PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT
EDUCATION (PAED)

PAED 4930 - Special Topics
Credit(s): 3 Credits (Repeatable for credit)

PAED 4980 - Independent Study
Credit(s): 1-3 Credits (Repeatable for credit)
This course is designed for Program graduates working on degree requirements.

PAED 5000 - Psychosocial Dynamic Healthcare
Credit(s): 2 Credits
This course introduces the student to the psychological, social and family context of health, illness and health care. A major premise of this course is that to adequately meet the needs of the patient, the PA must consider not only disease factors, but also psychosocial factors, which affect the disease and are affected by it as well. Topics include personality, development from infancy through old age, the family’s role in health care, sex and sexuality, death and dying.

PAED 5010 - Professional & Psychosocial Issues of Physician Assistant Practice
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course explores through lecture and discussion the factors affecting the development of the profession and role socialization with emphasis on standards of quality assurance, credentialing of continued competence, as well as ethical and legal issues governing clinical responsibilities and practice on a health care team.

PAED 5040 - Physiology
Credit(s): 4 Credits
This is a comprehensive course that covers all major systems of the human body. Special emphasis is placed on the clinical application of this knowledge. The course is designed specifically for PA students as they prepare for courses in pathophysiology and clinical medicine. Previous physiology or combined anatomy/physiology is a prerequisite.

PAED 5050 - Physician Assistant Seminar
Credit(s): 1 Credit
Instruction in the history and role of the PA; accessing, reading and interpreting the medical literature; health promotion and disease prevention; patient education; and clinical correlation case studies.

PAED 5070 - Principles of the Medical Interview
Credit(s): 2 Credits
This course focuses on the medical interview as a clinical skill. The various components of the medical history are presented along with techniques for effective medical interviewing. Students apply these skills while obtaining histories from selected patients. Guidance is provided with respect to communicating with patients of all cultural backgrounds, ages and personalities. A self-guided medical terminology course is also included.

PAED 5080 - Medical Documentation
Credit(s): 2 Credits
This course focuses on how to record a complete medical history and physical exam in the appropriate format using the problem-oriented medical record system. Students learn to integrate history and physical exam data as they perform histories and physicals on selected patients and then document their findings in the complete write up.

PAED 5090 - Medical Genetics
Credit(s): 2 Credits
This course explores basic concepts and practical application of genetics and the role it plays in health and disease. Students learn to integrate this information into diagnosis, treatment and prevention of common diseases and to provide fundamental guidance in genetics to various patient populations.

PAED 5100 - Foundations in Clinical Medicine
Credit(s): 6 Credits
The essentials of human pathophysiology and their relationship to clinical signs and symptoms elicited in the medical history and physical examination are presented. The etiology, epidemiology, pathophysiology, clinical manifestations and diagnostic aspects of the common diseases within each organ system are discussed and correlated. General approaches to medical management of selected problems are also presented. Although an organ-systems approach is utilized, the systems are integrated for discussion of multi-system pathology.

PAED 5110 - Dermatology Fundamentals
Credit(s): 2 Credits
Initial component of this course will introduce the student to the general approach to the patient. The Dermatology course provides an integrated approach to understanding the pathophysiologic basis of dermatologic disorders as well as the pharmacological rationale for their therapy. Material is introduced in a stepwise fashion beginning with normal organ-specific anatomy, progressing to the pathophysiology, clinical features and treatment of representative disorders. Emphasis will be placed on an understanding of the basic functions of these organ systems, manifestation of disease both local and systemic, evaluation, diagnosis and treatment. Offered in spring.

PAED 5120 - Hematology Fundamentals
Credit(s): 2 Credits
This course examines the physical manifestation, evaluation of laboratory and clinical data, differential diagnosis and treatment of major disorders of the hematologic system. Included in this course are common laboratory tests used in the evaluation of other anatomic systems including the significance of abnormal findings.

PAED 5130 - Otorhinolaryngology and Ophthalmology Fundamentals
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course explores all aspects of diseases of the head, ears, eyes, nose and throat, including the physical manifestation of disease, examination, laboratory and imaging evaluation, diagnosis and clinical management of associated etiologies. Cases are used throughout the course to support student integration of content into a unified approach to the patient.

PAED 5150 - Clinical Pharmacology I
Credit(s): 2 Credits
Principles of pharmacology and physiology essential to appropriate medical therapy are presented, with emphasis on the action, absorption, metabolism, excretion, and toxicity of the major groups of drugs used in medicine. Pharmacotherapy for common medical problems is emphasized and reviewed in clinical case discussions.

PAED 5170 - Surgical Skills Patient Care
Credit(s): 2 Credits
Basic surgical principles and techniques are presented, including asepsis fundamentals, O.R. procedure and conduct, wound care and healing, closure, debridement and dressings. Laboratory sessions include minor surgical techniques and other procedures. Surgical instruments, anesthesia, pre-and post-operative care, common surgical procedures and surgical complications are discussed. ACLS training is included in this course.
PAED 5201 - Clinical Pharmacology II A
Credit(s): 1 Credit
This course is a continuation of PAED 5150, with increased emphasis on clinical therapeutic applications and more intensive review of selected major drug categories. (Offered every Summer)

PAED 5202 - Clinical Pharmacology II B
Credit(s): 1 Credit
This course is a continuation of PAED 5150, with increased emphasis on clinical therapeutic applications and more intensive review of selected major drug categories. (Offered every Fall)

PAED 5211 - Pulmonary Fundamentals I
Credit(s): 2 Credits
Signs and symptoms, evaluation methods including arterial blood gases, diagnosis, management and treatment of pulmonary disorders will be examined with attention focused on acute and chronic respiratory disturbances. Students will utilize clinical cases to integrate theory into practical management processes. This course is only for students in the Department of PA Education. Offered in summer.

PAED 5212 - Pulmonary Fundamentals II
Credit(s): 1 Credit
Signs and symptoms, evaluation methods including arterial blood gases, diagnosis, management and treatment of pulmonary disorders will be examined with attention focused on acute and chronic respiratory disturbances. Students will utilize clinical cases to integrate theory into practical management processes. This course is only for students in the Department of PA Education. Offered in fall.

PAED 5221 - Cardiovascular Fundamentals I
Credit(s): 2 Credits
This course explores all aspects of cardiovascular medicine including the examination, laboratory and imaging evaluation, diagnosis and clinical management of associated etiologies including a directed approach to understanding the principles of electrocardiography and its applications to clinical practice. This course is only for students in the Department of PA Education. Offered in summer.

PAED 5222 - Cardiovascular Fundamentals II
Credit(s): 2 Credits
This course explores all aspects of cardiovascular medicine including the examination, laboratory and imaging evaluation, diagnosis and clinical management of associated etiologies including a directed approach to understanding the principles of electrocardiography and its applications to clinical practice. This course is only for students in the Department of PA Education. Offered in fall.

PAED 5230 - Gastroenterology Fundamentals
Credit(s): 3 Credits
The Gastrointestinal/Nutrition (GIN) course provides an integrated approach to understanding the pathophysiologic basis of gastrointestinal, hepatic and nutritional disorders as well as the pharmacological rationale for their therapy. At the same time, students are introduced to the clinical approach to these disorders, including physical examination, clinical, laboratory, and radiographic findings.

PAED 5231 - Gastroenterology Fundamentals I
Credit(s): 1 Credit
The Gastrointestinal/Nutrition (GIN) course provides an integrated approach to understanding the pathophysiologic basis of gastrointestinal, hepatic and nutritional disorders as well as the pharmacological rationale for their therapy. At the same time, students are introduced to the clinical approach to these disorders, including physical examination, clinical, laboratory, and radiographic findings.

PAED 5232 - Gastroenterology Fundamentals II
Credit(s): 2 Credits
The Gastrointestinal/Nutrition (GIN) course provides an integrated approach to understanding the pathophysiologic basis of gastrointestinal, hepatic and nutritional disorders as well as the pharmacological rationale for their therapy. At the same time, students are introduced to the clinical approach to these disorders, including physical examination, clinical, laboratory, and radiographic findings.

PAED 5240 - Nephrology and Genitourinary
Credit(s): 3 Credits
Renal and genitourinary disease are examined in this course including the physical manifestation of disease, examination, laboratory and imaging evaluation, diagnosis and clinical management of associated etiologies including acid-base balance. Cases are used throughout the course to support student integration of content into a unified approach to the patient.

PAED 5250 - Endocrinology Fundamentals
Credit(s): 3 Credits
Manifestations, evaluation methods, diagnosis, management and treatment of endocrinologic disorders. Major topics of the course include normal and abnormal sexual development, normal and abnormal growth and puberty development, reproductive endocrinology, infertility, glucose homeostasis, diabetes, pituitary disorders, thyroid physiology and disease, adrenal disorders, endocrine hypertension, and disorders of mineral metabolism. Students will utilize clinical cases to integrate theory into practical management processes.

PAED 5300 - Evidence-Based Medicine
Credit(s): 2 Credits
This course introduces the concepts of evidence-based medicine using a patient oriented approach. Students learn how to conduct an online medical database search using reputable resources such as the Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews. Learning exercises designed to critically review the relevance and validity including the statistical significance of results are focused in articles about therapy, diagnostics, systematic reviews, and practice guidelines.

PAED 5310 - Orthopedics and Rheumatology Fundamentals
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course explores all aspects of diseases of the bones and joints including the examination, laboratory and imaging evaluation, diagnosis and clinical management of associated etiologies.

PAED 5320 - Neurology Fundamentals
Credit(s): 3 Credits
The neurology course provides an integrated approach to understanding the pathophysiologic basis of disorders of the central and peripheral nervous system as well as the pharmacological rationale for their therapy. At the same time, students are introduced to the clinical approach to these disorders, including physical examination, clinical, laboratory, and radiographic findings and various management methods.

PAED 5330 - Essentials of Surgery
Credit(s): 2 Credits
The fundamentals of surgical disease are explored with discussions on the etiology, pathophysiology, clinical manifestations and appropriate management of major and minor surgical conditions and care of the acutely injured and critically ill patient. Topics are discussed with emphasis on clinical presentation and pre- and post-operative management. Laboratory sessions are used to familiarize the student with aseptic technique and basic surgical procedures such as airway control, various catheter placements, surgical bleeding control and wound management.
PAED 5340 - Essentials of Emergency Medicine  
Credit(s): 2 Credits  
This course introduces the principles of life support technique as well as the initial identification and management of acute medical and traumatic conditions.

PAED 5350 - Specialty Lecture Series  
Credit(s): 3 Credits  
This lecture-based course is designed to prepare students for upcoming clinical rotations in Orthopedic Surgery, Emergency Medicine, Pediatrics, Family Medicine, Women’s Health and Psychiatry/Behavioral Medicine. Instructors emphasize the assessment, treatment, management and referral of various medical conditions commonly seen in these specialty practices.

PAED 5360 - Essentials of Pediatrics  
Credit(s): 2 Credits  
This course examines the physical and psychological fundamentals of normal growth and development. Focus is on the major pediatric illnesses and conditions, their signs, symptoms and treatment; immunization schedules and various medications used in the pediatric population, their doses and indication; the management of pediatric emergencies such as acute cardiac and respiratory arrest, anaphylaxis, seizures and trauma.

PAED 5370 - Essentials of Behavioral Medicine  
Credit(s): 2 Credits  
Basic psychiatric manifestations and how to work with both patients and families exhibiting psychological problems are examined. Topics include psychiatric diagnosis, the effect of society on behavior, the basis of drug and alcohol abuse, and basic intervention and treatment modalities.

PAED 5380 - Essentials of Obstetrics and Gynecology  
Credit(s): 2 Credits  
This course examines the physical and psychological fundamentals of normal growth and development. Focus is on the major pediatric illnesses and conditions, their signs, symptoms and treatment; immunization schedules and various medications used in the pediatric population, their doses and indication; the management of pediatric emergencies such as acute cardiac and respiratory arrest, anaphylaxis, seizures and trauma.

PAED 5400 - Clinical: Internal Medicine  
Credit(s): 4 Credits  
Six weeks. Students actively participate in all aspects of direct patient care in inpatient and/or outpatient adult medicine. This fundamental clinical experience places emphasis on patient evaluation and assessment, oral and written case presentations, understanding the complexities and interrelationships of disease processes and diagnostic and therapeutic collaboration.

PAED 5420 - Clinical: Family Medicine  
Credit(s): 4 Credits  
Six weeks. Practicum provides the second-year student with an opportunity to gain experience in a primary care setting. This experience exposes the student to a wide range of common ambulatory care problems.

PAED 5450 - Clinical: Internal Medicine II  
Credit(s): 3 Credits  
Four weeks. As an adjunct to PAED 5400 the direct patient care fundamentals of outpatient and/or inpatient adult medicine are continued in this clinical experience.

PAED 5510 - Clinical: General Surgery  
Credit(s): 4 Credits  
Six weeks. This clinical experience provides exposure to concepts and principles that characterize the practice of general surgery. Students participate in the pre-operative, operative and post-operative care of patients admitted to a variety of surgical services in both inpatient and outpatient settings.

PAED 5600 - Clinical: Pediatrics  
Credit(s): 3 Credits  
Six weeks. Practical experience in the recognition and management of common pediatric problems is provided, including assessment of the newborn, well baby care, preventive pediatrics and parent counseling.

PAED 5700 - Clinical: Behavioral Medicine  
Credit(s): 3 Credits  
This clinical rotation provides experience working with patients in a psychiatric/behavioral medicine setting. Emphasis is placed on the clinical presentation, diagnostic work-up, treatment and management of these patients in both inpatient and outpatient settings.

PAED 5750 - Clinical: Obstetrics, Gynecology and Women's Health  
Credit(s): 3 Credits  
Six weeks. This clinical experience encompasses the fundamentals of women’s health. Emphasis is on the medical history, physical examination, diagnosis and treatment involved with pre-natal, post-natal and general gynecologic care.

PAED 5800 - Clinical: Emergency Medicine  
Credit(s): 4 Credits  
Six weeks. This clinical experience includes the management of acute medical and surgical problems with an emphasis on the importance of precise diagnosis as well as the principles of emergency therapy.

PAED 5850 - Orthopedic Surgery  
Credit(s): 3 Credits  
Four weeks. Clinically based experience provides opportunities in orthopedic surgery and outpatient sites at the VA Medical Center or in private settings.

PAED 5860 - Clinical: Evidence-Based Medicine Clerkship  
Credit(s): 4 Credits  
Six weeks. As an adjunct to PAED-5300, students critically review one area of the medical literature based on a clinical question of interest and develop a comprehensive project that includes concepts of evidence-based medicine and Healthy People 2010 components.

PAED 5900 - Preceptorship  
Credit(s): 6 Credits  
This clinical experience integrates previous studies. Preceptorship sites are chosen by the student in most cases.

PAED 5930 - Clinical: Elective  
Credit(s): 4 Credits  
Six weeks. Many options are available for this elective experience. Specific clinical disciplines may be chosen based upon special interests of the student or upon what he or she determines would best augment existing clinical knowledge and skills.

PAED 5980 - Independent Study  
Credit(s): 1-3 Credits (Repeatability up to 6 credits)  
Independent Study.
PAED 6000 - Graduate Seminar
Credit(s): 1 Credit (Repeatable for credit)
This is the capstone experience for the physician assistant program. The purpose is two-fold: to ascertain if the student has both the broad and specific knowledge expected of someone holding a master's degree. Second, to determine whether the student has been able to integrate knowledge obtained from individual courses into unified concepts which link the students' own specialization to other fields of study. The student is given an oral exam, a written examination and a clinical skills examination in the form of an Objective Score of Clinical Evaluation (OSCE).

PAED 6930 - Special Topics
Credit(s): 3 Credits (Repeatable for credit)

PAED 6980 - Independent Study
Credit(s): 1 or 3 Credits (Repeatable for credit)