and injuries. Fundamental aspects of interpreting lab and imaging studies, such as blood work, x-rays, MRI, and CT scans, are developed. Identification of common fractures, subluxations, and dislocations common in primary care are discussed, along with various autoimmune and inflammatory musculoskeletal conditions.

PAS 515 Professional Development V

This course is the fifth in a series designed to integrate the principles of professionalism, ethics, profession-specific issues, and the business of medicine, with the practice of medicine. This particular course occurs during the final didactic semester just prior to students engaging in the final two full-time supervised clinical practice experiences (SCPEs) semesters. The focus during this course is developing skills needed to become a lifelong learner through practice-based learning/self-improvement and developing awareness of health policy and current trends/issues. There is a continued emphasis on professionalism as it applies to clinical practice.

PAS 701 Clinical Rotation

Please refer to listing of supervised clinical practice experience types below

PAS 702 Clinical Rotation

Please refer to listing of supervised clinical practice experience types below

PAS 703 Clinical Rotation

Please refer to listing of supervised clinical practice experience types below

PAS 516 Professional Development VI

This course is the sixth in a series designed to integrate the principles of professionalism, ethics, profession-specific issues, and the business of medicine, with the practice of medicine. This particular course covers the organizational and economic elements of systems-based practice. This course also focuses on cost-effective and efficient health care, case management, risk management, error prevention, patient safety, and quality improvement.

PAS 704 Clinical Rotation

Please refer to listing of supervised clinical practice experience types below

PAS 705 Clinical Rotation

Please refer to listing of supervised clinical practice experience types below

PAS 706 Clinical Rotation

Please refer to listing of supervised clinical practice experience types below

PAS 517 Professional Development VII

This course is the seventh in a series designed to integrate the principles of professionalism, ethics, profession-specific issues, and the business of medicine, with the practice of medicine. The focus of this final course in the series is on the professional expectations and responsibilities facing new physician assistant graduates. Students continue to cultivate the skills necessary for future career development and growth. Topics include curriculum vitae/resume development, job searching, interviewing, employment contracts, credentialing, privileging, mentoring, leadership development, and sustaining the PA profession.

PAS 707 Clinical Rotation

Please refer to listing of supervised clinical practice experience types below

PAS 708 Clinical Rotation

Please refer to listing of supervised clinical practice experience types below

PAS 799 Summative Seminar

The purpose of this pass/fail seminar is twofold: 1) for students to demonstrate knowledge, patient care skills, and professional competency sufficient to function as an entry-level physician assistant and 2) to prepare graduation candidates for the Physician Assistant National Certifying Examination (PANCE).

Supervised Clinical Practice Experiences

Eight clinical practice experiences (SCPEs) serve as the culminating learning activities for students in the physician assistant program. During each rotation block, students work with certified practicing clinicians (referred to as preceptors) and actively participate in the delivery of patient-centered care as part of the health care team.

Each five-week core clinical practice rotation block provides an opportunity to learn, understand, and gain supervised experience in practicing principles associated with rotation specific experiences.

Brief descriptions of each SCPE type is included below:

- **Primary Care - Family Medicine:** The focus of this rotation is holistic, outpatient-based, relationship-centered care of patients of all ages. Emphases include management of commonly encountered primary care conditions, evidence-based preventive practices, and patient education.
- **Primary Care - Behavioral Health Emphasis:** Focus areas include diagnosis and treatment of mental health disorders (pharmacotherapeutic and psychotherapeutic), health promotion and wellness, and appreciating the dynamic bidirectional influences between the psychosocial and all aspects of health and disease.
- **Internal Medicine:** The focus of this preceptorship is providing longitudinal health care for patients with chronic health problems.
- **Pediatrics:** The focus of this preceptorship is acute and preventive health care for pediatric patients.
- **Primary Care - Women's Health Emphasis:** Focus for this preceptorship includes obstetrical, gynecologic, and women's preventive care.
- **Emergency Medicine:** Emphasis of this preceptorship is evaluation and management of emergent medical conditions in the emergency department setting.

- **General Surgery:** This rotation provides exposure to the operating room setting and function. The focus of this preceptorship is on evaluation and care of patients with commonly encountered conditions requiring surgical management.
- **Open Elective:** This mandatory elective rotation provides students the opportunity to gain experience in a specific area of interest and may include a medical or surgical (sub)specialty, academic medicine, or medical research.